

**JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE
TENTH CIRCUIT**

IN RE: COMPLAINT UNDER THE
JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND
DISABILITY ACT

No. 10-25-90001

Before **HOLMES**, Chief Judge

MEMORANDUM & ORDER

Complainant has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a district judge in this circuit. My consideration of this complaint is governed by the misconduct rules issued by the Judicial Conference of the United States, entitled *Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings* (the “JCD Rules”), the federal statutes addressing judicial conduct and disability, 28 U.S.C. § 351 *et seq.*, and relevant prior decisions of the full Judicial Council of this circuit that are consistent with those authorities.

The JCD Rules and this circuit’s local misconduct rules are available to Complainants on the Tenth Circuit’s web page at:
<https://www.ca10.uscourts.gov/cc/misconduct>. Paper copies are also furnished by the Circuit Executive’s Office upon request. In accordance with those rules, the names of the Complainant and subject judge shall not be disclosed in this order. *See* JCD Rule 11(g)(2).

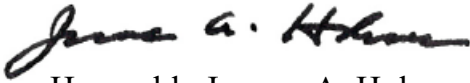
Complainant, filing this misconduct complaint pro se, alleges the district judge committed misconduct by dismissing his underlying complaint in an order that, Complainant alleges, contained incorrect bases for dismissal. Complainant further alleges, without presenting evidence to bolster his allegations, that the order was either written by defense counsel or was an intentional misrepresentation on the part of the judge.

These claims are not cognizable as misconduct because they are “directly related to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling.” JCD Rule 11(c)(1)(B); *see also* Commentary to JCD Rule 4 (stating that “[a]ny allegation that calls into question the correctness of an official decision or procedural ruling of a judge—without more—is merits-related”).

Complainant also alleges the dismissal order was not transmitted to him by the Clerk of Court in a timely manner, which deprived him of his appellate rights. In support, Complainant submits only part of what appears to be a longer email chain confirming the mailing date. Complainant’s allegations against the Clerk of Court are not reviewed in the context of a misconduct allegation. *See* JCD Rule 1(b) (providing “[a] covered judge is defined under the Act and is limited to judges of United States courts of appeals, judges of United States district courts, judges of United States bankruptcy courts, United States magistrate judges, and judges of the courts specified in 28 U.S.C. § 363”). Clerks of court carrying out their administrative function are not covered judges for purposes of the misconduct rules.

Accordingly, this complaint is dismissed pursuant to JCD Rule 11(c). The Circuit Executive is directed to transmit this order to Complainant and copies to the subject judge and the Judicial Conference Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability. *See* JCD Rule 11(g)(2). To seek review of this order, Complainant must file a petition for review by the Judicial Council. The requirements for filing a petition for review are set out in JCD Rule 18(b). The petition must be filed with the Office of the Circuit Executive within 42 days after the date of the chief judge's order. *Id.*

So ordered this 16th day of July, 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome A. Holmes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jerome" being more prominent.

Honorable Jerome A. Holmes
Chief Circuit Judge