#### JUDICIAL COUNCIL

## **OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT**

NOV 26 2021

MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK U.S. COURT OF APPEALS

# IN RE COMPLAINT OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT

Nos. 21-90031 and 21-90069

ORDER

## THOMAS, Chief Judge:

Complainant, a pro se litigant, has filed two complaints of judicial misconduct against a judge who presided over his criminal trial. Review of these complaints is governed by the Rules for Judicial Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings ("Judicial-Conduct Rules"), the federal statutes addressing judicial conduct and disability, 28 U.S.C. § 351 <u>et seq</u>., and relevant prior decisions of the Ninth Circuit Judicial Council. In accordance with these authorities, the names of complainant and the subject judge[s] shall not be disclosed in this order. <u>See</u> Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(g)(2).

The Judicial Conduct and Disability Act provides a remedy if a federal judge "has engaged in conduct prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts." 28 U.S.C. § 351(a). A chief judge may dismiss a complaint if, following review, he or she finds it is not cognizable under the statute, is directly related to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling, or is

# **FILED**

frivolous or lacks sufficient evidence to raise an inference of misconduct. See 28 U.S.C. \$ 352(b)(1)(A)(i)-(iii). Judicial misconduct proceedings are not a substitute for the normal appellate review process, and may not be used to seek reversal of a judge's decision, to obtain a new trial, or to request reassignment to a different judge.

The majority of these allegations in both complaints were raised and dismissed in a previous misconduct complaint brought by complainant. <u>See In re</u> <u>Complaint of Judicial Misconduct</u>, No. 13-90046 (9th Cir. Jud. Council Aug. 2, 2016). Accordingly, the previous order makes further action on these allegations unnecessary. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(2); <u>In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct</u>, 563 F.3d 853, 854 (9th Cir. 2009) ("The current complaint merely repeats the charges raised in the prior complaint . . . . My prior order therefore makes further action on this complaint unnecessary"); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(C).

To the extent complainant raises new allegations of improper rulings by the judge, these allegations relate directly to the merits of the judge's rulings and must be dismissed. See 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii); In re Charge of Judicial Misconduct, 685 F.2d 1226, 1227 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 1982); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(B).

To the extent complainant raises new allegations of bias, prejudice, and conspiracy against the judge, adverse rulings are not proof of bias, and complainant provides no objectively verifiable evidence to support these allegations, which are dismissed as unfounded. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii); <u>In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct</u>, 650 F.3d 1370, 1371 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 2011) ("adverse rulings do not prove bias or conspiracy"); <u>In re Complaint</u> <u>of Judicial Misconduct</u>, 569 F.3d 1093 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 2009) ("claimant's vague insinuations do not provide the kind of objectively verifiable proof that we require"); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(D).

#### **DISMISSED.**