### JUDICIAL COUNCIL

#### **OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT**

# IN RE COMPLAINT OF

JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT

No. 22-90097

## ORDER

# MURGUIA, Chief Judge:

Complainant, a pro se litigant, has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a district judge. Review of this complaint 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 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 frivolous or lacks sufficient evidence to raise an inference of misconduct. See 28

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Feb. 22 2024 MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK 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.

Complainant alleges that the district judge committed misconduct by failing to accept as true all facts pled in his complaint. Because this allegation relates directly to the merits of the judge's rulings, it must be dismissed. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii) (listing reasons the chief judge may decide to dismiss the complaint, including claims directly related to the merits of a decision); <u>In re</u> <u>Complaint of Judicial Misconduct</u>, 838 F.3d 1030 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 2016) (dismissing as merits-related allegations that a district judge made various improper rulings in a civil case); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(B).

#### **DISMISSED.**