JUDICIAL COUNCIL

OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT

IN RE COMPLAINT OF

JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT

Nos. 18-90067, 18-90077, 18-90078, 18-90079 and 18-90080

ORDER

GRABER, Circuit Judge¹:

Complainant, a pro se prisoner, has filed complaints of misconduct against three district judges and three circuit judges. 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 judges 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

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

¹This complaint was assigned to Circuit Judge Susan P. Graber pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 351(c).

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 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 six named judges dismissed complainant's underlying civil actions and appeals. Complainant alleges that the judges should not have denied his requests to proceed in forma pauperis, improperly dismissed his cases for failure to pay filing fees, made decisions that were "arbitrary" and "wrong," and violated his constitutional rights. These allegations relate directly to the merits of the judges' rulings and must be dismissed. <u>See</u> 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii); <u>In re Charge of Judicial Misconduct</u>, 685 F.2d 1226, 1227 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 1982); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(B).

Complainant is cautioned that a "complainant who has filed repetitive, harassing, or frivolous complaints, or has otherwise abused the complaint procedure, may be restricted from filing further complaints." Judicial-Conduct Rule 10(a); <u>see also In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct</u>, 552 F.3d 1146, 1148 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 2009).

DISMISSED.