## JUDICIAL COUNCIL

## **OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT**

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

NOV 19 2019

IN RE COMPLAINT OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT Nos. 19-90139, 19-90140, 19-90141, 19-90142 and 19-90143

ORDER

THOMAS, Chief Judge:

Complainant, a pro se prisoner, has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a district judge and three magistrate judges. 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 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 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.

Complainant alleges that the district judge improperly dismissed his civil rights case without properly considering his objections to the magistrate judge's report and recommendation. He contends that despite his objections, one magistrate judge held a settlement conference knowing that his legal property had not been transferred to his new correctional facility. Further, complainant alleges that the magistrate judges improperly failed to consolidate three other civil rights cases, and that all four judges violated his due process rights. These allegations relate directly to the merits of the judges' decisions 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 has now filed four misconduct complaints raising allegations that have been dismissed as merits-related and unfounded. 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</u> <u>Complaint of Judicial Misconduct</u>, 552 F.3d 1146, 1148 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 2009).

## **DISMISSED.**