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MOLLY C. DWYER, CLERK
U.S. COURT OF APPEALS**JUDICIAL COUNCIL
OF THE NINTH CIRCUIT****IN RE COMPLAINT OF
JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT**

No. 25-90005

ORDER**MURGUIA**, Chief Judge:

Complainant, a pro se prisoner, has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a circuit 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 *et seq.*, 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. *See* 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 circuit judge committed misconduct by denying complainant's request for a certificate of appealability. This allegation relates directly to the merits of the judge's decision, and it is dismissed. *See* 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); *In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct*, 838 F.3d 1030 (9th Cir. Jud. Council 2016) (dismissing as merits related allegations that a district judge and a magistrate judge made various improper rulings in a civil case); Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(B).

Complainant also alleges that the circuit judge denied his request for a certificate of appealability because the judge was biased against complainant due to complainant filing previous misconduct complaints against the judge. Complainant argues that the judge's denial of his request was in retaliation for complainant's previous misconduct complaints.

Complainant's previous misconduct complaints against the judge were dismissed; complainant has filed many misconduct complaints that have been

dismissed as being without merit. Furthermore, adverse rulings are not proof of bias, and complainant provides no objectively verifiable evidence to support these baseless allegations. Thus, these allegations are dismissed as unfounded. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii) (listing reasons the chief judge may decide to dismiss the complaint, including claims that are lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred); *In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct*, 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.