U. S. COURT OF APPEALS

## IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

JAN 08 2016

FIFTH CIRCUIT LYLE W. CAYCE, CLERK

Docket Number: 05-16-90005

#### MEMORANDUM

Complainant, a state prisoner, complains that the subject United States District Judge erroneously and prejudicially held that complainant, who had previously accrued three strikes under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g) for filing frivolous or malicious lawsuits, failed to show he was in imminent danger and was therefore not entitled to proceed *in forma pauperis*. He further complains that the judge dismissed his lawsuit without holding a hearing on the merits of his claims, and denied his motion to alter or amend judgment. Complainant concludes that these adverse rulings demonstrated the judge's "partiality towards the [defendant]" and "constituted ... testimony voluntarily given as a character witness against my interest".

To the extent that the allegations relate directly to the merits of the judge's decisions, they are subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii). In other respects, such conclusory assertions of bias are insufficient to support a finding of judicial misconduct, and are subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b) (1)(A)(iii).

Judicial misconduct proceedings are not a substitute for the normal appellate review process, nor may they be used to obtain reversal of a decision or a new trial.

An order dismissing the complaint is entered simultaneously herewith.

Carl E. Stewar

Chief Judge

December 3/ October 3, 2015

### U. S. COURT OF APPEALS FILED

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# BEFORE THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

FIFTH CIRCUIT LYLE W. CAYCE, CLERK

No. 05-16-90005

Petition for Review by

of the Final Order Filed January 8, 2016

Dismissing Judicial Misconduct Complaint Against

Under the Judicial Improvements Act of 2002.

#### **ORDER**

An Appellate Review Panel of the Judicial Council for the Fifth Circuit has reviewed the above-captioned petition for review, and all the members of the Panel have voted to affirm the order of Chief Judge Stewart, filed January 8, 2016, dismissing the Complaint of the Judicial Improvements Act of

2002.

The Order is therefore

AFFIRMED.

February 18, 2016
Date

Priscilla R. Owen

United States Circuit Judge

For the Judicial Council of the Fifth Circuit