Judicial Council for the Fifth Circuit

FILED
July 10, 2025
Lyle W. Cayce
Clerk

Complaint Numbers: 05-25-90060 and 05-25-90061

IN RE COMPLAINT OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT UNDER THE JUDICIAL IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2002.

ORDER

Complainant, a pro se litigant, has filed a complaint alleging that the subject United States District Judge and United States Magistrate Judge have engaged in "corruption, abuse of power, denial of due process, unlawful suppression of filings, ... systemic bias, and administrative misconduct, inconsistent with the responsibilities of federal court officials" in Complainant's pending civil case.

Complainant recounts that the district court clerk's office received two motions on April 28, 2025, but, as of April 30 (the date Complainant signed the instant complaint), the motions had "not been docketed." She protests that "this is not a minor administrative delay—my filings are effectively being concealed and my due process is being blocked ... [and] raises the strong possibility of tampering, sabotage, and/or corruption by court personnel, in collaboration with, or under the instructions of" the judge and the magistrate judge.

The docket reflects that Complainant's motions were docketed by clerk's office personnel on May 2, 2025. The allegation that a four-day delay in docketing the motions constitutes evidence of "tampering," "sabotage," and "corruption" by clerk's office staff at the behest of the judge and the magistrate

judge is subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii) as "lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred."

Complainant complains that because she did not consent to proceed before a magistrate judge, the magistrate judge's action in setting a scheduling conference was "not only unauthorized but contributes to a larger pattern of judicial overreach and due process denial."

This allegation relates directly to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling and is therefore subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii). 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.

Complainant also complains that the judge "has failed to take any corrective actions" regarding her motions for a default judgment, the clerk's purportedly undue delay in docketing Complainant's motions, and the magistrate judge's "proceeding without proper jurisdiction." Complainant submits that "this pattern of inaction and neglect strongly suggests complicity in the concealment of court filings and/or knowledge of prejudicial handling."

To the extent these allegations relate directly to the merits of decisions or procedural rulings, they are subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii). The conclusory assertion of improper conduct is subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii) as "lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred."

An order dismissing the complaint is entered simultaneously herewith.

Jennifer Walker Elrod

Chief Judge