

**FILED**

March 9, 2026

Lyle W. Cayce  
Clerk

# Judicial Council for the Fifth Circuit

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Complaint Number: 05-26-90048

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

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## ORDER

Complainant, a “federal whistleblower,” has filed a complaint alleging misconduct by a United States Magistrate Judge.

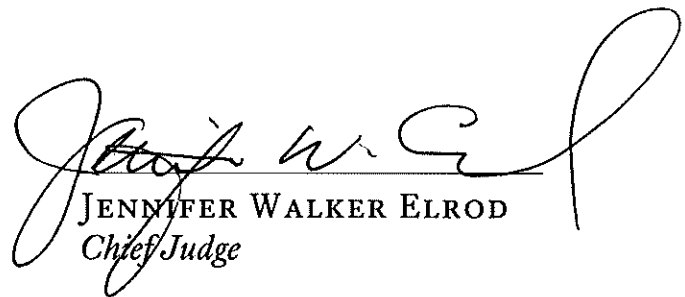
Complainant complains that the magistrate judge improperly: “recharacterized a Rule 27 Motion to Preserve Evidence as a civil complaint”; “assigned me as the plaintiff in a case I did not initiate” and thereby “exposed my identity”; “unilaterally named [another United States District Court] as the defendant”; “speculated that the true party of interest ‘might be’ [the chief district judge of that court]”, and “transferred the matter to [that district court]—the very jurisdiction my filing was meant to avoid due to ongoing conflicts of interest.”

These allegations relate directly to the merits of decisions or procedural rulings and are therefore subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii). Complainant takes issue with the fact that she filed a motion and that the magistrate judge docketed that motion. But documents filed in court are presumed public absent a request to seal. And a request to seal will not be granted without good legal cause. Complainant did not ask for her motion to be sealed.

Complainant further complains that the copy of the court's order mailed to her by the clerk "lacks standard PACER formatting, case numbers, and docketing information, suggesting it may have been processed outside official record-keeping systems." She concludes that [t]his is not merely a clerical error but a deeply disturbing example of extra-judicial manipulation of filing."

Complainant has provided a copy of the order she received. It appears that Complainant received either the original order signed by the magistrate judge or a copy of it, as opposed to a copy of the order printed after it was docketed in PACER. A review of the record reflects that the order Complainant received is in all other respects identical to the docketed version. The conclusory assertion that the magistrate judge engaged in "extra-judicial manipulation of filing" is therefore subject to dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii) "lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred."

The complaint is DISMISSED. An unredacted private order is entered simultaneously herewith.



JENNIFER WALKER ELROD  
*Chief Judge*