FOR THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

11-22-90121

FILED ELEVENTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL COUNCIL

JAN **2 4** 2023

CIRCUIT EXECUTIVE

IN RE: COMPLAINT OF JUDICIAL MISCONDUCT OR DISABILITY

ON PETITION FOR REVIEW

Before: WILSON, ROSENBAUM, and BRANCH, Circuit Judges; COOGLER and WALKER, Chief District Judges.

Pursuant to 11th Cir. JCDR 18.3, this Judicial Council Review Panel has considered petitioner's complaint filed on August 25, 2022, the order of Chief United States Circuit Judge William H. Pryor Jr. filed on September 1, 2022, and the petition for review filed by petitioner on September 12, 2022. No judge on this panel has requested that this matter be placed on the agenda of a meeting of the Judicial Council.

The Judicial Council Review Panel hereby AFFIRMS the disposition of this matter by Chief Judge Pryor. The petition for review is DENIED.

FOR THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL:

United States Circuit Judge

FILED U.S. COURT OF APPEALS ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

CONFIDENTIAL

SEP 01 2022

David J. Smith Clerk

Before the Chief Judge of the

Eleventh Judicial Circuit

Judicial Complaint No. 11-22-90121

ORDER

An individual has filed a Complaint against a United States district judge under the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1980, 28 U.S.C. §§ 351–364, and the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings of the Judicial Conference of the United States.

Background

The record shows that in October 2020 Complainant filed an employment discrimination lawsuit against one defendant. He then filed multiple motions seeking various types of relief, and the defendant filed a motion to dismiss. In August 2021 the Subject Judge entered an order granting the motion to dismiss and dismissing the action with prejudice as frivolous. The Subject Judge also imposed a prefiling injunction on Complainant given his "incessant and frivolous litigation." Complainant has filed an appeal.

The record shows that in March 2022 Complainant filed a Federal Tort Claims Act action against the United States, raising claims pertaining to the denial of medical care. He then filed multiple motions seeking various types of relief, including a motion to disqualify the Subject Judge and the assigned magistrate judge and two motions for summary judgment, and the Subject Judge entered orders denying the motions. In May 2022 the defendant filed a motion to dismiss the case.

In August 2022 a district judge who is not the Subject Judge issued an order granting the defendant's motion to dismiss, finding Complainant's claims violated the prefiling injunction issued against him. The district judge also modified the language of the prefiling injunction to clarify its scope going forward. Complainant filed a notice of appeal.

The record also shows that in April 2022 Complainant filed a civil rights action against multiple defendants. A district judge then issued an order transferring the case to the Subject Judge for all further proceedings pursuant to a local rule. The Subject Judge then issued several orders in the case. In August 2022 the defendants filed a motion to dismiss the case, and Complainant filed a response in opposition.

In August 2022 a district judge who is not the Subject Judge entered an order granting the defendants' motion to dismiss, finding that Complainant's claims violated the prefiling injunction. Complainant filed a motion for relief from judgment or order, which was stricken per the prior dismissal order. Complainant filed a notice of appeal.

Complaint

Complainant alleges the Subject Judge engaged in improper conduct outside the performance of her official duties when she allowed another judge to commit fraud on the court and to violate Canon 2A(2) of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges by dismissing two cases to which the Subject Judge was assigned. He also states the Subject Judge was aware that the other judge modified the prefiling injunction that she issued for the sole purpose of dismissing another case. He contends that the Subject Judge's failure to strike the other judge's orders "is reasonably likely to have a prejudicial effect on the administration of the business of the courts, including a substantial and widespread lowering of public confidence in the courts among reasonable people." He notes he filed a previous judicial complaint against the Subject Judge for failure to report the misconduct, and he attached documents to his Complaint.

Discussion

Complainant's claims are based on allegations lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that the Subject Judge engaged in improper conduct, allowed another judge to commit misconduct, or otherwise engaged in misconduct. *See Dietz v. Bouldin*, 136 S. Ct. 1885, 1891 (2016) ("[T]his Court has long recognized that a district court possesses inherent powers that are governed not by

rule or statute but by the control necessarily vested in courts to manage their own affairs so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases." (quotation omitted)); *United States v. Stone*, 411 F.2d 597, 598-99 (5th Cir. 1969) ("District judges may by rule, order or consent transfer cases between themselves. Each judge of a multi-district court has the same power and authority as each other judge. Moreover, District Judges have the inherent power to transfer cases from one to another for the expeditious administration of justice." (citations omitted)).

The Complaint "is based on allegations lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred or that a disability exists," under Judicial-Conduct Rule 11(c)(1)(D). For that reason, this Complaint is **DISMISSED**.

/s/ William H. Pryor Jr. Chief Judge