



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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NEWS RELEASE

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Judicial Conduct and Disability Complaint Number 22-90121

SAN FRANCISCO – The Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit filed an Order and Certification in *In re Complaint of Judicial Misconduct*, No. 22-90121, on May 23, 2024, concerning a complaint of judicial misconduct against U.S. District Judge Joshua M. Kindred of the District of Alaska. The Order and Certification is now being made public pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 360(b) and in consultation with the Judicial Conference of the United States.

The Order and Certification is the result of a thorough investigation conducted by a Special Committee appointed by Chief Circuit Judge Mary H. Murguia. In its Order and Certification, the Judicial Council concluded, among other things, that Judge Kindred engaged in misconduct by creating a hostile work environment for his law clerks and by having an inappropriately sexualized relationship with one of his law clerks both during her clerkship and after she became an Assistant United States Attorney. The former law clerk did not appear on any case before Judge Kindred while she was employed as an Assistant United States Attorney.

In the Order and Certification, the Judicial Council publicly reprimanded and admonished Judge Kindred for his conduct, which violated the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act and the Code of Conduct for United States Judges. The Judicial Council also requested that Judge Kindred voluntarily resign and certified the matter to the Judicial Conference of the United States to consider impeachment.

Judge Kindred resigned, effective Monday, July 8, 2024. The Judicial Conference of the United States will continue to consider the matter, including the certification with respect to impeachment.



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Chief Judge Murguia made the following statement about this matter:

“The Judiciary is entrusted to self-govern and, in doing so, must hold its federal judges to the highest standards of integrity and impartiality. We take judicial misconduct complaints seriously. When allegations arise, the Judiciary conducts a fair and thorough investigation that focuses on promoting a civil and respectful workplace, free of discrimination and harassment, and maintaining the integrity of the Judiciary. The process seeks to preserve the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts. In all respects, this was a serious and sensitive matter. I thank the witnesses who provided information, understanding fully how difficult that may have been. In my role as Chief, I will continue to ensure that our judges are held to the highest standards.”

Members of the public or media who have questions regarding the allegations against Judge Kindred, the findings of the Judicial Council, or the outcome of the complaint, should refer to the attached Order and Certification.

More information about the Judicial Conduct and Disability complaint process is available at: <https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/misconduct/guidelines/>

The Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings, as well as the Ninth Circuit’s Local Rules for Misconduct Proceedings, are available at: <https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/misconduct/rules/>

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