

THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT  
219 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

October 3, 2022

Circuit Judge David F. Hamilton\*

Nos. 07-22-90085 through -90099

IN RE COMPLAINTS AGAINST FIFTEEN JUDGES

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

The complainant filed a misconduct complaint accusing 15 judges of misconduct. He contends that the district judge who decided his habeas petition should have recused and that every district and circuit judge involved in his cases thereafter “deliberately ignored” his arguments, recklessly disregarded federal habeas law, and committed “structural, plain, and clear errors of fact and law.” He also alleges that the judges acted complicitly in rendering erroneous decisions and were prejudiced against him.

Allegations concerning the merits of a judge’s decisions, including recusal decisions, are not proper grounds for a misconduct complaint. 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii). “Any allegation that calls into question the correctness of an official action of a judge ... is merits related.” STEPHEN BREYER ET AL., IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JUDICIAL CONDUCT AND DISABILITY ACT OF 1980: A REPORT TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE 145 (2006). A challenge to a recusal decision can be raised on appeal by the parties to the case and thus is merits related and must be dismissed. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii). Likewise, the complainant’s allegations of complicity and bigotry are unsupported—adverse rulings alone are not proof of bias or impartiality—and must be dismissed. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii); *see* RULES FOR JUD.-CONDUCT & JUD.-DISABILITY PROC. 11(c)(1)(D).

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\*I have been assigned to these complaints under 28 U.S.C. §351(c) and Rule 25(f) of the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings.

For the foregoing reasons, the complaint is dismissed pursuant to § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii) and (iii). The complainant may petition the Judicial Council of the Seventh Circuit for review of this order in accordance with Rule 18(b) of the *Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings*. 28 U.S.C. § 352(c); see RULES FOR JUD.-CONDUCT & JUD.-DISABILITY PROC. 11(g)(3). A petition for review must be filed in the clerk's office of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit not later than 42 days after the date of this order.