

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

September 1, 2023

Chief Judge Diane S. Sykes

No. 07-23-90028

IN RE COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

The complainant filed a misconduct complaint against the judge who dismissed her civil-rights case. She alleges that the judge is biased against Black female pro se litigants such as herself. She also alleges that the judge engages in retaliation and “case fixing,” disregards the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and his oath of office, and is at “war” with the constitution by “violating its mandates.” Finally, she claims that the judge “suspended constitutional protections such as habeas corpus against Black women pro se litigants.”

The complaint does not raise any cognizable misconduct. The complainant’s allegation that the judge is biased against Black female pro se litigants is wholly unsupported and frivolous. A misconduct complaint must be supported by sufficient facts to raise an inference that misconduct occurred. 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii). Adverse rulings alone are not evidence of bias or any other misconduct. To the extent that the complainant challenges the judge’s decisions in her case, her allegations do not support a misconduct complaint. Allegations challenging the merits of a judge’s procedural or substantive rulings are not proper grounds for a misconduct complaint. *Id.* § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii). “Any allegation that calls into question the correctness of an official action of a judge ... is merits related.” RULES FOR JUD.-CONDUCT & JUD.-DISABILITY PROC. r. 4(b)(1) cmt.

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. r. 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 of the date of this order.