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

November 28, 2023

Chief Judge Diane S. Sykes

No. 07-23-90044

IN RE COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDGE

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

The complainant filed a misconduct complaint against the judge who dismissed his civil-rights case and imposed filing restrictions against him because of his dishonesty and abusive litigation tactics. The complaint is difficult to decipher, but the complainant appears to challenge several of the judge's decisions, including the filing restrictions. He also alleges that the judge had a "personal grudge" against him based on his admittedly "disrespectful," "derogatory" and "ang[ry]" filings. Finally, he claims that the judge wrongly accused him of submitting a fraudulent document to the court.

The complainant's allegations primarily challenge the merits of the judge's procedural and substantive rulings and thus 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." RULES FOR JUD.-CONDUCT & JUD.-DISABILITY PROC. r. 4(b)(1) cmt. The complainant's suggestion that the judge ruled against him because of a "personal grudge" is frivolous and wholly unsupported. 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 type of misconduct.

Accordingly, 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*. *Id.* § 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.