



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

LEGAL SERVICES OFFICE

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TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

STEVEN JAHR
Administrative Director of the Courts

MARY M. ROBERTS
Chief Counsel

July 11, 2013

Sharon Noonan Kramer
2031 Arborwood Place
Escondido, California 92029

This is in response to your letter dated June 27, 2013, and addressed to the Honorable Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California and Chair of the Judicial Council of California. Please note that the Judicial Council is the policymaking body for the California courts and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is the staff agency to the Judicial Council. Due to budget constraints, we do not provide individualized responses to correspondence. Instead, we are replying with general information that we hope will help you with your concerns.

Please note that the Judicial Council is the policy and rulemaking body for the California court system and is not authorized to intervene in an individual case. Rather, concerns as to substantive rulings in a case may be addressed through the appropriate procedural mechanisms, such as motions for reconsideration, writs, and appeals. As we are not authorized to provide legal advice to the public, you may wish to consult with an attorney.

Please note that the Commission on Judicial Performance (CJP)—not the Supreme Court of California—is the entity that is vested with authority under the California Constitution to discipline judges, including by removal from office. Following a determination by the CJP, and only upon the petition of the subject judicial officer, the Supreme Court may review the determination of the CJP, at which point it may make an independent review of that determination. Before that time, there is no authority for the Chief Justice or the Supreme Court to discipline a judge or intervene in a proceeding pending before the CJP.

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July 11, 2013

Page 2

Complaints about a Court Executive Officer (CEO), or about a subordinate judicial officer (SJO), such as a commissioner or referee, should be directed to the presiding judge of the court in which the CEO or SJO works. Complaints about court employees should be addressed to the CEO of the court where the employees work. Contact information for all California trial courts is on the California Courts website, located at www.courts.ca.gov under "Courts."

Please also note that complaints may be filed with the CJP addressed to the Commission on Judicial Performance at 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 14400, San Francisco, California 94102. More information about the CJP and its processes is available online at www.cjp.ca.gov. If you have internet access, information about many legal issues is available at the California Courts online Self-Help Center at www.courts.ca.gov, under "Self-Help." Information on where to find free and low-cost legal help is also available at the online Self-Help Center. Information about current statutes and legislation can be found at www.leginfo.ca.gov.

We hope that this information is helpful. Please note that this letter is intended to be informational only and is not intended to be legal advice or to create an attorney-client relationship.

Sincerely,

Legal Services Office