JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

In the Matter of
A Complaint of Judicial
Misconduct or Disability

Complaint No. DC-24-90012

Before: Srinivasan, Chief Judge

ORDER

Upon consideration of the complaint herein, filed against a judge of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, it is

ORDERED that the complaint be dismissed for the reasons stated in the attached Memorandum.

The Circuit Executive is directed to send copies of this Order and accompanying Memorandum to the complainant, the subject judge, and the Judicial Conference Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 352(b); Jud. Conf. U.S., Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings (2019), Rule 11(g)(2).

Sri Srinivasan, Chief Judge

Date: July 3, 2024

MEMORANDUM

The complainant has filed a complaint of judicial misconduct against a judge of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. For the following reasons, the misconduct complaint will be dismissed.

Appearing pro se, the complainant filed a complaint in the district court demanding \$5 million for the defendant's alleged failure to respond to her complaints. The subject judge dismissed the complaint, concluding that the complainant "alleged no facts showing that she was entitled to relief." The judge granted the complainant's motion to proceed in forma pauperis and dismissed the complaint without prejudice.

The complainant has now filed a judicial misconduct complaint against the subject judge. The complainant alleges:

I feel [the judge] made wrong Judgment for my case. Because I never received a Fee waiver to investigate my case. . . . Unfair judgment by [the judge] in case.

In challenging the judge's decision to dismiss her complaint, the complainant is directly challenging the merits of the judge's dismissal order. "Any allegation that calls into question the correctness of an official decision or procedural ruling of a judge — without more — is merits-related." Jud. Conf. Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings, Rule 4(b)(1)

Commentary ¶ 12. Such an allegation does not constitute "[c]ognizable misconduct" under the Judicial-Conduct Proceedings Rules or the applicable statute. *Id.* To the extent the complainant is alleging that the judge failed to rule on her motion for leave to proceed in forma pauperis, that allegation is incorrect. The judge granted her motion for leave to proceed in forma

pauperis in the same order in which he dismissed her complaint. Accordingly, because the complaint is "based on allegations lacking sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred," the complaint will be dismissed. Judicial-Conduct Proceedings Rule 11(c)(1)(D); see 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii).¹

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(c) and JUDICIAL-CONDUCT PROCEEDINGS RULE 18(a), the complainant may file a petition for review by the Judicial Council of the District of Columbia Circuit. Any petition must be filed in the Office of the Circuit Executive for the D.C. Circuit within 42 days after the date of the dismissal order. JUDICIAL-CONDUCT PROCEEDINGS RULE 18(b).