

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

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JCP Nos. 08-16-90050/08-16-90051/08-16-90052/08-16-90053

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In re Complaints of John Doe<sup>1</sup>

These are four judicial complaints filed on July 21, 2016, by an inmate and pro se civil litigant against four United States appeals court judges, three of whom denied the complainant's application for leave to file a successive habeas petition. The fourth appeals court judge participated in some of the complainant's previous appeals.

The complainant contends the circuit judges "engag[ed] in the practice of rubber stamping denial of pro se pleadings." The complainant asserts this practice "fails to satisfy the due process clause" and is "unethical, impartial," and a "bias act." According to the complainant, his grievance "has nothing to do with a procedural ruling or a merit determination, as neither was had in this case." The complainant also believes that "because [the complainant is] pro se . . . no review can be had of the proceedings." The complainant concludes the "actions of the Circuit Judges effects [sic] the integrity of the judicial process and turns it into a sham proceedings [sic]."

Contrary to the complainant's assertion, the complainant's challenge to the circuit judges' denial of the complainant's application for leave to file a successive habeas petition is "directly related to the merits of a decision or procedural ruling" and must be dismissed. 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(ii); accord Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings of the Judicial Conference of the United States

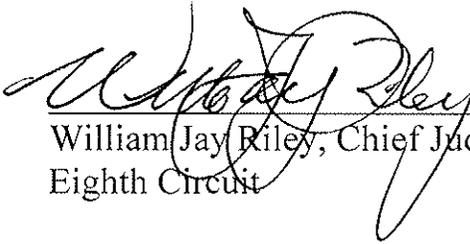
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<sup>1</sup>Under Rule 4(f)(1) of the Eighth Circuit Rules Governing Complaints of Judicial Misconduct and Disability, the names of the complainant and the judges complained about are to remain confidential, except in special circumstances not present here.

(J.C.U.S.) Rules 3(h)(3)(A), 11(c)(1)(B). Although the complainant may be dissatisfied with this ruling, his bare assertion that the circuit judges “rubber stamp[ed] denial[s] of pro se pleadings” “lack[s] sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred.” 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii); accord J.C.U.S. Rule 11(c)(1)(D).

The complaint is dismissed.

August 2, 2016

  
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William Jay Riley, Chief Judge  
Eighth Circuit