

24-059

The following was submitted on March 31, 2024 at 7:02 am US Central.

In the Matter of the Conduct of:

Judge/Magistrate: Samantha Gronewald

Judicial District: 5

Information about the person who is filing this complaint:

First Name: Alexandra

Middle Initial: none

Last Name: Wilson

Email Address: sondra.wilson777@gmail.com

Street Address: 4733 Toronto St. #112

City: AMES

State: IA

Zip Code: 50014

This complaint is about behavior of the judge named above in the following case (or cases):

Case Title: ALEXANDRA WILSON VS RELIABLE STREET INC ET AL

Case Number: LACL157381

County: Polk

Date(s) when the events happened that led me to file this complaint: March 15, 2024

This is a description of what happened that caused me to file this complaint against the judge: I filed a motion for Judge Gronewald to recuse herself, citing Iowa Code. Jud. Cond. 51:2.11 while providing sufficient reason as to why she ought to recuse herself (she was appointed by Kim Reynolds, who is a defendant in the case I filed against the State of Iowa and Kim Reynolds for Iowa, Case # LACL157953). Kim Reynolds has shown hostility toward transgender women in her statements and rights violations she performed, as described in Case # LACL157953.

At the same time I filed the motion to recuse, I filed a resistance to defendants' motion to transfer venue to Story County, citing sufficient reasons to deny the motion according to Iowa R. Civ. P. 1. 801(3), "If the trial judge or the inhabitants of the county are so prejudiced against the moving party, or if an adverse party has such undue influence over the county's inhabitants that the movant cannot obtain a fair trial."

I pointed out that multiple government officials, including a trial judge, are named in my lawsuit against the state due to discrimination and rights violations I experienced in that courtroom.

I also pointed out in my motion that Polk County has subject-matter jurisdiction over the case. According to Ballantine's Law Dictionary; Legal Assistant Edition,[1] "Unlike personal or territorial jurisdiction, lack of subject-matter jurisdiction cannot be waived."

Instead of recusing herself, as required, Judge Gronewald immediately denied my motion, and - while disqualified from doing so according to Iowa Code. Jud. Cond. 51:2.11 - ordered the case to be transferred to Story County, thus violating my right to a fair trial.

Judge Gronewald confirmed my suspicions - that her loyalty to Governor Reynolds and the Republican agenda (against transgender persons, and in favor of "Building the Bench" with conservative justices: <https://www.iowagop.org/btb>) outweighs her Oath of Office, wherein she promised to "administer justice according to the law" and respect for the State of Iowa's interest in keeping fair and just judiciary.

Judge Gronewald violated Iowa Code. Jud. Cond. 51:2.11 and my right to a fair trial.

**Signature of the person
filing this complaint:**

Alexandra Wilson

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Alexandra Wilson', enclosed within a blue circular outline.

Date:

03/31/24

Submitter:

Unknown

Tina Schweitzer [JB]

From: Judicial Qualifications Commission
To: sondra.wilson777@gmail.com
Subject: Confirmation letter from Judicial Qualifications Commission

Dear Alexandra Wilson:

Your complaint against District Judge Samantha Gronewald has been received and will be considered by the Judicial Qualifications Commission (the Commission) at the next quarterly meeting.

The Commission has authority to investigate complaints alleging ethical misconduct. If the Commission concludes a substantial violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct was committed, the Commission can refer the complaint to the Iowa Supreme Court and recommend discipline. If the Commission concludes there is insufficient evidence of judicial misconduct, or insufficient evidence of misconduct serious enough to justify public discipline of the judge, the complaint will be dismissed. Commission decisions are final and there is not an appeal process for Commission decisions (see Iowa Code sections 602.2101 to 602.2107 and Iowa Court Rules, Chapter 52).

The Commission does not have authority to overturn a ruling. A ruling can only be overturned by an appellate court. After a ruling is entered, there is limited time to file an appeal. If you wish to file an appeal, do not wait for a decision from the Commission.

Commission staff cannot provide legal advice. If you are considering further action regarding your complaint, you should contact an attorney.

Sincerely,
Robert Gast
Executive Secretary

STATE OF IOWA
JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION

1111 East Court Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

June 5, 2024

Alexandra Wilson
4733 Toronto Street, #112
Ames, IA 50014

Re: Grievance Against District Judge Samantha Gronewald

Dear Alexandra Wilson:

The Commission on Judicial Qualifications of the State of Iowa was established by an Amendment to the Iowa Constitution in 1975. As required by the Constitution, the Commission includes seven members: four private citizens appointed by the Governor and approved by the Iowa Senate, plus two attorneys and one district court judge appointed by the Iowa Supreme Court. The Commission is authorized to investigate allegations of judicial misconduct and may recommend to the Supreme Court that a judge be disciplined or removed for persistent failure to perform his or her duties, habitual intemperance, willful misconduct in office, conduct which brings judicial office into disrepute, or other substantial violations of the Canons of Judicial Ethics. The Commission is not empowered to act as an appeals court, to re-evaluate the facts or how a judge interpreted or applied the law in a case, or to overturn a judge's decision in a case.

The Commission has completed its consideration of your grievance. It has been determined there is insufficient evidence of judicial misconduct, or insufficient evidence of misconduct that is serious enough to justify public discipline of the judge. Accordingly, the Commission has dismissed the complaint.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robert Gast', with a stylized, flowing script.

Robert Gast
Executive Secretary

The following was submitted on June 20, 2024 at 3:34 pm US Central.

In the Matter of the Conduct of:

Judge/Magistrate: Samantha Gronewald

Judicial District: 5

Information about the person who is filing this complaint:

First Name: Alexandra ("Sondra")

Middle Initial: none

Last Name: Wilson

Email Address: sondra.wilson777@gmail.com

Street Address: 4733 Toronto St. Apt 112

City: AMES

State: IA

Zip Code: 50014

This complaint is about behavior of the judge named above in the following case (or cases):

Case Title: Wilson v. State of Iowa and Kim Reynolds for Iowa

Case Number: LACL157953

County: Polk

Date(s) when the events happened that led me to file this complaint: 3/15/24, 4/1/24, 5/28/24, 6/14/24, 6/20/24

This is a description of what happened that caused me to file this complaint against the judge: Judge Gronewald was appointed by Governor Reynolds.

Governor Reynolds performed multiple acts of defamation against transgender individuals, and passed a law cutting off medical coverage for surgeries to transgender medical patients after the Iowa Supreme Court found that such surgeries and medically necessary and must be paid for by Iowa Medicaid. I was personally harmed by the acts of defamation and the violation of my right to access medically necessary procedures. Additionally, I have truthfully alleged fraudulent misrepresentation by the Iowa Civil Rights Commission (ICRC) due to the manner in which they handled a complaint I filed in April 2022, which was not in alignment with the process described on their website. I have reason to suspect that protected minorities such as myself are not being adequately protected under Kim Reynolds' administration via the ICRC, especially in light of her apparent sentiment toward transgender persons.

I have filed two lawsuits since December 2023, both of which Judge Gronewald was appointed. I filed a motion for her to recuse herself from case LACL157381, as required by Iowa Code. Jud. Cond. 51:2.11, but she did not. This is why I filed a complaint against Judge Gronewald recently.

Well, on May 28, I filed another motion for her to recuse herself - this time from case #LACL157953. On Friday, 6/14/24 we had a hearing via Zoom about my motion, wherein I articulated that - Governor or not - it is not okay for a defendant in a lawsuit to select the judge. The judge must be impartial.

Today Judge Gronewald issued an order denying my motion to recuse. Although I received a finding from your Commission previously that there would be no action taken, I truly believe this time her failure to step down is inexcusable. Kim Reynolds is directly named in this lawsuit. The case should not be judged by judge appointed by one of the tortfeasors involved with this case.

I will be filing a motion for her to reconsider her order, just as I did in the previous case. I strongly question Judge Gronewald's impartiality in this matter. According to Iowa Code. Jud. Cond. 51:2.11, she is "disqualified" from judging this case. The text is plain and straightforward about this.

Please advise the Iowa Supreme Court to take disciplinary action against Judge Gronewald in this matter. Plaintiffs who filed a legitimate lawsuit because they were seriously harmed should not be put into this type of situation. Having a judge appointed by a tortfeasor involved in this case violates my right to a fair trial.

**Signature of the person
filing this complaint:**

Alexandra Wilson

A handwritten signature in black ink. It consists of a stylized, cursive 'A' followed by the name 'Alexandra Wilson' written in a more legible, slightly cursive script.

Date:

06/20/24

Submitter:

Unknown

STATE OF IOWA
JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION

1111 East Court Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

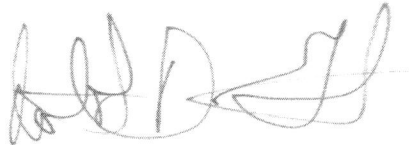
July 5, 2024

Alexandra Wilson
4733 Toronto Street, #112
Ames, IA 50014

Dear Alexandra Wilson:

Our office recently received your complaint against District Judge Samantha Gronewald. On March 31, 2024, you filed a complaint with the Judicial Qualifications Commission on Judge Gronewald regarding the same issues. At their quarterly meeting in May, the Commission dismissed that complaint and therefore will not take this matter under advisement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Robert Gast', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Gast
Executive Secretary