

The Superior Court

111 NORTH HILL STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
CHAMBERS OF
ERIC C. TAYLOR
ASSISTANT PRESIDING JUDGE

TELEPHONE (213) 633-0400

June 8, 2020

Ernest L. Moore P.O. Box 781247 Los Angeles, CA 90016

Re:

Your Letter Dated May 12, 2020, Received May 18, 2020; Los Angeles Superior Court (LASC) Case Nos. BP141987, *In re: Myrtle Moore Living Trust*, and BP085530, *In re: Moore Family Trust*

Dear Mr. Moore:

The Office of the Presiding Judge is in receipt of your complaint letter, dated May 12, 2020, and received by Department 1 on May 18, 2020. Your letter is addressed to Hon. Samantha P. Jessner, and refers to her title as "Presiding Judge." To clarify, Judge Jessner is the Supervising Judge of the Civil Courts. The Presiding Judge is Hon Kevin C. Brazile. Your letter states it is regarding Los Angeles Superior Court (LASC) Case Nos. BP141987, *In re: Myrtle Moore Living Trust*, and BP085530, *In re: Moore Family Trust*. Therefore, as your letter is regarding matters in the Probate Department, it was forwarded to the Office of the Presiding Judge for review.

Your letter states Hon. Barbara R. Johnson "has continually violated the cannons [sic] of the CALIFORNIA CODE OF JUDICIAL ETHICS as well as obstruction of justice in [your] cases!" You state Judge Johnson "has done extensive damage to [your] mother's trust in these cases by very prejudicial and malicious decisions that she has made in these court proceedings." You state Judge Johnson "is prejudiced against [you] and is posturing as though she is colluding with the criminal lawyers working against [you] to continue to loot what is remaining of [your] parent's trusts." You state this is being done "in retaliation for [your] complaints about [Judge Johnson's] criminal misconduct!"

Your letter states "[Judge Johnson] has refused to acknowledge the criminal acts committed by Nathaniel Talie the lawyer for the court-appointed Trustee Jeffrey Siegel and the lawyers for [your] sister Daniel Herbert as well as his associate Kristen Brown." You state you know Judge Johnson has the discretion to remove Mr. Siegel as trustee, but she "has taken no actions to remove him and protect the trusts!" You state "examples of the recent perjuries by the lawyers in [your] case can be seen in the transcripts" of the November 20, 2019, hearing, which you state is attached as Exhibit A to your letter.

Your letter states Judge Johnson "continues to deny any requests that [you] have filed whit this court in [your] petitions, motions, and objections for relief to stop the criminal actions by [Mr.] Talie and [Mr.] Siegel, against the Myrtle Moore Living Trust and the Moore Family Trusts!" You state Judge Johnson "is totally incompetent in her knowledge of Probate Laws and criminal laws." You state she does not read your pleadings before a hearing "and will automatically deny [your] requests and grant any fraudulent requests

that the lawyers for [Mr.] Siegel have put forth to this court." You state this includes "a mortgage for over \$300,000.00 on [your] property that [you] did not receive a penny from and that they have not fully accounted for!" You state you have been "saddled" with these expenses "because [you] do not receive equal protection under any laws in this Probate court!!" You state "examples of her incompetence" can be seen in the transcripts of the hearing on November 20, 2019, which you state is attached as Exhibit A to your letter and shows "she did not even know that [you] had several cases that were set for trial on that day!"

Your letter states "[t]he illegal loan on [your] property was approved by the former judge on this case," Hon. Lesley C. Green (Ret.). You state "Judge Green took early retirement shortly after [you] began to complain to the LA County Board of Supervisors over two years ago!!" You state the problems have continued "because this corruption has not been given any exposure yet!! This judicial corruption has done extensive damage to these cases and [your] family!!!"

Your letter states Judge Johnson "is dishonest and has threatened to have the bailiff Charles R. Gee to arrest [you] in court if [you] tried to make a citizen's arrest of any of the lawyers that have perpetrated frauds, perjuries and other criminal violations against [you] in [your] probate cases." You state you proved "an example" of Judge Johnson's "perjuries" from the transcripts of the hearing on November 20, 2019, which you state is attached as Exhibit A to your letter, "where she stated that [you] did not demand to have [your] property distributed to [you]." You state attached to your letter as Exhibit B is "a copy of [your] petition filed on 7/9/2019 for the distribution of your property." You state attached as Exhibit C is pages from the court transcript for the hearing on July 29, 2019. You state from this transcript "it can be seen that [Judge Johnson] is just playing sadistic games with [your] property in retaliation for [your] complaints against her."

Your letter states "[you] have demanded that [Judge Johnson] disqualify herself from [your] case twice but she denies her unethical misconduct and will only retaliate against [you] in the decisions that she makes in [your] case." You state your statement of disqualification is attached as Exhibit D to your letter. You state approximately two years ago Judge Johnson "released a commercial property to [your] sister Jean Robinson, with no restrictions ignoring the fact that [you] have pending litigation that will affect the title to that property from surcharges for [your sister's] embezzlement of millions of dollars from [your] mother's trusts." You state approximately one year later "after [Judge Johnson] played a lot of games, she released [your] property and put restrictions on it and forced [you] to be subject to an illegal mortgage on the property."

Your letter states you demand Judge Johnson "be removed from these Probate trust cases (Moore Family Trust & Myrtle Moore Living Trust) Immediately!" You state you also demand "that the court-appointed temporary trustee [Mr.] Siegel be removed immediately as well!" You state you also demand "that all are criminally prosecuted! Even if it has to come from the FBI!"

Your letter states you attach to your correspondence as Exhibit E "a copy of the latest court action that is pending now...Objections to Sale of Real Property and Order Confirming the sale." You state "[t]his document has [your] objections to the illegal sale

of a commercial property in [your] deceased mother's trust." You state there was "a trial on this sale last year and it was denied by the court." You state recently Mr. Siegel "has sold the property without court approval!" You state this is additional evidence that Mr. Siegel "should be removed and prosecuted." You state you believe Judge Johnson will do nothing about this and that the hearing for the confirmation of the sale of the property is set for July 2020.

Your letter states you have also filed a request to allow media in the courtroom and that "[you are] planning on producing a documentary about [your] probate case to help bring some justice to the victims of the probate courts." You state you include a copy of your request as Exhibit F to your correspondence, but "[you are] sure [Judge Johnson] will deny this unless there is some kind of interventions by higher powers!!"

As a preliminary matter, I must inform that that regarding the complaint letter process my authority is limited only to determining whether another judicial officer presiding in Los Angeles Superior Court has violated the Canons of Judicial Ethics. I have no authority to address or comment on any issue you assert that does not allege a possible violation of the Canons of Judicial Ethics or potential judicial misconduct.

Therefore, to the extent your letter asserts any possible misconduct by a retired judicial officer no longer presiding in Los Angeles Superior Court, I cannot investigate such claims of misconduct because I have no authority over retired judicial officers. Similarly, I have no authority to investigate any allegations of misconduct against any professionals or attorneys. Any complaint regarding such individuals must be directed to the appropriate office or agency with oversight authority over misconduct complaints against such individuals. I can inform you the State Bar of California is responsible for investigating claims of professional misconduct against an attorney practicing law in California.

Further, while I understand your disappointment with rulings or outcomes that were not favorable to you, to the extent your letter seeks any intervention as to such rulings or outcomes that have been issued I am unable to assist you. All judicial officers of the Superior Court are independently appointed or elected constitutional officers and are therefore prohibited from intervening in pending cases or from engaging in ex parte communications regarding such matters.

Accordingly, neither the presiding judge nor a supervising judge – nor any superior court judge – has the authority to review, overrule, intervene in or otherwise affect the outcome of any matter or proceeding before another judicial officer. Although a judicial officer is required to be faithful to the law in the performance of judicial duties, a judicial officer does not violate the Canons of Judicial Ethics simply because of rulings which may be incorrect or the exercise of judicial discretion a party disagrees with. A complaint letter does not allow the presiding judge or any supervising judge to undertake an independent evaluation of the decision-making process of another judicial officer. It is only a mechanism to evaluate concerns about possible judicial misconduct or violations of the Canons of Judicial Ethics. Please be advised the complaint letter process cannot substitute for the appropriate filing of law and motion at the trial court level or function as a request for appellate review.

Having said that, to the extent your letter asserts possible claims of violations of the Canons of Judicial Ethics by Judge Johnson, I have forwarded your letter to Hon. Brenda J. Penny, Supervising Judge of Probate/Mental Health. I have asked Judge Penny to respond to your letter once he has the opportunity to investigate your letter's allegations of possible judicial misconduct by Judge Johnson. Judge Penny's investigation and response will be limited only to your allegations of possible violations of the Canons of Judicial Ethics or potential judicial misconduct.

Sincerely,

Hon. Eric C. Taylor

Assistant Presiding Judge

ECT:NA:ph

c: Hon. Brenda J. Penny, Supervising Judge, Probate/Mental Health