SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ROCHESTER

CHIEF COUNSEL
CYDNEY A. KELLY

CHAIRPERSON PETER H. ABDELLA State of New York Attorney Grievance Committees PRINCIPAL COUNSEL
MARK W. BENNETT

PRINCIPAL COUNSEL
EFTIHIA BOURTIS

INVESTIGATOR KELLY A. PAGE

May 6, 2024

EXCELSION

CONFIDENTIAL

Elena Ruth Sassower
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc.
P.O. Box 8101
White Plains, New York 14602

Re: Complaints against Amanda Oren, Esq., Lori Ann Ricci, Esq., Emily M. Scott, Esq. John Bringewatt, Esq., Elizabeth Moeller, Esq., Alissa Brennan, Esq., Elena Tasikas, Esq., Sarah Fifield, Esq., and Susan Gray, Esq.

Dear Ms. Sassower:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter requesting a reconsideration of the determination not to investigate Amanda Oren, Esq., Lori Ann Ricci, Esq., Emily M. Scott, Esq., John Bringewatt, Esq., Elizabeth Moeller, Esq., Alissa Brennan, Esq., Elena Tasikas, Esq., Sarah Fifield, Esq., and Susan Gray, Esq.

Pursuant to 22 NYCRR §1240.7(e)(3), I have reviewed your request and determined that this matter will remain closed.

As you know, your complaint alleged that each attorney was involved in a conflict of interest and enmeshed in corruption regarding a matter in family court based upon the removal of a child from her parents due to child sex abuse allegations.

This office declined to investigate your complaint. There was no basis to determine any professional misconduct on the part of each attorney and the office was unable to conclude that these attorneys disregarded a conflict of interest or were involved in corruption.

On April 12, 2024, this office also received a letter asking for reconsideration of your complaints alleging that Principal Counsel Eftihia Bourtis is not the Chief Attorney authorized to make dispositions and that Principal Counsel Mark Bennett chose to remove himself, who is senior to Principal Counsel Bourtis. Additionally, that your complaints could not be closed without investigations against each attorney. You also discussed Chief Counsel Kelly's misconduct with regard to these matters.

After thoroughly reviewing your complaint and considering your arguments, it has been determined that there is no basis for this office to investigate any of these attorneys. We do not have the authority to review their decisions, strategy, and judgement. Pursuant to 22 NYCRR 1240.7(d)(1)(i)(c), your complaint seeks a legal remedy more appropriately obtained in another forum and your matter is currently pending appeal.

Based upon the foregoing, as Chairperson of the Attorney Grievance Committee, I am denying your request, and this matter will remain closed.

Very truly yours,

Peter H. Abdella

Chairperson

PHB/EB/kr



ATTORNEY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Fourth Judicial Department Seventh Judicial District 50 EAST AVENUE, SUITE 404 ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14604-2206



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