IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

IN THE MATTER OF PROHIBITING NINA (BECKER FROM FILING ANY LAWSUIT IN MARICOPA COUNTY WITHOUT OBTAINING PRIOR PERMISSION FROM THE COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 2025-088

This matter was referred by the Honorable Michael Gordon to consider issuing an administrative order declaring Nina Becker a vexatious litigant. Upon review of other matters filed in this Court, and considering all the matters presented, the Court makes the following findings and orders.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-3201, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court may designate a *pro* se litigant who engages in vexatious conduct as a vexatious litigant. In addition, courts "possess inherent authority to curtail a vexatious litigant's ability to initiate additional lawsuits." *Madison v. Groseth*, 230 Ariz. 8, 15, 279 P.3d 633, 639 (App. 2012). The filing excesses of vexatious litigants interfere with the orderly administration of justice by diverting judicial resources from those cases filed by litigants willing to follow court rules and those meritorious cases that deserve prompt judicial attention. *See Acker v. CSO Chevira*, 188 Ariz. 252, 934 P.2d 816 (App. 1997). Arizona Revised Statutes § 12-3201(E) defines vexatious conduct to include repeated filing of court actions solely or primarily for the purpose of harassment, filing claims unreasonably expanding or delaying court proceedings, bringing court actions without substantial justification, and filing claims or requests for relief that have been the subject of previous rulings by a court in the same litigation.

Judge Gordon's referral is the result of a motion to designate Ms. Becker a vexatious litigant filed by Defendant Becker Rentals, LLC. The motion was filed on October 25, 2024 in the case of *Nina Becker v. Becker Rentals, LLC.*, CV2024-050405. After a hearing on the matter, on April 2, 2025 Judge Gordon issued a minute entry recommending that Ms. Becker be designated a vexatious litigant and referring the issue to the Presiding Judge for further proceedings.

Ms. Becker has been the plaintiff in multiple legal actions arising from a 2023 eviction action initiated to remove her from the residence she occupied. The lawsuits have targeted both the previous and current owners of the home: first Frederick Becker and then Becker Rentals, LLC.:

- a. Nina Becker v. Frederick Becker, CV2023-052950 (Filed 08/02/2023);
- b. Nina Becker v. Frederick Becker, CV2023-054056 (Filed 10/19/2023);
- c. Nina Becker v. Becker Rentals LLC, CV2023-054826 (Filed 12/18/2023);
- d. Nina Becker v. Becker Rentals LLC, CV2024-050405 (Filed 01/31/2024);

As set forth in Judge Gordon's April 2, 2025 minute entry, Ms. Becker has utilized civil lawsuits containing frivolous and false claims to try and prevent Frederick Becker from selling the home as well as to prevent Becker Rentals LLC from evicting her from the home. All of the civil lawsuits were without substantial justification and all have been dismissed by judgment against the Plaintiff. The record developed in these lawsuits reflects that civil litigation is one part of an overall pattern of harassment by Ms. Becker against the defendants. In addition to the lawsuits she has made many verbal and written threats against the defendants as well as recorded multiple mechanic's liens, without a legal basis, against both the property and several of the defendants or their agents.

For example, Ms. Becker has threatened defendants with criminal prosecution based on unsupported allegations that defendants were "prime suspects" in sabotaging her automobile while it was parked at a Republican Party event at Dream City Church in an attempt to murder her. This allegation also led her to file civil lawsuits in this Court against the Arizona Republican Party, Becker v. Arizona Republican Party, CV2024-050481; as well as Dream City Church, Becker v. Dream City Church, CV2024-050728. Both lawsuits were dismissed upon motions of the defendants.

In addition, in 2024 Ms. Becker filed a civil lawsuit against Attorney General Kris Mayes and Assistant Attorney General Todd Lawson stemming from the successful prosecution of Ms. Becker for falsifying election petitions, *Becker v. Kris Mayes, et. al.*, CV2024-053468. This lawsuit was summarily dismissed upon motion by the defendants.

For the past two years, Ms. Becker has engaged in a pattern of bringing lawsuits in this court that are frivolous in nature and/or to harass people who are trying to evict her, with justification, from a house in which she once resided. For the reasons set forth above, and incorporating the findings of fact and conclusions of law of Judge Gordon, the Court finds that Ms. Becker has engaged in vexatious conduct by the repeated filing of court actions solely or primarily for the purpose of harassment or brought actions without "substantial justification" as defined in A.R.S. § 12-349.

The Court may issue an order limiting such a litigant's ability to file future lawsuits, motions, and requests for relief to the extent necessary to curtail the improper conduct. The Court finds the orders set out below to be the least restrictive orders that will adequately address Ms. Becker's established pattern of abuse.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED as follows:

- 1. Ms. Becker may not file any new causes of action as a *pro se* litigant after the date of this order without leave of the Civil Presiding Judge or his/her designee.
- Ms. Becker may not file any further pleading or motion in any of her current lawsuits as a pro se litigant without first seeking leave from the judicial officer assigned to that lawsuit.

- 3. Any motion for leave to file any lawsuit shall be captioned "Application Pursuant to Court Order Seeking Leave to File." Ms. Becker must either cite this order in her application or attach as an exhibit a copy of this order.
- 4. Any request for fee waiver or deferral may only be granted by the Civil Presiding Judge or his/her designee.

If approval for filing a new action by Ms. Becker is granted, the Clerk of Court may accept subsequent filings in that cause number from Ms. Becker. This Administrative Order does not preclude Ms. Becker from filing a Notice of Appeal or a Notice of Cross-Appeal in accordance with Arizona Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure Rule 8(a) and (b).

Dated this 11th day of June, 2025.

/s/ Joseph C. Welty

Honorable Joseph C. Welty

Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court

Copies: Hon. Joseph Malka, Clerk of the Superior Court

Hon. Danielle Viola, Civil Department Presiding Judge

Hon, Michael Gordon

Raymond L. Billotte, Judicial Branch Administrator Luke Emerson, Civil Department Administrator

Jessica Fotinos, Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court

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Nina Becker