



and Judicial-Disability Proceedings. The complaint must allege that the judge "has engaged in conduct prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts." 28 U.S.C. § 351(a).

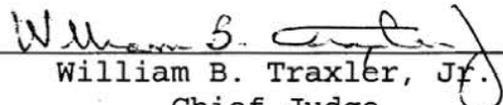
A complaint that fails to make such an allegation is subject to dismissal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(i) as not in conformity with § 351(a). A complaint that fails to present "sufficient evidence to raise an inference that misconduct has occurred" is subject to dismissal pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii). Complainant's judicial complaint is subject to dismissal under both § 352(b)(1)(A)(i) and § 352(b)(1)(A)(iii).

Complainant has not identified a particular federal judge within the Fourth Circuit as the subject of his judicial complaint, and the allegations in his letter focus on a district judge from another circuit and a magistrate judge from an unidentified circuit. Complainant has also failed to set forth facts establishing conduct prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts. Having an account on LinkedIn.com does not constitute judicial misconduct. See Advisory Opinion No. 112, Use of Electronic Social Media by Judges and Judicial Employees (Comm. on Codes of Conduct Nov. 2015) (use of social media is not prohibited but is

governed by the same Code of Conduct requirements applicable to other activities), available at <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules-policies/judiciary-policies/code-conduct/published-advisory-opinions>. Complainant has not alleged that a federal judge within the Circuit has used a LinkedIn.com account to engage in misconduct. Rather, he has alleged only that it is possible that a LinkedIn.com account could be abused to compromise the integrity of the judicial process, create an appearance of bias, or send ex parte communications. The hypothetical possibility that misconduct could be committed does not support an inference that it has occurred.

Absent identification of a federal judge in the Fourth Circuit against whom the misconduct complaint is filed and specific facts showing that the judge's online activities are "prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts," this complaint must be dismissed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(b)(1)(A)(i) & (iii).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
William B. Traxler, Jr.  
Chief Judge