

THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT
219 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

May 14, 2019

Nos. 07-18-90053, 07-18-90067

IN RE COMPLAINTS AGAINST DISTRICT JUDGE COLIN S. BRUCE

Chief Judge Diane P. Wood
Thomas W. Patton
Complainants

ORDER

For reasons stated in the accompanying memorandum, these complaints are hereby resolved pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 354(a)(1)(C). The Judicial Council hereby admonishes Judge Colin S. Bruce that his former practice of ex parte communications violated Canon 3(a)(4) of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges. In addition to this admonishment, the Council orders that Judge Bruce shall remain unassigned to any matters involving the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Central District of Illinois until September 1, 2019, and watch the Federal Judicial Center's 2009 training video, entitled Preserving the Trust: Ethics and Federal Judges, and read the excerpts of the Code of Conduct that are part of the training, before September 1, 2019. The Council has identified no evidence suggesting that Judge Bruce's ex parte contact or relationship with the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Central District of Illinois impacted his decision making in any case, and the Council has therefore concluded that a more serious reprimand is unnecessary.