

BEFORE THE JUDICIAL INQUIRY COMMISSION OF ALABAMA

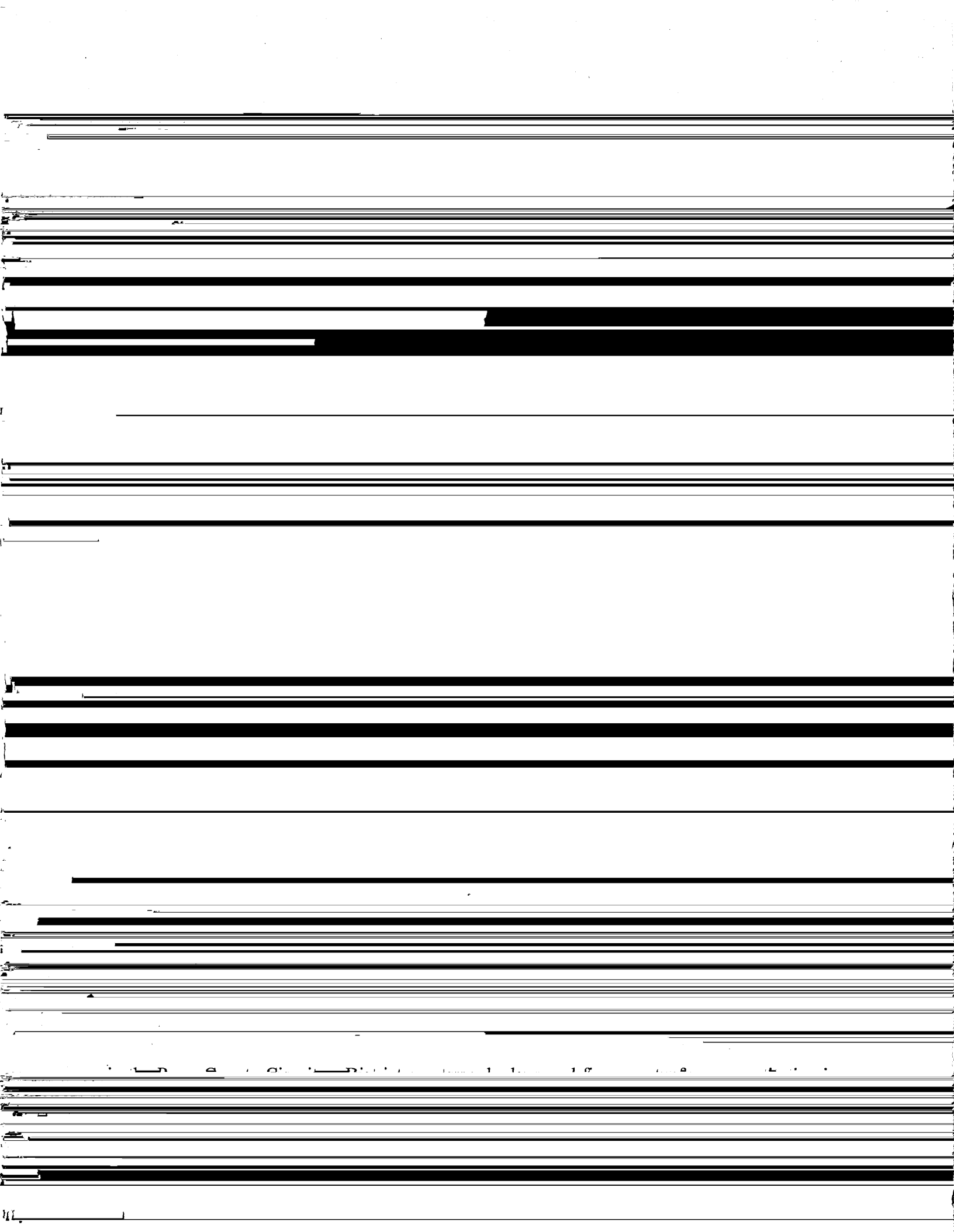
Inquiry Concerning a Judge, No. ____.

COMPLAINT AGAINST JUDGE MARVIN WIGGINS

J. INTRODUCTION

1. On September 17, 2015, in front of hundreds of people who were ordered to appear in court because of unpaid fines and fees, Judge Wiggins threatened everyone in attendance that if they did not have money that day, they would have to choose between jail or a

formed blood "donation." He also told people that when making their decision, they should



the court charged of defendants who had been explicitly found to be indigent in order to receive

all money paid for appointed counsel. In reviewing AlaCourt filings, it is evident that these fees were applied routinely by Judge Wiggins (as well as by the other judges of the court), without any documented consideration of the defendant's financial status except for the original Affidavit of Substantial Hardship—under which the court determined that they were indigent.

12. Many who gave blood did not obtain any credit towards what they owe and still have outstanding debts to the court. They will likely be forced to attend BRVA or pay docket

16. He also violated his responsibility to “uphold the integrity and independence of

the judiciary” and has not “acted judicially in the judicial branch.”

brings the judicial office into disrepute” Canon 1.2B. By forcing innocent defendants to

“...or on discriminatory terms” or factors which “...in the...”.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

treasury rather than to a private creditor.”).

[REDACTED]

not only violates § 15-12-25(2), it also chills defendants' Sixth Amendment rights to appointed counsel, as indigent defendants are being routinely told that they have to pay for having exercised this right. *Cf. Fuller v. Oregon*, 417 U.S. 40, 54 (1974) (finding that Sixth

Amendment rights were not chilled only because the obligation to pay was imposed "upon those

The allegations and statements of fact set forth above and in any additional attached

pages are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, and I understand

