



## Detail

**Complaint Number:** 597

**Immigration Judge:** Cassidy, William A.

**Complaint Date:** 01/19/12

**Current ACIJ**  
Nadkarni, Deepali

**Base City**  
(b) (6)

**Status**  
CLOSED

**Final Action**  
Complaint dismissed as merits-related

**Final Action Date**  
01/31/12

| A-Number(s) | Complaint Nature(s) | Complaint Source(s)     |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|             | Bias<br>Legal       | Respondent Atty (b) (6) |

**Complaint Narrative:** Attorney alleges that IJ improperly denied his motion for continuance.

| Complaint History |                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 01/25/12          | Discussed complaint with IJ           |
| 01/31/12          | Complaint dismissed as merits-related |
| 02/01/12          | Database entry created                |

# Immigration Judge Complaint Intake Form

**HQ Use Only:**  
complaint #: \_\_\_\_\_  
source: first / subsequent

**Date Received at OCIJ: January 19, 2012**

| complaint source type  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> anonymous<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> respondent's attorney<br><input type="checkbox"/> third party (e.g., relative, uninterested attorney, courtroom observer, etc.)<br><input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> BIA<br><input type="checkbox"/> respondent<br><input type="checkbox"/> OIL<br><input type="checkbox"/> EOIR<br><input type="checkbox"/> OPR<br><input type="checkbox"/> DHS<br><input type="checkbox"/> OIG<br><input type="checkbox"/> Main Justice<br><input type="checkbox"/> media |
| complaint receipt method   |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> letter<br><input type="checkbox"/> fax   | <input type="checkbox"/> IJC memo (BIA)<br><input type="checkbox"/> unknown<br><input type="checkbox"/> email<br><input type="checkbox"/> other: _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> phone (incl. voicemail)<br><input type="checkbox"/> in-person  |
| date of complaint source<br>(i.e., date on letter, date of appellate body's decision)  | complaint source contact information  |
| January 18, 2012   | name: _____<br>address: <b>(b) (6)</b><br>email: _____<br>phone: _____<br>fax: _____  |
| additional complaint source details<br>(i.e., DHS component, media outlet, third party details, A-number)  |   |
| A(b) (6)<br>A(b) (6)<br>A(b) (6); A(b) (6)<br>A(b) (6)   |   |

| IJ name  | base city  | ACIJ   |
|--|--|--|
| IJs William Cassidy and Non-Responsive   | (b) (6)  | Dee Nadkarni   |
| relevant A-number(s)   | date of incident   |  |
|  | letters dated 1.18.12(2) and 1.25.12   |  |
| allegations  |  |  |
| Attorney (b) (6) alleges that IJs William Cassidy and Non-Responsive are improperly denying his motions for continuance. (b) (6) contends that he has personal and health issues that have prevented his "full-time aggressive practice of law," but that his condition "has not necessarily affected [his] job." Mr. Cooner maintains that he is a military veteran who suffers from PTSD and cancer. He repeatedly requests additional time in the form of continuances in his (b) (6) cases. Non-Responsive Non-Responsive (b) (6) wrote a separate letter relating to IJ Cassidy requesting his cell phone number from office staff for a telephonic appearance. |  |  |
| nature of complaint  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> in-court conduct<br><input type="checkbox"/> incapacity   | <input type="checkbox"/> out-of-court conduct<br><input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> due process<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bias<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> legal<br><input type="checkbox"/> criminal |



(b) (6)

Express Mail - (b) (6)

January 18, 2012

OCIJ Deepali (Dee) Nadkarni  
5107 Leesburg Pike,  
Suite 2500  
Falls Church, VA 22041

Re: Emergency Civil Rights Complaint - Immigration Judge William Cassidy

Dear Madam:

Yesterday, I submitted an overnight express mail complaint to your office regarding the unprofessional conduct of two immigration judges in (b) (6)

Today, unfortunately even without a clear mind or strength to write this, I must inform your office of what occurred today that is an embarrassment to the legal profession, especially from a sitting immigration court judge.

I have attached an affidavit from my paralegal of what a terrible experience she had to endure from Judge Cassidy in (b) (6). I have known that Judge Cassidy has had numerous complaints from the many past years but has always come out smelling like a rose. But today, I will not let these civil rights violation matters go unannounced.

Moreover, because of my cancer treatments and my PTSD stress levels of family and war related circumstances, I cannot express words for my disdain of the (b) (6) EOIR system. I have also included letters from the Veterans Administration Hospital regarding my treatment and circumstances.

Again, I ask for your assistance at your level only for now; for direct and immediate

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interference, to put a stop to this harassment of myself, my family and my staff at my private law office. All I ask is that you help me and if you cannot, please let me know so that I can go to another level. I just need some more time for healing as I know God is with me.

Please try to contact me through my office if you have any questions.

(b) (6)

Encls

as

(b) (6)

Affidavit of (b) (6)

I, (b) (6) over the age of twenty-one and of sound mind do hereby state and declare the following under the perjury laws of the State of (b) (6) and of the United States:

That I am a paralegal to (b) (6) Esq. whom I have known and worked with for almost fifteen years.

I am mostly responsible for the operation of the law office of (b) (6) as he is the only attorney in this office and has participated in the immigration law field for numerous years and all this time he has always driven six to seven hours to (b) (6) immigration court until his sickness a few months ago in which he has requested hearing extensions that have been granted up until recently.

There are two judges that have stopped granting continuances which we do not understand as (b) (6) has been battling serious medical conditions and has not spent much time at the office but is supposedly recovering with almost weekly visits to the Veterans Administration Hospital. Anyway Judges' (b) (6) and Cassidy are the worst and have given (b) (6) too much pressure with their denials for no good reason. (b) (6) has provided all medical letters from the Veterans Administration Hospital to support his claims. His grandson also had brain surgery sometime in November 2011 and must have another serious brain operation in a couple of weeks.

Today, on January 19, 2012 (b) (6) had two Master Hearings before immigration judge William Cassidy around nine: a.m. with two different clients. (b) (6) had already submitted two Medical Emergency Motions for a Continuance in these matters and yet Judge Cassidy's last communication was a denial but that (b) (6) had to be in the office for a "telephonic" hearing. (b) (6) had already motioned the judge that he would not be available for a telephonic hearing due to his serious health conditions. However, we had no choice but to tell the clients to be in (b) (6) as it is well known that (b) (6) judges will issue a removal order no matter what.

Anyway I knew (b) (6) was sick at home and was possibly having to make another medical visit to the Veterans Hospital in (b) (6). Around about 10:30 a.m. Judge Cassidy called this office for (b) (6) and talked with another assistant (b) (6) who told him that (b) (6) was sick and not in the office. Judge Cassidy immediately asked (b) (6) for (b) (6) cell phone number that she did not know so she put the judge on hold.

(b) (6) came to me and asked for (b) (6) cell phone and then I took the phone and gave (b) (6) cell phone number even though I thought this was the wrong thing to do. But I did it anyway because after almost fifteen years I have never had a government employee ask for a personal cell phone number for (b) (6).

After the judge had the number, the judge called me back and said that the cell phone did not work. I told the judge the phone works but (b) (6) does not have voice mail set up on

his phone. The judge then asked how we communicated with (b) (6) and I told the judge that we use either the cell phone or I go to his home address.

Judge Cassidy then in a mean and rude manner told me I had two choices . . . and gave me an order . . . 1) either I have to get (b) (6) to answer the cell phone or 2) I had to go to (b) (6) home to tell him to turn on his cell phone.

Next Judge Cassidy called again around 1:00 p.m. and no one was available to answer the phone as we were at lunch and/or talking with other people as we receive numerous calls each day. I found out later that he called this office three more times but I was scared to talk with him as I could not travel numerous miles to (b) (6) home as I even was not sure he was there. Turns out (b) (6) was at the Veterans Hospital most of the whole day and audible cell phones are not allowed inside the clinics.

The judge was extremely terrifying with his orders and threatening tone of voice and this scared me very much as I have talked to numerous judges over the years but this was the most unprofessional conduct I have ever been treated to by a person of authority. The authority to intimidate and scare me so bad. It was horrible and I left the office early as I wanted to quit my job after this horrible experience.

////Further the Affiant Sayeth Not////

(b) (6)

STATE OF (b) (6) )  
COUNTY OF (b) (6) )

**SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN** before me, (b) (6) A Notary Public for the State of (b) (6) at large, duly appointed, commissioned and qualified in and for said County and State, personally appeared (b) (6) the above-named Affiant/s, who is known to me *(or sufficiently proven to be said Affiant/s)*, and who acknowledged execution of the foregoing instrument for the purposes contained therein.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my Hand and Notarial Seal at (b) (6) County, (b) (6) on this, the 19th day of January 2012.

11/30/2015  
Commission Expires

(b) (6)



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Medical Center

(b) (6)

In Reply Refer To: (b) (6)

1/19/2011

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is written by request of and with permission of (b) (6) (b) (6). He was seen for an unscheduled visit in my clinic today due to increasing stress. He is scheduled to attend Stress Less Class weekly beginning January 23, 2012. He is scheduled to see (b) (6), his psychiatrist, on March 28, 2012.

Sincerely, (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Clinical Psychologist

(b) (6)



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
Medical Center

(b) (6)

In Reply Refer To: (b) (6)

December 20, 2011

Dear Veteran,

You have been approved for membership in the PTSD Stress Less group based on a referral from your primary therapist. This 4-session group will meet on Mondays from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the VA Mental Health wing (b) (6). The group will meet on the second floor; please check in with the second floor clerks. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm, as parking is sometimes difficult to find. Please note that two other PCT groups also meet at the same time. Thus, please confirm that you are checked in for the appropriate group—Stress Less with (b) (6). Please also note that this is a closed group, meaning only invited veterans may attend. Your family/friends will not be able to attend with you. The meeting dates are as follows:

January 9, 2012  
January 23, 2012  
January 30, 2012  
February 6, 2012

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact me for additional information at (b) (6). I look forward to seeing you at our first meeting on January 9.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)  
Clinical Psychologist  
PTSD Clinical Team



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Executive Office for Immigration Review

*Office of the Chief Immigration Judge*

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5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 2500  
Falls Church, Virginia 22041

January 25, 2012

**(b) (6)**

Re: Complaints concerning Immigration Judges William Cassidy and **(b) (6)**

Dear **(b) (6)**

I have received your two letters dated January 18, 2012 regarding denials of your motions for continuance by Immigration Judges William Cassidy and **(b) (6)**. Although I cannot address the merits of those decisions, which would properly be submitted by appeal to the Board of Immigration Appeals, I will carefully consider your complaint and take any further action I may deem necessary.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Sincerely,

Deepali Nadkarni  
Assistant Chief Immigration Judge