

Seventh Circuit Clerk's Office phone call (312-435-5850; Feb 27 2018, ~4:30 PM EST)

Apologies for the poor fidelity of the audio recording. This is due to the fact that this was the sub-optimal recording technique: on a laptop computer, from a cell-phone conversation in "speaker-mode". (So, in particular, the online phone conversation at the time was more audible/intelligible than what comes across in the audio recording.)


Trivial/extraneous linguistic tics ("uh," tongue-stumbles, etc.), and background noises (cat meowing, etc.), are omitted (if you want to inspect those, visit the audio file instead of this transcript).

The transcript here follows an immediately preceding attempted call, which was disconnected by a failed call-transfer operation (by the clerk's office). As will be seen, this problem persists: the clerk who can finally handle Judicial Misconduct Complaints doesn't even make an appearance until 05:34 of this transcript.

TIME	WHO	CONTENT
00:00	C	<i>(Answering phone; this follows a preceding failed/disconnected call, after attempted call-forwarding.)</i> Court of Appeals.
00:01	WT	Yeah, I just called called a minute ago, but apparently you couldn't hear me. Can you hear me this time?
00:06	C	Yeah, I can hear you.
00:07	WT	All right, better. So I just called there a few minutes ago. And I asked about a Judicial Misconduct matter. And the woman who answered — it wasn't you, obviously — sent me to another phone number that didn't pick up.
00:27	C	<i>(Inaudible.)</i> ... all-day workshop ... <i>(Inaudible.)</i>
00:31	WT	So ...
00:33	C	<i>(Inaudible.)</i> ... minutes ... Hold on one second, let me work something, OK?
00:38	WT	All right, thank you.
00:39	C	Wait here.
00:44	C	<i>(Different clerk answers phone.)</i> U.S. Court of Appeals.
00:46	WT	Yeah, Hi, thank you. I called just a minute ago, concerning a matter about a charge of Judicial Misconduct that I filed last July. And I have not received ...
00:58	C	<i>(Inaudible.)</i> ... yeah, you're ... very clearly ... <i>(Inaudible.)</i>
01:04	WT	Yeah, I'm on a cell-phone, let me stop walking around. Can you

TIME	WHO	CONTENT
		hear me better now?
01:11	C	Yes, I can.
01:12	WT	OK, I'm sorry. I called about five or ten minutes ago, and I'll just repeat. My question is about a charge of Judicial Misconduct that I filed last July. And I'd like to find out where that stands. And in particular, I never even received a notice of receipt of that. Now when I called this number a few minutes ago, I was sent to another number that did not pick up, so I got disconnected. So could try harder this time, and make sure I get to talk to somebody?
01:51	C	All right, well I can (<i>inaudible</i>) you now. Do you have a pending appeal in this case, or is this just a very ... (<i>Inaudible.</i>)
02:01	WT	No. It's just regarding Judicial Misconduct. And like I say, I filed last July, and I never even received a receipt, a notification of receipt. So in particular I don't even have a case number I can refer you to.
02:19	C	OK, yeah I understand. Can you give me your name?
02:21	WT	Yes, my name is Walter Tuvell. ... (<i>Starts to spell.</i>)
02:26	C	"Walter Tuvell?"
02:27	WT	Yes, "Tuvell," I'll spell it: T-u-v-e-l-l.
02:32	C	OK, perfect. Hold one moment, please.
02:34	WT	Thank you. (<i>Long pause/silence; mutters, "Still waiting."</i>)
03:15	WT	Hello? Great, disconnected again. I will try it a third time. (<i>Dials; phone rings.</i>)
03:49	C	U.S. Court of Appeals.
03:50	WT	Yeah, I ... This is the third time I've called in the last ten minutes, and I keep getting disconnected from your end. So, could I please have somebody this time that I can talk to, about a charge of Judicial Misconduct that I filed last July?
04:10	C	OK.
04:11	WT	Thank you. (<i>Phone rings.</i>)
04:23	C	Court of Appeals.
04:24	WT	Hello. I don't know if you're the same person I've talked to, but I've been disconnected three times in the last ten minutes, trying to talk to you folks.
04:35	C	OK. So we're trying to transfer you to the person who deals with Judicial Misconduct.
04:39	WT	Oh, OK, good.
04:41	C	OK. Give me one second.

TIME	WHO	CONTENT
04:42	WT	Thank you. <i>(Long pause/silence; mutters, "Hope they get it right this time.")</i>
05:19	C	<i>(Inaudible.)</i>
05:20	WT	Excuse me? What did you say? Excuse me, I couldn't understand you. What did you say, please?
05:34	C	Hello, this is Court of Appeals. <i>(Inaudible.)</i> ... short time ago?
05:38	WT	Yes, yes. Thank you very much. Ah, yeah ...
05:40	C	OK. And, your Complaint Number that you were given?
05:43	WT	Ah, and this is the topic. I filed my Complaint of Judicial Misconduct with you folks last July. And I never even received a notification of receipt. So I don't have a Number. This is the problem that I'm complaining about.
06:03	C	OK. Well, <i>(inaudible, perhaps "look")</i> , maybe we didn't get it? We would never ...
06:08	WT	No. You definitely got it, because I received a receipt from Certified Mail, from the U.S. Post Office. And it's signed. I can send you all this information if you'll simply give me an email address. But I really need to get ... to know what's going on, please.
06:28	C	Well, it depends on what was actually sent in. Was it against a federal judge in our Circuit? Because ...
06:35	WT	Yes. No. Oh, come on. It was against Easterbrook, OK? So let's stop pretending here.
06:34	C	<i>(Some inaudibility here, but the gist is clear.)</i> I don't know why you're being to me that way, like I know exactly what you're speaking about. <i>[Even though WT just stated exactly what he's speaking about, at 5:43.]</i>
06:48	WT	OK. I'm not talking "you" personally, I'm talking about to your office. They have decided not to answer me for some reason. And I'm very upset. So please, let's ...
07:00	C,WT	<i>(Inaudible, speaking over one another, but WT understood the clerk to be saying, in particular, that every Complaint received by the clerk's office was guaranteed to be officially processed.)</i>
07:09	WT	OK. Stop right there. That was false. You <i>personally</i> may process each one you get. But somebody in your office did not process mine. This is the problem. Can you give me an email address to ... give me your name ... because the same thing is going to happen again, when I send it [meaning the Easterbrook Complaint] again. Like I said, I have a Certified receipt from the U.S. Post Office. You [meaning the clerk's office] did receive it. Give me an email address; I'll send you that information.
07:40	C	What's the name <i>(inaudible)</i> ...

TIME	WHO	CONTENT
07:42	WT	<i>(Thinking the clerk is asking for his name and address again.)</i> My name is Walter Tuvell <i>(starts to spell)</i> ...
07:46	C	<i>(Interrupts, clarifying the name she wants is the signature on the Certified Mail receipt.)</i> The name that was signed when it [meaning the Easterbrook Complaint] was received.
07:48	WT	Oh. OK. Hold on a second. I'm try[ing]... My computer here. I've been ... maybe find that. <i>(Mumbling.)</i> OK, here, let me see ... proof of service. OK. All right. This is <i>(inaudible, "stiv?"</i> — WT was here mumbling about the date of signature on the receipt, 7/17/17). It looks possibly like some initials: "CAD"?  <i>[Rejecting, on-the-fly, the reading "COD," because that seemed like "cash-on-delivery," but (i) it purports to be a signature, not a abbreviation, and (ii) there is no "cash" involved here.]</i>
08:11	C	OK. Yeah. I'm not sure what happened. But if you want to re-mail it in, if ... To make sure it's legal. You just <i>(inaudible)</i> "Complaint" on the envelope.
08:21	WT	OK. I vaguely ... did that before. But I think the same thing's going to happen this time. So I'd like to do it at least two different ways. I really need, send it again by U.S. Certified Mail, as you suggest. But please give me your email address, so I can send it to you that way too. I don't trust what's happening here.
08:39	C	You know what? Our emails aren't public, so I can't give you that.
08:43	WT	OK, give me you personal one, then. Give me anything. Because, as I said, ...
08:48	C	You know. <i>(Partially inaudible here, what follows is best guess:)</i> If you said is you though you know, that tells you're repeated, is you're trying excite me, OK, do it electronically.
08:53	WT	OK. I have proof here <i>[the Certified Mail receipt]</i> that what you're saying is false. It did not happen last time. Can I talk to your supervisor, please?
09:02	C	Sir, this is how we take a Judicial Review Complaint, okay? You just send it in. And then you can call back to make sure we received it.
09:07	WT	I am call[ing] you back right now, to make sure you received it. I would truth...
09:12	C	But you're calling again eight months after you sent it.
09:15	WT	It doesn't matter. I have proof here that you did receive it.
09:18	C	Sir, that's how you can say it is. <i>(Inaudible.)</i>

TIME	WHO	CONTENT
09:21	WT	Could you tell me your name, please? Could you tell me your name please?
09:24	C	Sir, you get into the building and drop it off, hand-delivery.
09:27	WT	Look, I'm not in Chicago. I'm in Boston. I can't walk in. Please?
09:32	C	<i>(Inaudible.)</i>
09:33	WT	Could you tell me your name, please? <i>(Silence.)</i> Hello? <i>(Silence.)</i> Are you going to tell me your name? <i>(Silence.)</i> Hello? <i>(Silence.)</i> Hello, can you please tell me your name? There needs to be some accountability here. <i>(Silence.)</i> Hello, I can still hear you on the line.
10:04	C	But you're breaking up. So I can't understand what you were saying.
10:07	WT	No, I'm not breaking up. I have a solid line here. I can hear anything that's happening on your end. There's some "clicks," and things like that <i>[these cannot be heard on the audio recording, due to the recording technique explained in the opening paragraph]</i> .
10:14	C	<i>(Some inaudibility here, but the gist is clear.)</i> Well, you say you can hear me, frankly, I cannot hear you, so I <i>(inaudible)</i> . <i>[If she "can't hear," then how can she be responding so appropriately to what she "can't hear?"]</i>
10:17	WT	You're lying, lady. You're lying. <i>(Call-drop sound.)</i> Lady. All right. All right. The call is dropped. She shut it off. And she is a liar. I'm going to stop this.
10:31	—	<i>(End of recording.)</i>