

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHAWNEE COUNTY, KANSAS
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2023-2A

**ORDER CURTAILING BO ZOU'S CONTACT
WITH COURT OFFICES, OFFICERS, AND PERSONNEL**

1. Bo Zou is a party to three cases which were formerly pending in the Third Judicial District: 2022-LM-8616 (eviction defendant); 2022-SC-129 (small claims plaintiff); and 2022-CV-782 (small claims appeal). All cases were assigned to Division 3. All cases have been disposed.
2. Nothing in this Order is intended to conflict with or contravene the Orders issued in the above cases, except those orders related to Bo Zou's contacts with court officers and personnel as well as the curtailment and monitoring of his movements within the courthouse and court environs. The Administrative Order hereby revokes and replaces Administrative Order 2023-2.
3. Over a period of several months, Bo Zou has demonstrated a persistent practice of contacting, personally and through correspondence, various Court personnel in multiple departments of the Third Judicial District to ask repeated questions, lodge repeated complaints, and otherwise engage repeatedly in ex parte conversations regarding his civil cases and the operation of the Court as it relates to them. Most of these departments have no connection to his formerly pending cases.
4. Over a period of several months, Bo Zou has incessantly engaged various personnel, personally and through correspondence, in the Court Administrator's office and the office of the Clerk of the District Court, as well as the Chief Judge, to ask questions, lodge complaints, and otherwise engage in ex parte conversations regarding his civil cases and the operation of the Court as it relates to them. He has made various demands to them for action in his cases, some of which could be taken only by the presiding judge, and at least one of which seeks action the same day it was submitted to the Court.
5. Over a period of several months, Bo Zou's actions and behaviors at the Third Judicial District Court have become increasingly confrontational, contemptuous, and alarming to Court officers and employees. These have included, but are not limited to: Attempts to enter private offices without permission; refusing to leave court offices when requested to do so; attempts to record conversations in private court offices or environs without permission; reaching across the desk or workstation of a judicial assistant; making a statement to a court employee that a District Court Judge is trying to kill him; an attempt to enter a judge's chamber; and engaging in the

apparent video recording of court officials and employees as they exited the courthouse and entered their automobiles.

On August 11, 2023, Bo Zou entered the Shawnee County Courthouse and after stepping through the security station located at the main entrance to the building, he immediately bolted and ran, via the adjacent corridor and stairwell, to the Court Clerk's Office in Room 209. Through this action, Bo Zou purposefully attempted to avoid a deputy escort while in the building. A deputy immediately followed Bo Zou to Room 209 and waited for him to complete his business. Upon completion of his business in the Court Clerk's Office, Bo Zou turned to exit the office and again bolted and ran down the corridor to the stairwell and then to the first floor where he exited the building. These actions were clearly intended and designed to flagrantly avoid the deputy escort and appropriate behavior requirements delineated in Section A of Administrative Order 2023-2. His actions also created a safety issue for himself, deputies, patrons, and personnel at the courthouse.

Through his actions at the courthouse on August 11, 2023, it is clear to the Court that Bo Zou was fully aware of Administrative Order 2023-2 and its requirements because, in part, during his interactions with court personnel, he attempted to present them with a copy of his identification - identification which was one subject of a specific letter sent to him by the Court Administrator, dated and mailed to him, on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 and which included a copy of Administrative Order 2023-2. Moreover, Administrative Order 2023-2 was mailed to Bo Zou under separate cover by the Court on August 9, 2023. Violations of Administrative Orders or Judicial Orders will not be tolerated by the Court.

6. Bo Zou's pattern of behavior has become increasingly onerous and harassing to the employees of the Third Judicial District Court and raises serious concerns regarding their safety and public safety. His actions often require Court employees and Shawnee County Sheriff's Office deputies to have repetitive and lengthy engagements with him which far outweigh the nature and extent of services extended to other members of the public and to litigants in other Court cases and Court business.

7. The Court has inherent powers to make orders reasonably necessary for the administration of justice, and it is "“vested in courts to manage their own affairs so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases.” [Citations omitted.]” It is designed to allow a “reasonable response to the problems and needs’ confronting the court's fair administration of justice.” *State v. Wilmer*, 53 Kan.App.2d 99, 101-02, 384 P.3d 32 (2016).

8. Over a period of several months, Bo Zou's actions have increasingly interfered with the orderly and expeditious conduct of business in the Third Judicial District. So that other members of the public may be served, and so that authorized employees and officers of the Court may effectively, efficiently, and safely perform their duties, the Court makes the following orders.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED BY THE CHIEF JUDGE that Bo Zou's contact with the Court be limited as follows:

A. In-Person Contact

Effective immediately, unless a personal appearance is necessary for a scheduled court proceeding in which Bo Zou is a party, prospective juror or a witness, Bo Zou is hereby prohibited from entering any court environs of the Shawnee County Courthouse.

Court environs, for purposes of this Order includes: Basement courtrooms, judicial offices, judicial chambers and Court Services offices; first floor Court Services Office and Jury Assembly area; and the entire second, third and fourth floors of the Shawnee County Courthouse.

If Bo Zou enters the Shawnee County Courthouse, as authorized above, he must be escorted at all times by one or more Deputies of the Shawnee County Sheriff's Office to his assigned courtroom and he may only take the most direct route to these locations. Bo Zou is ordered to conduct himself appropriately while at the courthouse and deputies are authorized and ordered to remove him from the courthouse if he disobeys their lawful orders.

B. All Other Contact

Unless authorized in Section A above, Bo Zou is prohibited from initiating any direct contact with officials and personnel of the District Court whether by email, telephone, or in-person. Unless authorized in Section A above, all contact that Bo Zou has with the Court must be in writing and sent to the Court by U.S. Mail. Any specific relief sought in a litigated matter to be addressed by the Court as sought by Bo Zou shall be limited to written motions filed in any pending active cases involving Bo Zou. Such matters may be addressed only by written motion, pleadings or petitions filed in accordance with Kansas Supreme Court Rules and Local Rules of the Third Judicial District and filed of record in the Court's case file.

Unless authorized in either Sections A or B above, all officials and personnel of the Third Judicial District are authorized and directed to decline further requests from Bo Zou for information or assistance in any pending cases in which he is a party or matters related to the same.

Nothing in this order restricts or is intended to restrict Bo Zou's ability to file pleadings in new or active pending cases, attend his court proceedings, represent himself in his respective cases or make requests for information as authorized by law. However, the requirement now imposed on Bo Zou regarding written inquiries and communications with the Court is that all correspondence and case filings must be sent to the Court by U.S. mail.

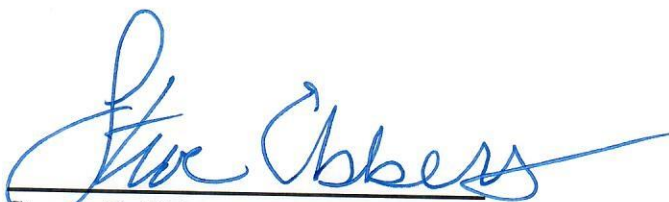
The court's mailing address is:

Clerk of the District Court
200 SE 7th Street, Room 209
Topeka, Kansas 66603

Any violation of this order will subject Bo Zou to possible sanctions and/or citations in contempt of Court.

Dated this 15th day of August 2023.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Steven R. Ebberts
Chief Judge – 3rd Judicial District
Shawnee County District Court - Division 12

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 15th day of August 2023, I served the above Order on Bo Zou by depositing a copy thereof in the United States Mail, with first class postage prepaid, affixed, and addressed to:

Bo Zou
6000 SE 2nd Street
Tecumseh, Kansas 66542

Steven R. Ebberts
Chief Judge – 3rd Judicial District
Shawnee County District Court - Division 12