

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] **ESQ.**
[REDACTED] **(Cell)** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] **NY** [REDACTED] **Email:** [REDACTED]@gmail.com

Chairperson
State of New York
Grievance Committee for the Ninth Judicial District
Crosswest Office Center
399 Knollwood Road, Suite 200
White Plains, NY 10603

Complaint re:
Catherine Lara Kassenoff, Esq.
Registration number 2777613
The Davidoff Law Firm
228 East 45th Street, Room 1110
NY, NY 10017-3358
917-836-5200

March 23, 2023

Dear Ms. Osterling:

I am currently employed as a Court Attorney Referee for the New York State Court System, Supreme Court, Westchester County, Matrimonial Part. From approximately December, 2019 through December, 2021, I was the Court Attorney Referee assigned to the Kassenoff v. Kassenoff matrimonial matter (Index number 58217/2019) and I worked with Judge Nancy Koba on this matter. Shortly after I was assigned to assist Judge Koba, I became very uncomfortable having conferences with counsel and Ms. Kassenoff without Judge Koba and a court reporter being present. During this period, virtual Teams conferences were held almost weekly. Prior to every conference, I discussed the issues which were to be dealt with at the conference with Judge Koba. During virtually every conference which I conducted in this matter, a court reporter was present.

After I was assigned to this matter, I was made aware that I was named in several Facebook posts by Catherine Kassenoff. I have no recollection who advised me of the Facebook posts. I never looked at any of Ms. Kassenoff's Facebook posts about me or this matter as I did not want to be prejudiced in any way regarding this very highly contentious divorce proceeding.

Prior to my involvement in this divorce proceeding, Ms. Kassenoff was granted supervised access with her three minor daughters by Judge Everett. This access was continued by Judge Koba after an interim custody hearing in which Catherine Kassenoff was diagnosed as having a personality disorder with narcissistic traits. During the entire two year period of my involvement in Kassenoff v Kassenoff, Ms. Kassenoff's supervised access with her daughters continued.

During the two year period during which I was assigned to the Kassenoff divorce to assist Judge Koba, I received several emails from Ms. Kassenoff which I considered threatening. I received a threatening email from Catherine Kassenoff on October 18, 2022 (annexed hereto as Exhibit "A"). Thereafter, Catherine Kassenoff sent me another threatening email (annexed hereto as Exhibit "B") on Sunday night, January 15, 2023 at 11:51 P.M. of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend (while I was on vacation).

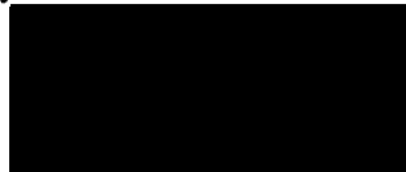
I became very frightened at the threat and content contained in Ms. Kassenoff's email and became very concerned for my safety. I was so concerned for my safety that I felt compelled to file a police report (annexed hereto as Exhibit "C") when I returned from vacation. It is to be noted that my husband was also so concerned for my safety that he accompanied me to the police station to file the report. As Ms. Kassenoff has been seen in the Courthouse, I am now afraid to be in any unsecured part of the Courthouse where I work, or to be outside alone. I notified the Captain of the Court Officers at the courthouse, and also the District Attorney's office, of the email threat.

During my 44 years in the NYS Court System, I have been a Court Attorney Referee, County Court Judge and Family Court Judge. I have never before experienced the kind of conduct exhibited by Catherine Kassenoff nor the threats she has directed at me. In my opinion, this conduct by Ms. Kassenoff is sanctionable.

While I am aware that Ms. Kassenoff has made numerous complaints against all the judges and attorneys who were involved in Kassenoff v. Kassenoff, and she has filed numerous baseless lawsuits against virtually everyone involved in this matter, most of which have been dismissed, I wonder why no one has made any attempt to stop her.

I hesitated before filing this complaint as I am quite aware that as a result of this complaint to the Attorney Grievance Committee, Ms. Kassenoff in all likelihood will file not only a complaint against me with the Grievance Committee, but will also concoct a frivolous lawsuit to file against me. That has been her pattern throughout this entire matter. However, I refuse to remain silent and permit her to continue her campaign of intimidation and 'terror'.

Notwithstanding the likelihood of her retaliation against me for filing this complaint, I cannot remain silent. For the first time in 44 years, she has caused me to fear for my safety from an attorney or litigant. Her conduct as an attorney in this matter, in which she has represented herself at various times during the long and tortuous divorce proceeding, and her attacks on every professional who has ever been involved in this matter who has not agreed with her nor done what she wants, have been relentless. Her campaign to harm anyone she perceives as not being 'on her side' must be stopped. She gives all attorneys a bad name.



Court Attorney Referee
Supreme Court, Westchester County