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CONSTABLE BANNED, STILL GETTING PAID

Christina Leonard, The Arizona Republic

Voters re-elected **Annette Clark** last month. But the embattled East Phoenix #2 constable may not be able to perform her duties during the next four years.

Court officials recently notified **Clark** that her services "are not required during your next term of office."

Clark will still collect her \$55,000-a-year salary even though she can't do her job: serve papers for justice courts, including evictions, notices in lawsuits and restraining orders.

Judge Colin Campbell of Maricopa County Superior Court first stripped **Clark** of her duties in October 2003 amid complaints of rude behavior, harassment and failure to serve papers.

Campbell decided to continue the order, writing that they would notify her "should the situation change."

"We're concerned with the pattern of behavior she displayed the nearly two and a half years that she performed her duties," said Jerry Porter, associate presiding judge. "We're concerned about the safety and the staff at East Phoenix #2 and the public."

The letter didn't surprise **Clark**, but she believes it cancels the election.

"Why have an election if you're not going to let people serve?" she said. "I have no idea why he's making it so an elected official cannot serve. I have not been charged with anything."

Clark beat out Republican Andrew Mellor for the post in November.

Clark has sued Campbell and numerous county officials challenging their authority to keep her from performing her job.