



The Supreme Court of Kansas

Kansas Judicial Center
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507



JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-62

May 17, 1996

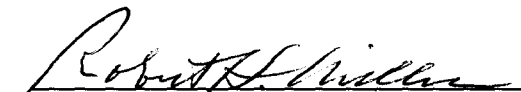
A judge in an elective judicial district is not a candidate this year. However, the judge's spouse, who belongs to a different political party than that of the judge, will be a candidate for a county office. The judge poses five questions, and a sixth which we find moot. The five questions are:

- Question 1.** May the judge, with the judge's spouse, attend fund raisers of the spouse's political party?
- Question 2.** May the judge attend fund raisers for the judge's spouse, if the judge is not identified as a judge and does not solicit money?
- Question 3.** May the judge purchase tickets and attend functions of the judge's spouse's political party?
- Question 4.** May the judge attend candidate forums and be introduced as the candidate's spouse if the judge is not identified as a judge?
- Question 5.** May the judge appear in a family photograph in the wife's campaign material and TV ads, so long as the judge is not identified as a judge?

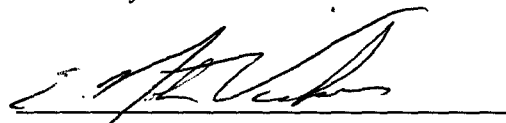
Answer: The answer to all five questions is "yes."

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Discussion: In the situation included in the questions, the judge should not be introduced or identified as a judge. The judge should not at any time solicit funds, or lend the prestige of his or her office to that end. The judge should carefully avoid impropriety or the appearance of impropriety while the judge's spouse participates in this political activity. 1995 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 601A-2; 601A; 5 A (1); 5C (1) (a).


Robert H. Miller, Chairman


Adrian J. Allen


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