



The Supreme Court  
of Kansas

Kansas Judicial Center

Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507



JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-76

May 5, 1997

**FACTS:**

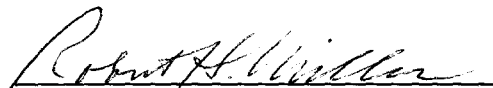
The local chapter of a national charitable organization, as a part of its annual fund raising, holds a "silent auction" where contributors may bid on items donated by local businesses and individuals. A judge and a local business man would like to contribute a dinner for eight, to be auctioned off. The dinner would be prepared by the judge as a "celebrity chef." The judge's name would be listed as a contributor, but he or she would not be identified as a judge, nor would the judge make any direct solicitation for participation or contribution.


**QUESTION:**

Is this activity prohibited by Canon 5B(2), 1996 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 399-400?

**ANSWER:**

Yes. Even though the title "Judge" is not used in the program or on the card listing the auction items, the proposed preparer of the meal is widely known as a judge in the community of his or her residence. The proposed conduct, while laudable, is a direct solicitation of funds, and is proscribed by the rule.

  
Robert H. Miller, Chairman

  
E. Newton Vickers

Adrian J. Allen is not participating.