

State of Kansas

Office of Judicial Administration

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JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-36

September 11, 1991

Topic

Use of judge's name on the editorial advisory board of a publication. Canon 2B

A privately owned for profit publishing company intends to publish a weekly newspaper exclusively for Kansas lawyers. The publication "will be dedicated to immediate reporting of all published opinions of both state and federal courts that most affect Kansas attorneys."

The publisher has solicited a judge to be a member of the "Editorial Advisory Board" of the newspaper and his name will be published as a member of the Board.

In his letter to the judge the publisher states: "It's no secret that the reason I am asking you to be one of our advisors is because of your <u>stature</u> in the Kansas legal community." And further, "we just want that expertise to be available...if we need it."

The judge requests an advisory opinion as to the propriety of his acceptance of the publisher's offer.

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From the information furnished us, we have concluded that the use of the judge's name as proposed would fall within the proscription of Canon 2B wherein it is stated ... "a judge... should not lend the prestige of his office to advance the private interests of others."

Robert H. Kaul, Chairman

John W. Brookens

Harry G. Miller