



State of Kansas

## Office of Judicial Administration

Kansas Judicial Center  
301 West 10th  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507

(913) 296-2256

JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

March 10, 1987

### Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-18

**Question:** May a judge join with a law school classmate to solicit funds from other classmates to present a gift to his law school to commemorate the 25th anniversary of his class? As a part of the question, the judge states that he proposes to write solicitation letters on his judicial stationery.

**Answer:** A similar question was answered by this panel in Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-16 which reads in part as follows:

The answer to this question is "no" because it falls within the proscription of Canon 5B(2) which provides in pertinent part:

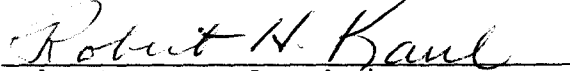
"A judge should not solicit funds for any educational, religious, charitable, fraternal or civic organizations, or use or permit the use of his office for that purpose."

Obviously, a per se prohibition against the solicitation of funds is deemed appropriate from the language of the rule. An examination of the many advisory opinions of other jurisdictions evince a strong consensus in favor of a strict interpretation of the antisolicitation rule.

We believe the above fully answers the question presented here. As noted in JE-16, the antisolicitation rule

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should be given a strict interpretation and is applicable to the solicitation described in the question here regardless of whether the solicitation is mailed on the judge's stationery.

  
Robert H. Kaul, Chairman

  
John W. Brooken

  
Harry G. Miller