The Supreme Court of Kansas

JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE 145
September 11, 2006

Question:  May a sitting Hispanic Judge lend her photograph and a short biography to the YWCA as a depiction of a positive role model for young Latinas in the community during “Hispanic Heritage Month?”

Answer:  Yes. The judge is not receiving an award; the judge is not receiving a gift of money or anything else. The issue raised is whether the depiction of the judge as a role model will convey the impression that the YWCA is in a special position to influence the judge. We find it is not. See Canon 2B, 2005 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 560 and JE 140.

Adrian J. Allen

Fred S. Jackson

Robert H. Miller not participating.