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STATE OF NEVADA
STANDING COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES

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ADVISORY OPINION: JE08-012

PROPRIETY OF JUDGE PURCHASING
A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE IN
THE SOUVENIR PROGRAM FOR A
CHARITABLE EVENT HONORING
ANOTHER JUDGE.

is the Committee's opinion that no issues
are raised under Canon 5, and specifically
that no issues are raised concerning
whether the purchase of such a
congratulatory message might be construed
as a public endorsement of another judicial
candidate. In the opinion of the
Committee, Canon 4A applies here. That
Canon provides that:

ISSUE

May a judge purchase space in a
souvenir program for a charitable event to
congratulate another judge who is being
honored at the event by a charitable
organization?

A judge shall conduct all of
the judge's extrajudicial
activities so that they do not:

ANSWER

Yes.

(i) cast
reasonable doubt on the
judge's capacity to act
impartially as a judge;

FACTS

A judge asks whether the judge
may purchase space in a souvenir program
being printed for an event sponsored by a
charitable organization honoring another
judge for the work that judge has done for
the charity. The message presented in the
space will congratulate the honoree for the
honoree's good works on behalf of the
charity. The judge purchasing the
congratulatory message in the program is
running for election. The judge being
honored is not running for election.

(ii) demean the
judicial office;

(iii) interfere with
the proper performance of
judicial duties.

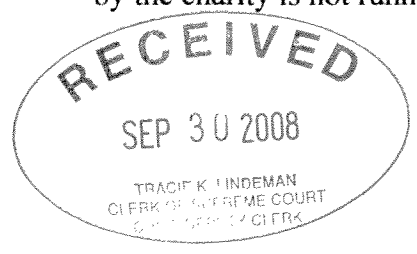
In the opinion of the Committee, the
purchase of space in the charitable
organization's program for a congratulatory
message does not violate Canon 4A of the
Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct.

CONCLUSION

It is therefore the opinion of the
Committee that, in these circumstances, the
judge may purchase space for a
congratulatory message in a program for an

DISCUSSION

Because the judge being honored
by the charity is not running for election, it

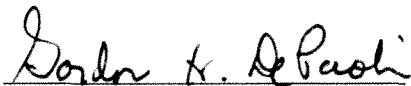


event honoring another judge for the work that judge has done for the charitable organization.

REFERENCES

Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 4A, Canon 5.

This opinion is issued by the Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics and Election Practices. It is advisory only. It is not binding on the courts, the State Bar of Nevada, the Nevada Commission on Judicial Discipline, any person or tribunal charged with regulatory responsibilities, any member of the Nevada judiciary, or any person or entity requesting the opinion.



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