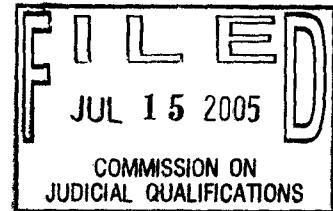




# The Supreme Court of Kansas

KANSAS JUDICIAL CENTER  
301 S.W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507



## JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

### Judicial Ethics Opinion JE 129

July 15, 2005

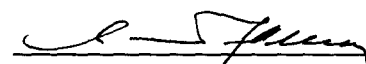
A question has been presented to us as to whether members of the Kansas Appellate Courts may attend a national conference "to focus public attention on the state of civic education in America." The Kansas Department of Education makes recommendations of who will attend the conference, and the department would like to include a Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court and a Judge of the Kansas Court of Appeals. One Justice and one Judge have been invited. The expenses of each delegate are paid with funds appropriated by Congress.

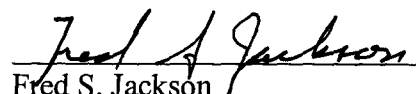
The Kansas Department of Education is currently a party in litigation pending before the Supreme Court and may be a party in litigation before the Court of Appeals.

The conference focuses on "public attention on the state of civic education." There is no showing that the conference is "a bar-related function or an activity devoted to the improvement of the law, the legal system or the administration of justice." Canon 4D(5)(a), 2004 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 553.

Also we conclude that attendance by the invited justice and judge would violate Canon 2A, 2004 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 539, and that they should not attend this conference.

  
Robert H. Miller, Chairman

  
Adrian J. Allen

  
Fred S. Jackson