



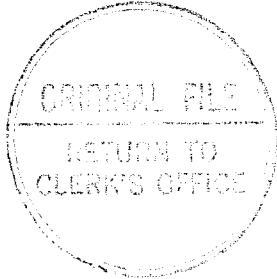
The Supreme Court
of Kansas

Kansas Judicial Center

Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507

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JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

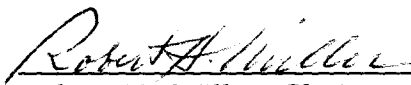
Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-77

July 11, 1997


QUESTION: May a judge serve as an Elder of a Church?

ANSWER: If, among other duties, the Elders of the church must prepare and agree upon an annual budget for the church, and present that budget to the congregation, then a judge may serve in the capacity of Elder.

If, however, Elders are required to make public requests for contribution from the pulpit, and to write letters to individual members of the congregation, soliciting financial contributions and exhorting the members to meet their pledges or other financial obligations to the church, then a judge is prohibited by Canon 4C(4)(b), 1996 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 421, from serving as an Elder, for a judge "should not solicit funds."


Robert H. Miller, Chairman


Adrian J. Allen


E. Newton Vickers