



The Supreme Court
of Kansas

Kansas Judicial Center
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507

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CAROL G. GREEN
CLERK APPELLATE COURTS



JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE 95

February 4, 2000

QUESTION:

A newly appointed judge was a member of a law firm which occupies a building as tenants of the owner which is a corporation. The judge, as well as all of the members of the firm, are shareholders of the corporation. As a result, the judge has a 25% interest in the building and receives a corresponding portion of the rent. Since members of the law firm practice in the court on which the judge serves, can the judge continue to participate in this arrangement?

ANSWER:

No. A judge shall not engage in financial and business dealings that involve the judge in continuing business relationships with lawyers likely to come either before the judge personally or before other judges on the judge's court. Canon 4D(1)(b), 1999 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 476, and accompanying commentary. We are therefore of the opinion that the judge must cease all participation in this arrangement.

Handwritten signature of Adrian J. Allen in cursive.

Adrian J. Allen

Handwritten signature of Fred S. Jackson in cursive.

Fred S. Jackson

Robert H. Miller, Chairman, not participating