



JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

Room E-400, State Capitol

Charleston 25305

September 30, 1991

Re: JIC Advisory Opinion 1991-08

Dear

You have requested in correspondence to the Judicial Investigation Commission an advisory opinion. You have raised two questions in your inquiry and have discussed certain provisions of Canon 4 and Canon 7 of the Judicial Code of Ethics.

At it's last meeting the Judicial Investigation Commission considered your request and, after discussing the pertinent sections of the Canons and the specific questions which you have raised, issues the following advisory opinion:

In your letter you asked:

1. May a judge who is a candidate for reelection publicly endorse another candidate for judicial office whose election to office the judge believes would promote the proper administration of justice?

and
2. May a judge (whether a candidate or not) publicly oppose the candidacy for judicial office of a lawyer whom the judge believes to be unsuitable for judicial office and whose election would, in the judge's opinion, be detrimental to the proper administration of justice?

In answer to both questions, the provisions set forth in 7B (1) and (2) would prohibit such activity.

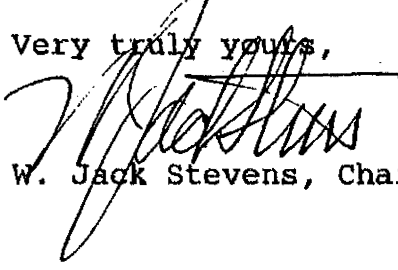
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The Judicial Investigation Commission would respond that the answer to both questions which you raise would be negative because of the language contained in the aforesaid Canon of the Judicial Code of Ethics.

If there is any further question regarding this matter, do not hesitate to contact the Commission.

Very truly yours,



W. Jack Stevens, Chairman

WJS/bl