



JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

Room E-400, State Capitol

Charleston 25305

July 23, 1992

JIC Advisory Opinion 1992-17

Dear Ms. :

Your recent letter dated June 12, 1992, to Commission Counsel was reviewed by the Judicial Investigation Commission at its most recent meeting. In that letter you asked whether you could continue to serve as legal correspondent for a local telephone station after assuming the office of circuit judge for the Kanawha County Circuit Court (Division 4). You indicated in your letter that you have previously served as the legal correspondent for the television station and that topics such as property law, domestic relations, employment law, personal injury, products liability, criminal law, and insurance questions have been discussed.

After reviewing your request for an advisory opinion, the Commission determined that it would not be appropriate for you to serve as the legal correspondent for the local television station. Given the nature of the program which you describe and the prohibition set forth in Canon 3A(6) preventing a judge from commenting about pending or impending proceedings in any court, the position which you describe would be fraught with potential dangers for a sitting judge.

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

Very truly yours,

Fred L. Fox, II
Fred L. Fox, II
Chairman

CRG/bl