



**JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION**

City Center East - Suite 1200 A  
4700 MacCorkle Ave., SE  
Charleston, West Virginia 25304  
(304) 558-0169 • FAX (304) 558-0831

December 5, 2012

Re: JIC Advisory Opinion 2012-23.

Dear Judge :

Your request for an advisory opinion to Counsel was recently reviewed by the Judicial Investigation Commission. The factual scenario giving rise to your request is as follows: You recently received a note in the mail which contained a \$20.00 bill. The hand-printed note on lined notebook paper provided:

I got a check 4 5150  
U came 2 mind  
Ill never B

The note was unsigned and came in a pre-postage incorporated envelope that is sold by the United States Post Office. The envelope was specifically addressed to you at the County Courthouse, , WV . There was no return address on either the note or the envelope. Consequently, you do not know who sent you the note and \$20.00 bill. You also indicated that another Judge in your Judicial Circuit received a similar envelope, a note with a different message and a \$20.00 bill at approximately the same time. You indicated that you view the matter as a potential threat and that Court Security will be made aware of the situation. You want to know what you should do with the \$20.00 in cash that you received from an anonymous person.

The Commission is of the opinion that you should promptly follow through with your plan to notify Court Security. You should also inform the \_\_\_\_\_ County Sheriff of the situation and turn the document and the \$20.00 bill over to him/her as potential evidence.

It is hoped that this opinion fully addresses the issues which you have raised. If there is any further question regarding this matter do not hesitate to contact the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald E. Wilson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ronald E. Wilson, Chairperson  
Judicial Investigation Commission

REW/tat