



JUDICIAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

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

April 25, 2018

Re: JIC Advisory Opinion 2018-10.

Dear

Your recent request for an advisory opinion was reviewed by the Judicial Investigation Commission. The factual scenario giving rise to your request is as follows: You are contemplating running for circuit judge due to a recent vacancy. You have some campaign funds left over from your successful 2016 run for ~~president~~. You want to know if you can use the funds from your 2016 campaign for your judicial campaign. You indicated that you have already contacted the West Virginia Secretary of State's Office ("WVSOS") and asked the same question, and the agency informed you that it would be permissible under West Virginia law to use these funds in a subsequent election for judge. You want to know if there are any additional restrictions for such use set forth in the Code of Judicial Conduct.

The appropriateness of the use of former campaign monies for a judicial election has already been addressed by the WVSOS and there are no other limits contained in the Code of Judicial Conduct for such use. Therefore, the Commission is of the opinion that you should follow the advice provided by the WVSOS.

Thank you for your inquiry. Please do not hesitate to contact the Commission if you have any further questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ronald E. Wilson", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Ronald E. Wilson, Chairperson
Judicial Investigation Commission

REW/tat