



# The Supreme Court of Kansas

KANSAS JUDICIAL CENTER  
301 S.W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507

FILED  
JUN 30 2014  
COMMISSION ON  
JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS

## JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

### Judicial Ethics Opinion JE 180

June 30, 2014

A Kansas judge asks if the judge may write a short column for a local for-profit newspaper under the heading of "Judge's Corner." The articles would be limited to recent legislative changes the judge believes to be of interest to the judge's constituents.

The preparation of the articles would not take precedence over the judge's official duties and would not express any personal opinions. The judge would not receive any compensation from the newspaper.

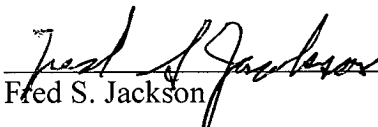
Rule 1.3 of the Kansas Code of Judicial Conduct (Rule 601B) provides in applicable part:


"A judge shall not lend the prestige of judicial office to advance the . . . *economic interests* of . . . others . . . ."

Comment [1] to Rule 3.1 recites, in part, that ". . . judges are permitted and encouraged to engage in educational . . . activities not conducted for profit . . . ."

We are of the opinion that while the judge would receive no compensation from the newspaper, the inclusion of the judge's articles would be to the economic benefit and interest of the newspaper, a profit organization, and would violate the Kansas Code of Judicial Conduct.

Our conclusion is consistent with our earlier opinion, JE 170.

  
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Fred S. Jackson

  
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Edward Larson

Adrian J. Allen not participating.