

The Supreme Court

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Oct 13 2 46 PM '92

Kansas Judicial Center

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JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-39

October 13, 1992

Topic

Do restrictions on activities of candidates for judicial office contained in Canon 7 apply to unsuccessful candidates.

Question:

An unsuccessful candidate in a primary election for a judicial position requests an advisory opinion pertaining to prospective political activity after his defeat as a candidate.

Answer:

Supreme Court Rule 650 authorizes opinions requested by persons described in Supreme Court Rule 601. Canon 7 also applies to candidates for judicial office as well as to incumbents of judicial office.

One who is unsuccessful in a primary election for judicial office is no longer a candidate. One who is neither a candidate or a person described in rule 601 is not subject to the canons of judicial ethics.

Robert H. Kaul, Chairman

John W. Brookens

Harry G. (Miller