

Committee on Judicial Ethics  
Teleconference  
Friday September 26, 2008

Members present via teleconference: Justice Barry R. Schaller, Chair; Judge Linda K. Lager, Vice-Chair, Judge Robert J. Devlin, Jr., Judge Socrates H. Mihalakos, and Associate Professor Jeffrey A. Meyer. Staff present: Martin R. Libbin, Esq., Secretary; Viviana L. Livesay, Assistant Secretary (after start of meeting)

**MINUTES**

- I. Justice Schaller called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m., once all members had entered the conference call. One member of the public attended after the start of the meeting.
- II. The Committee considered Judicial Ethics Opinion 2008-06. Based upon the facts presented, the Committee unanimously agreed that the Judicial Official could join the law school reunion committee provided that he/she did not participate in any activity involving fundraising from others, including but not limited to (1) that his/her name not be used on any letters or communications concerning fundraising activities, and (2) that he/she not participate in activities related to requesting participation in the Class Gift campaign, thanking classmates who made a gift or pledge, and contacting those that had not yet given to encourage their support.
- III. The Committee considered Judicial Ethics Opinion 2008-07. Based upon the facts presented, the Committee unanimously agreed that the Judicial Official's spouse could not solicit charitable donations that would be used to make-up a portion of the Judicial Official's minimum fundraising contribution to enable the Judicial Official to participate in a charity golf tournament. Although the facts did not reveal how it was contemplated that the Judicial Official's spouse would solicit such donations, the Committee determined that it would be improper for the spouse to (a) solicit funds without disclosing to donors that the purpose was to enable the Judicial Official to participate, (b) act as the Judicial Official's agent in soliciting funds for the charity, or (c) solicit a "gift" for the Judicial Official.
- IV. The Committee considered Judicial Ethics Opinion 2008-08 but ultimately tabled the matter to the next meeting in order to receive a draft opinion.
- V. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.