

Committee on Judicial Ethics
Teleconference
Friday, March 4, 2011

Members present via teleconference: Justice Barry R. Schaller, Chair, Judge Linda K. Lager, Vice Chair, Judge Edward R. Karazin, Jr., and Professor Jeffrey A. Meyer. Staff present: Martin R. Libbin, Esq., Secretary and Viviana L. Livesay, Esq., Assistant Secretary.

MINUTES

- I. With four members present, Justice Schaller called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Although publicly noticed, no members of the public attended.
- II. The Committee members present unanimously approved the Minutes of the February 25, 2011 meeting.
- III. The Committee considered Judicial Ethics Informal Opinion 2011-07. The issue presented is as follows: May a Judicial Official preside over a case involving a financial institution seeking to collect on a debt of less than \$100,000 if the Judicial Official owns approximately \$25,000 worth of stock or bonds in the financial institution? The facts presented included the fact that the \$25,000 investment represents a miniscule percentage of the stock or bonds that are issued by the financial institution and the financial institution is regularly involved in collection litigation. The members present discussed the issue, but no final resolution was reached. The issue will be discussed at the next committee meeting.
- IV. The Committee voted to go into Executive Session to receive an attorney-client communication at 1:35 p.m. The Executive Session ended at 1:52 p.m.
- V. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.