



State of Kansas

Office of Judicial Administration

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JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

February 2, 1988

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-24

A political party caucus is to be held in a county for the purpose of electing delegates as a part of the political process now in progress for the nomination of that political party's candidate for the office of President of the United States of America. Only persons registered as voters of that political party may attend and vote at the caucus.

A judge, holding office in a nonpartisan judicial district, and a registered voter of the political party in question asks three questions:

Question 1: May the judge attend the caucus?

Answer: No.

Question 2: May the judge speak on behalf of a candidate for election as a delegate?

Answer: No.

Question 3: May the judge, as a registered party member, vote at the caucus for delegates of the judge's choice?

Answer: No.


This activity is governed by Supreme Court Rule 601, Canon 7, as amended March 7, 1986, and as again amended April 30, 1986.

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Canon 7A(3)(b), as it now reads, states that a judge holding office under the nonpartisan selection and retention system "should not take part in any political campaign."

We view the above-described caucus and the purpose of the caucus as a part of a "political campaign."



Robert H. Kaul, Chairman



John W. Brookens



Harry G. Miller