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JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

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Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-8

Question: Can a judge attend political meetings and publicly speak or comment on a fellow judge's ability, record, impartiality, work habits, efficiency, etc., without specifically requesting endorsement?

Answer: The activities suggested by the question are governed by Canon 7, more particularly Canon 7A(1)(b) which reads:

"a judge . . . should not make speeches for . . . a candidate or publicly endorse a candidate for public office."

The answer to the question is self-evident; it is "no."

Robert H. Kaul

Robert H. Kaul, Chairman

John W. Brookens

John W. Brookens

Harry G. Miller

Harry G. Miller