



Tenth Judicial District Judicial Nominating Commission Ethics Code for Judicial Applicants

The Kansas Code of Judicial Conduct, Rule 601B, Canon 4 applies to all lawyers who are “candidates” for judicial office. “Candidate” includes a person seeking selection for judicial office by appointment. A person becomes a candidate as soon as he or she makes a public announcement of candidacy, files an application, or authorizes solicitation or acceptance of support. Rule 4.1 requires that a judicial candidate refrain from inappropriate political activity. He or she cannot publicly endorse or oppose another candidate for public office; make speeches on behalf of a political organization, or knowingly, or with reckless disregard for the truth, make any false or misleading statement.

The Tenth Judicial District Judicial Nominating Commission expects candidates for judicial office to maintain the dignity appropriate to judicial office, and act in a manner consistent with the integrity and independence of the judiciary, and to act in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary.

A candidate must discourage those subject to the candidate’s direction and control or any other person from doing on the candidate’s behalf what the candidate is prohibited from doing under the Code.

A candidate may:

- 1) communicate with the nominating commission;
- 2) seek endorsement for the appointment from any person or organization other than a partisan political organization

A nonjudge candidate may, in addition, unless otherwise prohibited by law,

- 1) retain an office in a political organization,
- 2) attend or purchase tickets for dinners or other events sponsored by a political organization or candidate for public office, and
- 3) solicit funds for, pay an assessment to, or make a contribution to a political organization or candidate for public office.

However, when seeking support or endorsement, or when communicating directly with the appointing authority, the candidate must not make any pledges, promises, or commitments that are inconsistent with the impartial performance of the adjudicative duties of the office.