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AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

**Joint Commission to Evaluate
the Model Code of Judicial Conduct**

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www.abanet.org/judicialethics

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Dear Colleague:

The American Bar Association Joint Commission to Evaluate the Model Code of Judicial Conduct is in the middle of its comprehensive review of the Model Code. Currently available on the Commission's website are preliminary drafts of Canons 1 and 2. These new canons incorporate provisions from Canons 1, 2, and 3 of the current ABA Model Code of Judicial Conduct. The website of the Commission is www.abanet.org/judicialethics.

In addition, the Joint Commission plans to release preliminary drafts of Canons 3 and 4, which represent portions of the existing Canons 2 and 4. These drafts should be available by mid-July and will be posted to the Commission's website.

It is the hope of the members of the Joint Commission that ABA entities, other legal organizations and the public will carefully review the released drafts and submit comments. The Joint Commission will be holding a public hearing during the ABA Annual Meeting in Atlanta on Friday, August 6, 2004. If you or your entity is interested in attending the hearing and testifying before the Commission, please contact Eileen Gallagher at gallaghE@staff.abanet.org or via phone at 312-988-5105. If you are unable to join us for the hearing, please consider submitting your comments on the drafts in writing as soon as possible. Written comments can be submitted to Eileen Gallagher at the e-mail address listed, or by mail, ABA, Justice Center, 321 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60610.

It is vital to the success of this project that the Commission hear from as many interested parties as possible. On behalf of the Commission, I encourage you to carefully review the preliminary drafts and join us for the hearing in Atlanta to share your comments. I look forward to seeing you in August.

Sincerely,

Mark I. Harrison

Chair, ABA Joint Commission to Evaluate the Model Code of Judicial Conduct