May 18, 2004

George Kuhlman, Ethics Counsel
ABA Center for Professional Responsibility
541 N. Fairbanks Ct.
Chicago, Illinois  60611

Dear Mr. Kuhlman:

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) has input to provide to the ABA Joint Commission on Evaluation of the Model Code of Judicial Conduct in conjunction with the ABA Public Hearings.

NCJFCJ is pleased to provide you with a copy of its Recommendations for Modification of the ABA Canons of Judicial Ethics (hereinafter referred to as “the NCJFCJ Canons”). The NCJFCJ Canons were developed in response to a resolution of the Conference of Chief Justices passed at their Annual Meeting in August 2000 recognizing and encouraging judges to become involved in their communities to improve the quality of justice.

The NCJFCJ Canons have been approved and endorsed by the entire general membership of NCJFCJ. We are the oldest and largest judicial membership organization in America. Founded in 1937 by a group of judges dedicated to improving the effectiveness of the nation's juvenile courts, NCJFCJ strives to increase awareness and sensitivity to issues that affect children and families.

We are proud to be partners with you in this endeavor. NCJFCJ will be sending a representative, Judge Thomas Hornsby, Chair, Judicial Ethics Committee, to the Public Hearing taking place in Naples, FL, on June 4, 2004. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide you with further assistance. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Judge David B. Mitchell, ret.
Executive Director, NCJFCJ
Reno, NV

Judge James Ray
President, NCJFCJ
Toledo, OH