

## **SUMMARY**

ABA Commission on Women in the Profession

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### **Canon 4, Rules 4.01 and 4.04**

The Commission on Women in the Profession agrees with comments submitted by several groups, including the National Association of Women Judges and the National Judicial Education Program, and testimony at the public hearings is concerned that the language stated in proposed Canon 4, Rules 4.01 and 4.04 , and related Comments, will result in judges being prohibited from participating in activities and/or membership in organized women's bar associations.

First, members of the judiciary must, while preserving their personal integrity and independence, be able to participate in and interact in their respective communities. Second, women lawyers, in particular, gain immeasurably from interaction with and mentoring from women members of the judiciary. The ABA Commission on Women in the Profession is concerned that the Rules as presently stated would prohibit or strongly discourage any such activity .