

September 12, 2005

I've read with interest the comments and suggestions made by Chief Justice Gray concerning ethical help for pro per litigants and fully concur in her suggestion. I have taught judicial ethics for over 20 years, participated in the writing of the Code in California and can tell you that creating a "level playing field" in an ethical way is very challenging for judges at all levels.

Justice Gray's suggestion goes a long way in giving judges both a comfort level in making sure that issues get before the court and also guidance in how to ethically guide litigants without stepping over the line. I urge adoption of her suggestion.

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