

October 8, 2004

VIA FAX

Eileen Gallagher
ABA Justice Center
321 N. Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60610

My Dear Ms. Gallagher:

I have the draft of Canon 4 Gift Provisions of the ABA Model Code of Judicial Conduct, revised by C. Gegh as of October 5, 2004.

I am concerned by the words “promptly . . . disclose” in the Commentary to Rule 4.14 and “at least quarterly” in Rules 4.14 and 4.16. These matters are reported now, I understand, on federal forms by federal judges annually. We have so many reports and so much paperwork that a phrase such as the following in the Commentary to Rules 4.14 and 4.16 might seem worth considering: “Filing of reports as required by regulation of a controlling authority no less frequently than annually will normally comply with this provision.”

Very respectfully,

Jack B. Weinstein
Senior District Judge