



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
ETHICS COMMITTEE OF THE KENTUCKY JUDICIARY  
STATE CAPITOL

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ROBERT W. DYCHE, III  
COURT OF APPEALS

JAMES L. BOWLING  
CIRCUIT COURT

B. M. WESTBERRY, CHAIRMAN  
ATTORNEY

PETER C. MACDONALD  
DISTRICT COURT

UHEL O. BARRICKMAN  
ATTORNEY

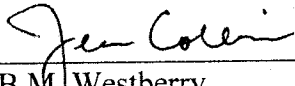
**JUDICIAL ETHICS OPINION JE-97**

January 18, 2002

Question: May the District Judges' Association make a financial contribution to the Family Courts for Kentucky political issue committee?

Answer: Yes.

The Judicial Ethics Committee believes that it is perfectly proper for the District Judges' Association to make a financial contribution to the Family Courts for Kentucky political issue committee created for the purpose of promoting the Family Courts Amendment for the Kentucky Constitution. Further, it is permissible for judges to make personal contributions to the same committee. This political issue committee is an organization dedicated to the improvement of the law, the legal system and the system of justice. However, because of the restrictions contained in Canon 4, judges may not solicit judges, or anyone else for that matter, for contributions.

  
for B.M. Westberry  
Chairman  
The Ethics Committee of the  
Kentucky Judiciary