



The Supreme Court of Kansas

Kansas Judicial Center
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1507



JUDICIAL ETHICS ADVISORY PANEL

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-65

July 1, 1996

A candidate for District Magistrate Judge in an elective judicial district proposes to serve as his or her own campaign treasurer (see K.S.A. 25-4144 et seq.)

The central and controlling question is:

May a Candidate for Judicial Office serve as
his or her own Campaign Treasurer?

The answer is **No**.

While state statutes require the appointment of a campaign treasurer, and while there is no state statute prohibiting a candidate from serving as his or her own campaign treasurer, candidates for judicial office are governed not only by statute, but also by Supreme Court Rule 601A, the Code of Judicial Conduct. See 1995 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 396 et seq.

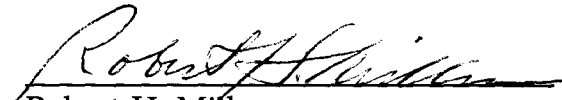
Rule 601A, Canon 5C(2), 1995 Kan. Ct. R. Annot. 419-420, provides:

"(2) A candidate shall not personally solicit or accept campaign contributions . . . A candidate may, however, establish committees of responsible persons to solicit and accept reasonable campaign contributions, to manage the expenditure of funds for the candidate's campaign..."

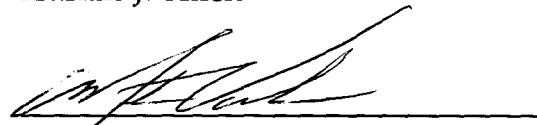
The candidate has submitted proposed campaign literature. At the bottom thereof is language which encourages campaign contributions. That is followed by a statement that the candidate is serving as campaign treasurer. The candidate proposes to distribute this campaign literature personally. We suggest that the bottom two inches of the page be excised, so as to delete the objectionable material.

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