

Committee on Judicial Ethics  
Teleconference  
Thursday, November 20, 2008

Members present via teleconference: Justice Barry R. Schaller, Chair; Judge Linda K. Lager, Vice-Chair, Judge Robert J. Devlin, Jr., Judge Socrates H. Mihalakos and Associate Professor Jeffrey A. Meyer. Staff present: Martin R. Libbin, Esq., Secretary.

**MINUTES**

- I. With a quorum present, Justice Schaller called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Though publicly noticed, no members of the public attended.
- II. The Committee unanimously approved the draft Minutes of the November 6, 2008 meeting.
- III. The Committee considered Judicial Ethics Opinion 2008-16 regarding attendance at a holiday party. Based upon the facts presented, including (1) the holiday party was by invitation only, (2) invitations only were to small family law firms, their guests and select judicial officials, (3) the party was sponsored/coordinated by family attorneys with active court appearances, (4) it was likely that those attending the party would have cases pending before the judicial officials, (5) the party is aboard a cruise ship and, therefore, if the judicial official believed that the nature of the event became compromising (i.e. created an appearance of impropriety), there would be an inability to leave, the Committee unanimously determined that attendance was not permitted.
- IV. The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.