

[CANON 4A] | [QUASI-JUDICIAL ACTIVITIES]

A judge shall conduct all of the judge's quasi-judicial activities so that they do not:

- (1) cast reasonable doubt on the judge's capacity to act impartially as a judge;
- (2) undermine the judge's independence, integrity, or impartiality;
- (3) demean the judicial office;
- (4) interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties;
- (5) lead to frequent disqualification of the judge; or
- (6) appear to a reasonable person to be coercive.

([Amended Feb. 20, 2003 (840 So. 2d 1023); May 22, 2008 (983 So. 2d 550).])

Commentary

Canon 4A. A judge is encouraged to participate in activities designed to improve the law, the legal system, and the administration of justice. In doing so, however, it must be understood that expressions of bias or prejudice by a judge, even outside the judge's judicial activities, may cast reasonable doubt on the judge's capacity to act impartially as a judge and may undermine the independence and integrity of the judiciary. Expressions which may do so include jokes or other remarks demeaning individuals on the basis of their race, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status. See Canon 2C and accompanying Commentary.

[Commentary amended Feb. 20, 2003 (840 So. 2d 1023); May 22, 2008 (983 So. 2d 550).]

