



Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission

JUDGE THOMAS F. BUTT
Chairman

WILLIAM S. ARNOLD
Vice-Chairman

Justice Building
625 Marshall Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1050

JAMES A. BADAMI
Executive Director

November 16, 1990

*Honorable Francis Donovan
Circuit Judge, 20th District
Faulkner County Courthouse
Conway, Arkansas 72032*

Re: Case # 90-146

Dear Judge Donovan,

The Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission considered that part of complaint 90-146 wherein it was alleged that you are arrogant, disrespectful, and downright rude to attorneys, jurors, and defendants, and that you do not run a courtroom in an even fair-minded judicious manner. The Commission considered the testimony of approximately seventeen witnesses, your testimony, court transcripts and other evidence.

Canon 3A(3) of the Arkansas Code of Judicial Conduct states:

CANON 3 - A JUDGE SHOULD PERFORM THE DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE IMPARTIALLY AND DILIGENTLY

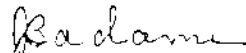
A. ADJUDICATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

(3) A judge should be patient, dignified, and courteous to litigants, jurors, witnesses, lawyers, and others with whom he deals in his official capacity, and should require similar conduct of lawyers, and of his staff, court officials, and others subject to his direction and control.

The Commission found that your conduct at times violated Canon 3A(3) of the Code of Judicial Conduct. In view of these circumstances, it is the judgment of the Commission that you be admonished not to address attorneys or other person in attendance in the court, when members of the public are present, in a manner that is or may be perceived to be derogatory to the individual addressed as to appearance, manner of performance of duties, or competency.

This Commission action is public information.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:



James A. Badami
Executive Director