

April 2, 2008

Honorable Stanley Ludwig
Springdale District Court
201 North Spring Street
Springdale, AR 72764

LETTER OR REPRIMAND

RE: Cases 07308, 07310, 07329

Dear Judge Ludwig:

During its March 21, 2008 meeting, the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission decided to issue a Letter of Reprimand to you in complaints #07308, 07310 and 07329. At a Probable Cause Hearing the Commission considered the findings of the investigation, your response to a Statement of Allegations and your letters of admission and apology. The Commission found that you violated Canon 3B(3) and Canon 2B of the Arkansas Code of Judicial Conduct.

The Commission found that you were an elected district judge at all times relevant to the matter under consideration. The Commission also found that during the year 2007 you had several lapses in demeanor while on the bench. You subsequently admitted that you used inappropriate language in violation of Canon 3B(3).

The complaint also found that you used your judicial letterhead to object to the parole of a prisoner in the Arkansas Department of Correction. The prisoner was the opposing party to a divorce client from your private law practice. You did not have any reason to lend the prestige of your office to the interest of a private client. You stated that you did not realize this was a violation, but conceded it was, in fact, a violation of Canon 2B. It is the judgment of this Commission that you be hereby reprimanded.

This public reprimand constitutes adequate discipline and no further action is warranted. This final Commission action is public information. A copy of this correspondence will be forwarded to the respective complainants.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

David A. Stewart
Executive Director