



1440 G St. NW, Ste. 800
Washington, D.C., 20005

Hon. Anthony J. Trenga
Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, Va., 22314
Delivered via e-mail

October 26, 2017

Dear Judge Trenga:

Congratulations on your appointment as chairman of the Judicial Conference's Committee on Financial Disclosure.

As the executive director of a judicial transparency nonprofit called Fix the Court, I am writing to you in your capacity as chairman to request that the Committee and the Administrative Office of U.S. Courts release the annual financial disclosure reports of Supreme Court justices and federal judges in a more timely manner.

The AO announced on March 14, 2017, that disclosures would be made available to the press and public for free via thumb drives, and on June 8, eight of the nine justices' 2016 reports were issued – all but Justice Neil Gorsuch's, which remains unreleased. To my knowledge, no new judicial disclosure reports have been distributed since then, despite requests from Fix the Court and several news organizations.

On the same form that I requested the sitting justices' reports I also asked for the 2016 disclosures of Judges Thomas Hardiman (CA3), Raymond Kethledge (CA6), Diane Sykes (CA7), Raymond Gruender (CA8), William Pryor (CA11), Margaret Ryan (CAAF) and Brett Kavanaugh (CADC). I have not received them. I have also heard that members of the press have requested the retired justices' reports and those for the statutory officers of the high court, such as the clerk and the marshal.

In my most recent correspondence with the AO, on October 18, a Financial Disclosure Committee staff member told me that the reports I requested in May "are not available at this time."

I am cognizant that it takes some time to redact personal information from the reports and that each judge or justice whose report is requested must be notified of the request. That said, this process should take days, not many months, and at this point I would be happy to receive them by paper if that speeds up the process.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Gabe Roth
Executive Director
Fix the Court