Judicial Ethics Committee

Judicial Conference
of the
United States

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December 17, 1984

U.S. Courthouse
Room 5128
Washington, D.C. 20001

Director
Administrative Office of the
United States Courts
Washington, D. C. 20544

My dear Mr. Director:

The Judicial Ethics Committee is confronted with most difficult administrative problems arising from the fact that most judicial officers and employees wait until May 15th of each year to file their Financial Disclosure Reports with the Committee. Such filings, of course, conform to the statutory requirement, but nevertheless create almost insurmountable difficulties for the Ethics Committee, which basically operates with a minimal staff. Recently the Committee received more than 1,000 reports in a five-day period, and one day's mail alone contained 280 reports. The problem of opening this volume of mail, recording its receipt, dispatching copies of the individual reports to the judges assigned to review them, and other clerical and administrative details create most difficult problems for the Committee members who must still basically discharge their primary judicial duties.

Since you will, either at the end of this calendar year or at the beginning of the next calendar year, be mailing the Financial Disclosure Report forms and the instructions for their execution to all judicial officers and employees, it will be appreciated if you will include copies of this letter to all persons to whom such forms are submitted with the specific request as indicated by this letter that wherever possible, persons required to file such reports will do so prior to May 15th in order to facilitate and expedite the Committee's work. The Committee will continue to compare all current filings with the previous annual filings of judicial officers and employees in order to detect and bring to the attention of all filers omissions and discrepancies as disclosed by the comparison.

Sincerely,

Edward Allen Tamm
Chairman