



**Supreme Court**

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
301 LOYOLA AVENUE  
ROOM 109

**New Orleans**

70112-1887

CHIEF JUSTICE  
PASCAL F. CALOGERO, JR.  
ASSOCIATE JUSTICES  
WALTER F. MARCUS, JR.  
JAMES L. DENNIS  
JACK CROZIER WATSON  
HARRY T. LEMMON  
LUTHER F. COLE  
MELVIN A. SHORTESS  
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATOR  
HUGH M. COLLINS, PH.D.

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July 2, 1990

Dear Judge

The Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics has carefully considered your request for an advisory opinion on the following issues:

- 1) May a candidate, an attorney, who has never been elected to a judicial office use the title "judge" in his advertisement and campaign literature or place said title "judge" in such a manner as to imply that he is the incumbent judge or has been elected or held the title of judge?;
- 2) May an attorney who has served as the court magistrate of a mayor's court use the title of judge?; and
- 3) May an attorney who has served as court magistrate in a mayor's court, upon becoming a candidate for a judicial office, use the title of judge in campaign literature or any manner whatsoever in the candidate's campaign for said judicial office?

A majority of the Committee responded in the negative to all of the above stated issues. Canon 7B(c) specifically states a candidate should not "misrepresent his identity, qualifications, present position or other fact."

Sincerely,

*Hugh M. Collins*

Hugh M. Collins, Ph.D.  
Secretary and Member  
Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics

HMC:mlm  
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cc: Chairman and Members, Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics  
Associate Justices, Supreme Court of Louisiana