

Louisiana Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee

400 ROYAL STREET SUITE 1190

New Orleans, Louisiana

70130-8101

oversight-staff@lasc.org

TELEPHONE (504) 310-2550 FAX (504) 310-2587

DATE: CONTACT: NOVEMBER 4, 2016 VALERIE WILLARD

504.310.2590

PUBLIC STATEMENT

Every candidate for judicial office in Louisiana must campaign in accordance with the

precepts contained in Canon 7 of the Louisiana Code of Judicial Conduct. The Louisiana

Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee ("the Committee") is authorized by the Louisiana

Supreme Court to review and investigate complaints which allege violations of certain provisions

of Canon 7. Although Committee deliberations are and remain confidential, once a public

statement has been issued or a complaint has been dismissed, the complaint and response are

matters of public record and may be requested through the Court's Community Relations

division.

The Committee has received a complaint which alleges that Judge Jay Caraway, a

candidate for the Second District, Division C, of the Second Circuit Court of Appeal, violated

Canon 7A(9) of the Louisiana Code of Judicial Conduct. Canon 7A(9) provides that a judge or

judicial candidate shall not "knowingly make, or cause to be made, a false statement concerning

the identity, qualifications, present position, or other fact concerning the candidate or an

opponent."

The complaint concerns a statement posted to Judge Caraway's campaign committee

Facebook page, "Jeff Cox Record," which says, "Jeff Cox spent \$33,500 to help elect Hillary

Clinton." This statement is based on a ballot produced by the Webster United Minority Voter's

League which endorses Hillary Clinton and Judge Cox, among others. Judge Cox's appearance on this ballot with other candidates for public office does not constitute an endorsement by Judge Cox of the candidates with which he appears. As such, the Committee believes the statement at issue is false and in violation of Canon 7A(9).

Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee

Marta-Ann Schnabel, Chair

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