



# Louisiana Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee

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DATE: NOVEMBER 4, 2014  
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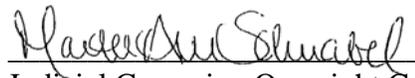
## PUBLIC STATEMENT

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 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 against Nanine McCool, a candidate for Division L of the 22nd Judicial District Court, filed by Jeffrey Thomas. The Committee finds that the conduct complained of therein violates Canon 7A(10) of the Code of Judicial Conduct, which prohibits a judge or judicial candidate from making "any statement that would reasonably be expected to affect the outcome or impair the fairness of a matter pending in any Louisiana state court."

The complaint concerns a video posted by McCool on the Committee to Elect Nanine McCool YouTube page. The complaint, which concerns a child custody case in which allegations of child abuse were made, was posted while the matter was pending before the Louisiana Supreme Court. The video specifically and extensively discusses the merits of the case and attempts to, as alleged by complainant, "retry [the matter] in the Court of Public Opinion."

The Committee therefore believes that the video “would reasonably be expected to affect the outcome or impair the fairness of a matter pending in any Louisiana state court” as prohibited by Canon 7A(10) of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Marta-Ann Schnabel", positioned above a horizontal line.

Judicial Campaign Oversight Committee  
Marta-Ann Schnabel, Chair