## SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

## O R D E R

Acting in accordance with Article V, Sections 1 and 5 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and the inherent power of this Court, and considering the need to amend the Code of Judicial Conduct,

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

The section of the Code of Judicial Conduct entitled "Committee on Judicial Ethics" is hereby amended to read as follows:

To the end that these canons may be properly interpreted, and in order to provide a forum to receive inquiries from members of the judiciary related to the interpretation of these canons, the Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Ethics is hereby created. The function of this Committee shall be limited to the issuance of advisory opinions on its own motion or in response to inquiries from any judge or judicial candidate insofar as these canons may affect that judge or judicial candidate. Potential judicial candidates are also permitted to seek advisory opinions from the Committee upon submission of a sworn affidavit certifying that the potential candidate is legitimately considering running for election to a specified judicial office and requires clarification on an ethical issue directly impacting that candidate. Advisory opinions may be publicly disseminated, but the identity of the requesting judge shall be confidential. Advisory opinions are not binding, nor may they be cited in legal briefs or memoranda. This rule change shall become effective upon signing, and shall remain in full force and effect thereafter, until amended or changed through future Orders of this Court.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2012.

FOR THE COURT:

Catherine D. Kimball, Chief Justice