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March 9, 2008

Dear Judicial Reform Advocates,

The Judicial Conference of the U.S., which is the highest policy-making body of the Federal Judiciary and presided over by the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, will meet in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday, March 11, to in all likelihood adopt the Revised Rules for processing misconduct and disability complaints filed by any person against a federal judge.

These Rules were drafted in self-interest by the Conference's Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability. They change in no way the current rules that they are supposed to replace. Therefore, they will continue to allow federal judges to dismiss systematically those complaints in order to self-exempt from any discipline and exercise their vast judicial power over people's property, liberty, and even life immune to any disciplinary control.

The exercise of vast uncontrolled power is absolute power, which corrupts absolutely. This is all the more so when the Rules for exercising such power free of any control are adopted in secrecy, as they will be by the Conference next Tuesday.

Journalists and entities to contact

Therefore, I encourage you to contact the following journalists, who have shown interest in the subject, in order to ask that they and their media outlets both:

1) cover the Conference meeting, most likely to be held at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, where you can contact these officers for details or to express your views:

Mr. James C. Duff Judicial Conference Secretary & AO Director Judicial Conference of the U.S. c/o Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts One Columbus Circle NE Washington, DC 20544

For details, contact Judicial Conference Staff Member Sharon Zdobysz at (202) 502-2400; sharon_zdobysz@ao.uscourts.gov.

See also the names and phone numbers of the Conference members at http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/judicial_complaints/Jud_Confer_contact_info.pdf; and

- 2) investigate the issue of wrongdoing coordinated among life-tenured judges who can engage in misconduct and experience disability with total immunity if only they protect each other.
 - a) National Law Journal Reporter Pamela A. MacLean, who wrote the series "Policing the Bench, Judging federal judges" concerning the Revised Rules; Washington, D.C., PMacLean@alm.com;
 - b) National Law Journal Opinion Page Editor Ruth Singleton, who published my comments on Reporter MacLean's second installment, New York City, rsingleton@alm.com;

- c) CBSNews News Analyst Natasha Rudnick, who requested information about the Revised Rules; New York City, tel. (212)352-1930, cell (646)724-6099; rudnickn@cbsnews.com;
- d) Legal Times Reporter Joe Palazzolo, who expressed interest in obtaining information about the Revised Rules; Washington, D.C., tel. (202)828-315, cell (314)898-2058.
 - See also the email pages of the Legal Times editorial team members at http://www.law.com/jsp/dc/specials.jsp?p=contact#publisher;
- e) McClatchy News Investigative Editor James Asher, Director of the I-Team, who indicated that he would look into the subject of the Revised Rules; Washington, D.C., jasher@mcclatchydc.com;
- f) Bocce Balls Productions, Inc., Film Producer and Editor Barbara Ricci, who will publish my open letter to Chief Justice Roberts; New York, studio43@optonline.net;
- g) Los Angeles Times Michael J. Goodman and William C. Rempel, who directed a two year investigation of corruption in the state and federal judiciary of Nevada and coauthored the series "Juice v. Justice"; Los Angeles, mj.good@yahoo.com and william.rempel@latimes.com;
- h) Los Angeles Daily Journal Staff Writers Amy Yarbrough and Troy Anderson, who have written articles on the attempt by local authorities to disbar Att. Richard I. Fine for claiming corruption among the judiciary and the bar; Los Angeles, Amy_Yarbrough@dailyjournal.com and troy.anderson@dailynews.com.

Strategy to pursue judicial reform

Swapping e-mails among us will continue to do no good for judicial reform. The judges will not even have to ignore them; they will never know about them at all.

The only reasonable strategy is for us, through collaborative activity, to cause journalists to investigate the judges and put their wrongdoing on the public spotlight through their reporting so that an outraged public put pressure on law enforcement and legislative authorities to conduct their own investigation of the judiciary and eventually adopt meaningful judicial discipline policies and reform legislation and ensure their effective application.

That is a strategy that requires us to bring the subject to the attention of journalists and bloggers in such a sustained and massive way that it may register with them and lead them to recognize that there is an audience for the story. Journalists do not write articles on stories that nobody cares about.

The list above shows that the strategy works, but it has required me to send well over 10,000 emails during the last months. Cf. http://Judicial-Discipline-Reform.org/judicial_complaints/media_contact_info.pdf.

By the same token, it shows that others must join the effort. Implementing that strategy requires that we divert some effort, time, and resources from our individual judicial misconduct cases and bring them to bear on a common task reasonably calculated to move us a step forward. That is the way of achieving unity of purpose aimed at attaining effectiveness of action.

Unity is not achieved by coming physically together in a room only for each of us to vent our pain, frustration, and resentment and voice ill-considered ideas on the spur of the moment.

Moreover, after such meeting somebody would have to sit and write down the basis for an agreement of understanding of common action that eventually becomes signed and binding. We can do that now through emails. If we cannot reach an agreement now, we will not do so by simply meeting in a place.

Concrete steps proposed to implement the strategy

The concrete steps for action now on the proposed strategy are the following:

- 1) to participate in an emailing and phone campaign to contact the journalists listed above as well as many others as possible;
- 2) to bring a lawsuit after the adoption of the Revised Rules to challenge their Constitutionality as well as that of the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1980 from which they derive.

A lawsuit requires:

- a) knowledgeable lawyers to research and write briefs; read, analyze, and respond to those served on them; argue motions, conduct depositions; hold press conferences; etc.;
- b) a most committed team of lay people willing to do the enormous amount of work involved in typing, proof reading, printing, mailing, and serving papers; arranging the logistics of depositions...that is, if the case survives a motion for summary judgment; searching for judicial complainants in order to ensure the growth of the base of similarly situated people who can become coworkers and financial supporters;
- c) a most realistic team of people capable of recognizing that such a lawsuit costs money, lots of money, and are willing to make a corresponding financial contribution to defray the cost of the lawyers, court filing fees, other court costs, court reporters to record depositions and transcribe hearings, long distance telephone calls and conferences, mailing, transportation, meeting places; etc.;
- d) a most disciplined team of people who are willing to engage in publicizing the lawsuit and will not highjack the opportunity to highlight their own cases and blast the judges that harmed them, thereby not only causing the group to speak with many voices and offer divergent positions on the lawsuit, but also exposing themselves and the others to defamation suits as well as building a record of statements that opposing counsel will use to paint all of us as a bunch of disgruntled losers at law, pro se litigants that have no clue as to how the law works and cannot see their cases but from their narrow personal point of view to the exclusion of the broader context of many opposing interests in a complex society like ours.

Only such a team can reasonably take on the powerful and wealthy judges of the Third Branch of Government of the United States and the best and brightest of lawyers that will represent them. I encourage you to examine yourself to determine whether you are one of them and, if so, to look for other like-minded people so that we can unite to collaborate effectively.

Meantime, between now and Tuesday, you can contact the above-listed journalists to insist that they cover the Judicial Conference meeting and the adoption of the Revised Rules.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Cordero, Esq.