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COURT OF APPEALS

2002-11-993

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN
INTERVENTION**

PUBLIC STATEMENT

Pursuant to Canon 5F(3)(d) of the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Special Committee on Judicial Election Campaign Intervention herein releases the following public statement:

Richard Redfern, a candidate for Chancery Court Judge in the 20th Chancery Court District (Rankin County) has, in the view of the Special Committee, violated Canon 5A(3)(d)(iii) of the Code of Judicial Conduct by the use of campaign material which is misleading and implies that he is the incumbent Chancery Court Judge.

Redfern currently serves as a Rankin County Justice Court Judge and as Special Master in the Chancery Court. His campaign materials use the terms "Judge Richard Redfern Chancery Court" and "Elect Judge Richard Redfern Chancery Court Judge". Redfern was previously sent a copy of Opinion 2006-002 issued by the Special Committee on Judicial Election Campaign Intervention which provides that any campaign material "must clearly identify the circumstances justifying use of the title, including identifying the judgeship currently held. The use of the title cannot be misleading, cannot misrepresent the candidate's present position, and must make it clear to the voting public that the candidate is not a judge of the court for which the candidate is currently seeking election."

The Special Committee found Redfern's campaign materials to be misleading and on September 12, 2006 sent Redfern a cease and desist request pursuant to Canon 5F(3)(c). It is the opinion of the Special Committee that Redfern has continued to distribute misleading campaign materials following receipt of the cease and desist request, resulting in the issuance of this public statement.

For Immediate Release

Special Committee on Judicial Election Campaign Intervention