

Judicial Inquiry Commission

800 SOUTH MCDONOUGH STREET
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MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

January 23, 1980

The Judicial Inquiry Commission has considered your request for an opinion in which you ask whether a Judge's wife may be employed by an attorney who practices within the jurisdiction served by her judge husband. The wife would serve as a bookkeeper or accountant and would not directly assist with any legal matters which might come before the Judge's court.

It is the opinion of the Commission that the Canons of Judicial Ethics do not prohibit such employment. Nor would the mere fact of such employment cause the Judge's disqualification under Canon 3C in proceedings in which the law firm is interested. However, you should be ever mindful of the provisions of Canon 5C.