

Judicial Inquiry Commission

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March 9, 1983

The Judicial Inquiry Commission has considered your request for an opinion concerning whether a district court judge, who serves exclusively in the criminal division of the district court, may also serve as a member of a city board.

It is the opinion of the Commission that the answer to your question depends upon whether or not the city board member holds a position of trust.

Canon 2A requires that a judge respect and comply with the law. The Constitution of Alabama (1901), Amendment 328, Section 6.08(b) provides that a judge is prohibited from holding any other office of public trust. If membership on a city board is an office of public trust, then Canon 2A would be violated by a district court judge serving in the position.

Our authority extends only to the Canons of Judicial Ethics. Therefore, we cannot answer your question more fully.

Very truly yours,

JUDICIAL INQUIRY COMMISSION