

COMMITTEE ON CODES OF CONDUCT
OF THE
JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
482 GERALD R. FORD FEDERAL BUILDING
110 MICHIGAN STREET, N.W.
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503-2363

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JUDGE KAREN K. BROWN
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January 30, 2008

Mr. Douglas T. Kendall
Executive Director
Community Rights Counsel
1301 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 502
Washington, DC 20036

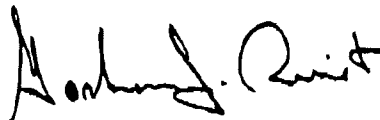
Dear Mr. Kendall:

So, we are communicating again.

In your letter to me dated January 30, 2008, you request that I send you a copy of a letter regarding Judge Andre Davis' participation on the board of directors of FREE. Pursuant to a long standing policy of the committee, whether or not the committee rendered formal advice to a judge and, if so, the substance of any advice are confidential. We analogize our relationship with inquirers to the attorney-client relationship. Our policy is designed to encourage individual judges and other judiciary employees to seek this committee's best advice when the judge or employee wishes guidance regarding the applicable Code of Conduct. Based upon the number of formal and informal inquiries we receive, we believe that our policy is successful. That is, individual judges utilize our services with the understanding and (at least in part) because what they say to us and what we say to them will remain confidential.

We believe that the judiciary and public are best served by maintaining this confidentiality. Therefore, I will not send you a copy of any inquiry from Judge Davis to the committee or any response to Judge Davis from the committee.

For the Committee,



Gordon J. Quist
Chairman

GJQ/jmt

cc: Hon. Andre M. Davis