

BEFORE THE INVESTIGATIVE PANEL OF THE
FLORIDA JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION
STATE OF FLORIDA

INQUIRY CONCERNING A JUDGE NO. 02-370
RE: JUDGE CARVEN D. ANGEL

NOTICE OF FORMAL CHARGES

To: The Honorable Carven D. Angel
Marion County Circuit Court
Post Office Box 993
Ocala, FL 34478-0993

You are hereby notified that the Investigative Panel of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission, by a vote of the majority of the members present at a meeting held in Miami, Florida, on April 11, 2003, has determined pursuant to Rule 6(f) of the Rules of the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission, as revised, and Article V, § 12(b) of the Constitution of the State of Florida, that probable cause exists for formal proceedings to be, and the same are hereby instituted against you to inquire into charges that based upon allegations that during your 2002 election campaign for the judgeship you now occupy, you engaged in a pattern of improper conduct in that you engaged in prohibited partisan political activity, attended (and had members of your family attend) partisan political functions to which your opponent was not invited, spoke at political party functions to which your opponent was not invited, campaigned as a member of a partisan political party, knowingly permitted others to engage on your behalf in partisan political activity and engaged in conduct suggesting your support for a partisan political party, to wit:

1. During the campaign, on or about June 29, 2002, in violation of § 105.071(1), Florida Statutes, and Canon 7A.(1)(d) and 7C(3), you attended a “Grass Roots BBQ” sponsored by the Marion County Republican Party to which your opponent was not invited, with your wife and daughter where you and they campaigned for your election.

2. During the campaign, on or about July 4, 2002, in violation of § 105.071(1) and Canon 7A.(1)(d) and 7C.(3), you attended and made a campaign speech at the Silver Springs Democratic Club gathering to which your opponent was not invited.

3. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.701(1), Florida Statutes, and Canon 7A.(1)(d) you attended and participated in a regular meeting of the Ocala Republican Woman.

4. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.701(1), Florida Statutes, and Canon 7A.(1)(d), you attended and you and members of your family campaigned for your election at a “Salute to Labor Picnic and Democratic Candidate Rally.”

5. During the campaign, on or about August 15, 2002, in violation of § 105.701(1), Florida Statutes, and Canon 7A.(1)(d), you attended and participated in a meeting of the Republican Club of Sumter County.

6. During the campaign on or about August 26, 2002, in violation of § 105.701, Florida Statutes and Canon 7A.(1)(d), 7A.(3)(c) and 7C.(3), you attended and participated in the Lake County Federated Women Republican’s “Meet the Candidate Night” to which your opponent was not invited and knowingly permitted one of your daughters to make a campaign speech on your behalf at that event.

7. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.701(1), Florida Statutes, and Canon 7A.(1)(D) and 7C.(3), you attended the “Dennis Baxley Family Picnic” which was a partisan political gathering to support Republican Dennis Baxley, a Republican candidate for the Florida House of Representatives, to which your opponent was not invited and spoke asking for the votes of the persons present.

8. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.071(1), Florida Statutes, Canon 7A.(1)(d), 7C.(3) and 7A.(3)(c), you knowingly authorized one of your daughters to attend and campaign on your behalf at a “Republican Grass Roots Meeting” in Brooksville, Florida.

9. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.071(1), Florida Statutes, and Canon 7A.(1)(d) and 7A.(3)(c), you knowingly permitted one of your daughters to attend, speak and campaign at a meeting of the Palm Bay Democratic in Marion County, Florida to which your opponent was not invited.

10. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.071(1), Florida Statutes, Canon 7A.(1)(d) and 7A.(3)(c), you knowingly permitted one your daughters to attend and campaign on your behalf at the Oak Run Republican Club’s “Candidate Forum.”

11. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.071(1), Florida Statutes, Canon 7A.(1)(d), 7C.(3) and 7A.(3)(c), you knowingly permitted one of your daughters to attend, campaign and speak on your behalf at a meeting of the Silver Springs Shore Democratic Club to which your opponent was not invited.

12. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.071(1), Canon 7A.(1)(d) and Canon 7C.(3), you attended a Marion County Republican Party forum in Ocala and were recognized as a judicial candidate.

13. During the campaign, in violation of § 105.071(3), Florida Statutes, and Canon 7C.(3), you publicly represented yourself and held yourself out as a member of a partisan political party.

These acts, if they occurred as alleged, would also impair the confidence of the citizens of this state in the integrity of the judicial system and in you as a judge, would constitute a violation of the cited Canons of the Code of Judicial Conduct, would constitute conduct unbecoming a member of the judiciary, would demonstrate your unfitness to hold the office of judge, and would warrant discipline, including but not limited to your removal from office and/or any lawyer discipline recommended by the Commission.

You are hereby notified of your right to file a written answer to the above charges made against you within (20) days of service of this notice upon you.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY a true and correct copy of **Notice of Formal Charges** has been furnished by U.S. Mail to **Edwin C. Cluster, Esquire**, 21 NE First Avenue, Post Office Box 1148, Ocala, FL 34478, and to The Honorable Carven D. Angel, Marion County Circuit Court, Post Office Box 993, Ocala, FL 34478-0993, via _____ on May _____, 2003.

Brooke S. Kennerly
Executive Director