May 27, 2008

PUBLIC ADMONITION OF THE HONORABLE DONALD CURRIE CARROLL CIRCUIT COURT

The Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications has determined that formal disciplinary charges are warranted against the Honorable Donald Currie. However, in lieu of filing formal disciplinary proceedings, the Commission issues this Admonition pursuant to Supreme Court Admission and Discipline Rule 25 VIII E(7) and with the consent of Judge Currie. Judge Currie cooperated fully with the Commission in this matter and acknowledges he violated the Code of Judicial Conduct, specifically Canon 1, which requires judges to uphold the integrity of the judiciary, and Canon 2, which requires judges to respect and comply with the law and to act at all times in a matter promoting the public's confidence in the integrity of the judiciary.

On December 23, 2007, Judge Currie was arrested for Public Intoxication after a police officer observed him outside his car near Interstate 65. Judge Currie later pled guilty in the Boone Circuit Court to Public Intoxication, a Class B Misdemeanor. He currently is serving a one-year probationary sentence in Boone County. Judge Currie acknowledges he consumed too much alcohol to have attempted to drive from Indianapolis to Carroll County; he had discontinued his trip home when the police officer encountered and arrested him.

Judge Currie and the Commission agree that his conduct not only violated the law but also violated the high standards of conduct expected of Indiana's judges. He has expressed his remorse and has apologized to the community he serves.

The Commission now admonishes Judge Currie for violating the Code of Judicial Conduct and the laws of the State. This Admonition concludes the Commission's investigation, and Judge Currie will not formally be charged with ethical misconduct.

Questions about this Admonition may be directed to Meg Babcock, Counsel for the Commission, at (317) 232-4706, or to Judge Currie.