

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

May 3, 2011

John Martens
House Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government
Longworth House Office Building, Room B-300
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Martens,

Our Public Information Office has received an inquiry regarding the portion of Justice Kennedy's recent testimony in which he discussed the Code of Conduct for United States Judges. As you know, the Code is principally advisory in nature, even for lower court judges, and the Justices rely on it for guidance on ethical issues. Justice Kennedy also referred to a 1991 internal resolution of the Court, which calls for the Justices, court officers, and employees to comply with the Judicial Conference regulations on gifts and on outside earned income, honoraria, and outside employment. The Court has not released its internal resolution to the public. I am writing to clarify that the resolution addresses those specific issues.

Sincerely,



Kevin Cline
Budget Manager