

Judicial Inquiry Commission

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SUITE 201
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

March 30, 1981

The Judicial Inquiry Commission has considered your request for an opinion regarding whether a District Judge may file a lawsuit to collect unpaid attorney fees from clients he represented while engaged in the private practice of law. The judge would be represented in these proceedings by a former law partner or associate.

It is the opinion of the Commission that a judge may seek the redress of the courts as may any other citizen. The Alabama Canons of Judicial Ethics do not prohibit a judge from seeking the same legal remedies available to other citizens through the courts of this State.

Sincerely,

JUDICIAL INQUIRY COMMISSION