Judicial Inquiry Commission 800 SOUTH MCDONOUGH STREET

800 SOUTH MCDONOUGH STREET SUITE 201 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

February 26, 1993

This is in response to your request for an advisory opinion from the Judicial Inquiry Commission. Your question is whether it is ethically appropriate for "the Court and/or the Clerk to mail a court appearance [computer-generated] notice directly to a client although there is an attorney of record."

Although professional courtesy dictates that the notice should be sent to counsel rather than the client, it is the opinion of this Commission that informing a party of the appearance date is merely an administrative procedural matter which does not constitute an improper ex parte communication in violation of the Alabama Canons of Judicial Ethics.

This advisory opinion has been reviewed and approved by the Judicial Inquiry Commission and is the opinion of the Commission.