



## ***ETHICS GUIDE NOW ONLINE***

An Ethics Guide for Judges & Their Families by Center for Judicial Ethics Director Cynthia Gray, is online in full thanks to the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). The NCSC is now the home to the Center, formerly with the now dissolved American Judicature Society. States, Commonwealths, and Territories are encouraged to let all their trial and appellate judges know about this resource, and for judges to share it with their households and extended family.

Topics the guide addresses include:

- Misuse of Office (Tied to Family)
- Hiring or Appointing Relatives
- Disqualification (And Exceptions Regarding: Relative Involvement and Interests, Economic Interest, and Family Lawyers and Other Careers such as Elected Officials, Law Enforcement Officers, Teachers, and Government or Law Firm Employees.)
- Acting as an Attorney for Family Members
- Gifts
- Financial Activities
- When a Judge May Serve as a Fiduciary
- Civic and Charitable Activities
- Communications (Controversial Issues, Public Criticism, High Profile Cases, Ex Parte Communications)
- Political Activity by Members of a Judge's Family
- Judicial Family Life (Judicial Family Institute insights on: The Bigger Picture, Understanding Judicial Stresses, Judicial Households' Perspectives, Political Campaign Stress, Being Proponents of the Judicial System, Home and Travel Security Ideas for the Whole Household.)
- Additional Resources

Ethical scenarios included will spark family interest. See <http://www.ncsc.org/Topics/Judicial-Officers/Ethics/Center-for-Judicial-Ethics/CJE-Publications.aspx> for the entire publication.

A companion Discussion Guide is at <http://www.ncsc.org/~media/Files/PDF/Topics/Center%20for%20Judicial%20Ethics/Publications/Ethics-Guide-for-Judges-and-Their-Families-Discussion-Guide.ashx>.

Selected individual articles from An Ethics Guide for Judges & Their Families are also available on the Judicial Family Institute (JFI) Website at <http://www.judicialfamilyinstitute.org/ethics.html> and can be duplicated for judicial education programs and literature tables.

An Ethics Guide for Judges & Their Families was published before the Judicial Family Institute became a Committee of the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and Association of the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), but the issues addressed remain. The Judicial Family Institute can now be reached c/o the NCSC.

See the Code of Judicial Conduct for your state, commonwealth, or territory for updates and unique state features not mentioned in the guide. Contacting your state's judicial ethics counsel or committee about remaining questions can be a valuable step for preventing problems and assuring fairness.