

KENTUCKY JUDICIAL CAMPAIGN CONDUCT COMMITTEE INC.

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[HTTP://KJCCC.BLOGSPOT.COM](http://kjccc.blogspot.com)

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Oct. 28, 2014

W. Kent Varney
P.O. Box 106
Pikeville KY 41502
(Via email)

Dear Mr. Varney:

The Kentucky Judicial Campaign Conduct Committee has received a complaint that your campaign for the Kentucky Court of Appeals is using misleading advertising that alleges your opponent, Judge Janet Stumbo, "sided with criminals 59 percent of the time." This assertion is included in a television ad that was supplied our committee.

The KJCCC finds that this assertion misrepresents the role of a judge or justice, which is to base decisions on the law and not take sides. Also, no context for the assertion is provided, so we find that the ad is misleading.

Our committee determined in an election for the Kentucky Supreme Court in 2012 that a campaign ad making this type of allegation was improper, and we do so again. We conclude that this portion of your ad is misleading and undermines the high standards by which judicial campaigns should be conducted. As the committee has often stated, "Judicial races are different."

The committee requests that you cease the use of this ad or similar advertising making this claim and refrain from using it in the remainder of the campaign.

Our committee is an independent, non-government, non-partisan group of interested citizens from all over Kentucky. We are committed to assist in the judicial election process to ensure that Kentucky has a free and independent judiciary. We trust that you will join us in this effort.

Sincerely,



Al Cross
Secretary