

**STATEMENT FROM THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO REGARDING
THE AMENDMENT TO RULE 4.4(F) OF THE OHIO CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

The Supreme Court of Ohio has amended a provision of the Code of Judicial Conduct to conform the Code to a recently enacted provision of House Bill 194. House Bill 194 includes an amendment changing the date of the primary election in presidential election years from March to May.

Rule 4.4 of the Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct provides that a judicial candidate may begin campaign fundraising no earlier than 120 days prior to the date of the primary election. Under today's amendment, the Supreme Court removed the reference in Jud. Cond. Rule 4.4(F) to the March primary election to conform its rules to the legislation. As a result of the amendment to Jud. Cond. Rule 4.4(F), a judicial candidate who will be on the ballot in 2012 may deposit her or her own funds in a campaign account on or after October 8, 2011 and may begin soliciting and receiving campaign funds no earlier than January 6, 2012.

The amended version of Jud. Cond. Rule 4.4(F) is effective August 9, 2011 and applies to all judicial candidates running for office in 2012.

Questions regarding this amendment or about application of Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct may be directed to the Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline at (614) 387-9370.