

# Code of Judicial Conduct: Canons 1-3

*Summary of Key Rules and Principles*

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# Overview of the Code of Conduct

- **Purpose:** Uphold integrity, impartiality, and independence of the judiciary.
- **Structure:** Organized into Canons with detailed rules and commentary.
- **Applicability:** Judges and judicial candidates.

# Canon 1: Independence and Integrity

## **Judges must:**

- Uphold the law and avoid impropriety.
- Promote public confidence in the judiciary.

## **Key Rules:**

- Rule 1.1: Compliance with the law.
- Rule 1.2: Promote confidence through conduct.
- Rule 1.3: Avoid abuse of judicial prestige.

# Canon 2: Judicial Duties

Judges must perform duties: Impartially, competently, and diligently.

## Key Rules

Rule 2.1: Duties take precedence over personal activities

Rule 2.2: Fair application of the law.

Rule 2.3: Avoid bias, prejudice, and harassment.

Rule 2.5: Ensure competence and cooperation

# Canon 3: Extrajudicial Activities

## Judges must:

- Minimize conflicts with judicial obligations.
- Avoid activities undermining independence or impartiality.

## Key Rules:

- Rule 3.1: Guidelines for acceptable activities.
- Rule 3.6: Avoid affiliation with discriminatory organizations.
- Rule 3.10: Restrictions on practicing law.

# Key Ethical Principles

- Independence: Free from external influences.
- Impartiality: Fair treatment of all parties.
- Integrity: Avoid conflicts of interest and maintain professionalism.



- Rule 3.15: Annual public reporting of:
- Gifts, compensation, reimbursements exceeding \$200.
- Activities related to judicial roles.

# Reporting Requirements

# Conclusion

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Importance of adhering to the Code:

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- Maintains public trust.

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- Protects the integrity of the judicial system.

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- Commitment to ethical excellence.