



*Judges should be hard working, full time public servants who know and follow the law, who are fair and reasonable, who do not play political favorites, who apply common sense in timely rulings, and who always act wisely in the best interests of children. **The families of Harris County deserve and need good judges!***

November 3, 2013

Dear Colleague:

We are asking you to join our effort to get Judge Denise Pratt off the bench for the good of the family bar, the families and children of Harris County and the many excellent family court judges whose re-elections might be endangered with Judge Pratt on the same ballot with them.

We enclose a copy of a recent Houston Chronicle article and the very detailed criminal complaint filed by Greg Enos against Judge Pratt. The District Attorney and District Clerk are investigating the very serious issue of alleged backdating of orders and renditions in Judge Pratt's court. We are all too familiar with the problems caused by Judge Pratt's work ethic, her refusal to accept agreements made by parents regarding their children and her rulings which are so frequently delayed or contrary to the law or facts presented in court.

In the recent Houston Bar Association Judicial Evaluation, Judge Pratt received extremely low evaluations and possibly the lowest ratings ever recorded in that survey. Judge Pratt was ranked "Poor" by 76.4% of attorneys on "Follow the law?" and 77.7% gave an overall evaluation of "Below Average" or "Needs Improvement."

We are "sticking our necks out" to stand up for what is right and asking you to do the same. We are specifically asking you to:

- Sign and return the attached petition calling on Judge Pratt to resign or be removed from office.
- Agree with us to not support Judge Pratt's re-election and refuse to contribute or help her campaign in any way and ask your lawyer friends to do the same.
- Contact the Public Integrity Unit of the Harris County District Attorney's office if you know of any suspected backdated orders or renditions from Judge Pratt's court. You should contact: Terese Buess, Public Integrity Division, 1201 Franklin, Suite 600, Houston, Texas 77002-1923, (713) 755-8330.

For too long, a "Code of Silence" has prevailed in family law that kept attorneys from speaking out about Judges who were really, really bad and not following the law. We each owe it to ourselves, our profession and our clients to speak out against injustice. The more attorneys stick together and stand up against Judge Pratt, the easier it is for all us collectively to take action. We each face the same considerations you do: we have current cases in the 311th and we know future cases will land there; and we have clients to protect and our own businesses to run. However, speaking out about this very serious situation is the right thing to do and will ultimately protect our current and future clients. Lastly, the really good family judges we have need our help because it is not fair for their re-election chances to be hurt just because Judge Pratt is on the ballot with them.

We are truly on the verge of forcing change in this court and we hope you will join us in this effort.

Harry C. Tindall

Warren Cole

Joan F. Jenkins

Ellen A. Yarrell

John Pavlas

Lynn Kamin

Patricia A. Wicoff

Reginald A. Hirsch

(Signatures continued on next page)

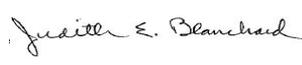
(Signatures Cont'd...)



Craig Haston



Debra S. Herndon



Judith E. Blanchard



Peggy S. Bittick



Robert S. Clark, Sr.



Diane St. Yves



Angela Pence England



Greg A. Hughes



Dawn Renken



Maisie A. Barringer



Marcia Zimmerman



William M. Waldrop



Denise G. Khoury



Christina S. Tillinger



Robert Teir



David J. Salinsky



Lori Elaine Laird



Jacqueline Smith



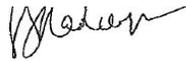
Amy R. Harris



Robert Clements



Stefani Shapiro



Suzanne Radcliffe



Greg B. Enos



Judith Ritts

TEXAS DISCIPLINARY RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Rule 8.03 Reporting Professional Misconduct

(b) Except as permitted in paragraphs (c) or (d), a lawyer having knowledge that a judge has committed a violation of applicable rules of judicial conduct that raises a substantial question as to the judge's fitness for office shall inform the appropriate authority.

Texas Code of Judicial Conduct

Canon 2. Avoiding Impropriety and the Appearance of Impropriety In All of the Judge's Activities

A. A judge shall comply with the law and should act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary