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CLERK, SUPREME COURT

**State of Florida
Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida****OSCEOLA DOMESTIC DIVISION 30-C
OSCEOLA COUNTY
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COURTROOM 4D****C. JEFFERY ARNOLD
CIRCUIT JUDGE****KAREN WYNNE
JUDICIAL ASSISTANT**

November 7, 2013

Chief Justice Ricky Polston
Supreme Court of Florida
500 S. Duval St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6556

Dear Chief Justice Polston:

I have never written to this Court regarding any issue under consideration by your court. I read, in the October 15, 2013 Florida Bar News, that the court is considering the senior judges ability to be a mediator.

I am in favor of allowing service, to the public, or in both capacities, with appropriate safeguards.

I have never seen or heard of a senior judge performing in an inappropriate manner such as the court has under advisement.

Attorneys are not bashful about talking about other attorneys, current judges or senior judges. If a senior judge was performing inappropriately, we would have heard about it. If such behavior, true or not, was allegedly occurring, then the circuit's Chief Judge and your court would hear about it and the individual's senior judge's status could be temporarily or permanently suspended.

There is not enough money allocated for senior judges work to make a significant income in retirement. As such, the senior judge needs to be able to supplement his/her income. This is especially true when the lawyer became a judge late in his/her career and the retirement benefits do not cover all the expenses that judge and his/her family must meet. Remember that the judge is likely an elderly man/woman and employment opportunities are limited. Age discretion is a real fact of life.

I and four other judges in Orlando are in our last term or will retire within the next year. We will need the ability to work and support our families.

If a judge acts inappropriately, then suspend his/her senior judge status. The system works and does not need to be changed.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Jeffery Arnold