

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
FEDERAL JUSTICE BUILDING
TENTH FLOOR
99 NORTHEAST 4TH STREET
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33132

FEDERICO A. MORENO
CHIEF U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

October 11, 2007

John B. Thompson, Esq.
Suite 111
1172 S. Dixie Highway
Coral Gables, Florida 33140

Re: Thompson v. Florida Bar and Dava Tunis
Case No. 07-21256-CIV-JORDAN

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I am in receipt of your letters written to me as a Chief Judge of the Southern District of Florida about actions by Judge Adalberto Jordan in the above-styled cause. In that letter you also complained about lawyers appointed to the Grievance Committee. As you can understand, one district judge cannot review the actions of another district judge. This rule applies to the Chief Judge of the District as well. It is before the Court of Appeals that any complaint as to a ruling made by a District Judge can be made. I assure you that any decision rendered by Judge Jordan was made in good faith based upon what he perceived to be the law. Judge Jordan's reputation is impeccable and he has always shown sensitivity to allegations of discrimination. However, if you feel that a judge has erred, the appellate judges in Atlanta are the ones who can decide what to do about it.


On the issue of the members of the Grievance Committee, you appear to object to their involvement because of their connections to the Florida Bar. Of course, all practicing lawyers in Florida and indeed the judges, are members of the Florida Bar. Also, many lawyers have partners who are on the Board of Governors of the Florida Bar. Those facts alone do not preclude the performance of their duties on the Grievance Committee.

I suppose that many Americans share your frustration at what appears to be a coarsening of our society. I suspect that throughout the history of mankind, vice and virtue have been adversaries. Perhaps though, the best way to reduce the impact of vice is to crowd it out by the presence of virtue. As a fellow attorney, I hope that you will agree that among

those virtues is the rule of law, interpreted by an independent judiciary. The rule of law includes compliance with court orders, which of course can always be appealed to a higher court. I assume that all members of the Bar comply with court orders.

I thank you for writing.

Sincerely,



FEDERICO A. MORENO
Chief U.S. District Judge

FAM/smc

cc: Honorable Adalberto J. Jordan