

JUSTICE CORREALE F. STEVENS

Statement for Immediate Release

The review undertaken and the conclusions of the Del Sole Report are narrow in scope. The Report advises the Supreme Court that the Court should not intervene at this time and instead defer to the Judicial Conduct Board to investigate the allegations surrounding the Eakin emails. As such, I concur.

While I do not offer my personal opinion on the merits of the issue, so as not to be interpreted as attempting to influence the JCB, I caution the JCB to not minimize or sanitize the seriousness of this matter as they reach whatever conclusions they reach as they undertake a broader review.

The content of the emails and the impact of that content on the Court, lawyers and the public must be explored.

It is irrelevant how and when the emails in question recently became public. The fact is that the emails exist, are being questioned, and must be addressed.

The investigation must be thorough, must be expeditious, and charges, if any, should be filed in a timely manner. One could reasonably conclude the JCB did not fully investigate this matter a year ago when it had the opportunity to do so.

The entire judicial disciplinary process is being questioned as a result of recent events. It is time for the judicial, legislative and executive branches of government to come together, with public input, and discuss reform of that process.

END