DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS

In Re:

"Why Has the Judicial System America Dishonored Degraded God's Children Schools....of Prayer" Initiative

§1-203.02 requires of all legislative measures.

Administrative Hearing No. 03-001

Re:

Rejection of Proposed Initiative Measure

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

This matter came before the Board of Elections and Ethics (hereinafter "The Board") on Wednesday, May 14, 2003, and involved a determination by the Board that the proposed initiative—"Why Has the Judicial System America Dishonored Degraded God's Children Schools....of Prayer" Initiative—could not be processed by virtue of its inconsistency with the Constitution of the United States. The First Amendment to the United States Constitution states Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion. The legislative text of the proposed measure is actually a religious proclamation that is a clear example of the establishment of religion. Accordingly, this is not a rightful subject of legislation within the District consistent with the Constitution as D.C. Code

The proponent of the measure, Ms. Yehanna Malone, also failed to file a verified statement of contributions with the Office of Campaign Finance. D.C. CODE §1-1001.16(b)(1)(A) cites failure to file a verified statement of contributions as grounds upon which the Board shall refuse to accept such measure.

Finally, the summary statement of the measure exceeds the 100-word limit proscribed by D.C. Code §1-1001.16(a)(1).

Accordingly, it is hereby

**ORDERED**, that the "Why Has the Judicial System America Dishonored Degraded God's Children Schools....of Prayer" Initiative be rejected on the grounds that the measure is in direct contravention to the Constitution, is not in the proper form, and no verified statement of contribution has been filed.

May 15, 2003

Benjamin Wilson

Chairman,

D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing order was hand delivered this  $15^{th}$  of May, 2003 to the following party: Yehanna Malone, 1741  $28^{th}$  Street SE #312, Washington D.C.

Rudolph McGann	