

United States District CourtEASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-5799CHAMBERS OF
T.S. ELLIS, III
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGEAlbert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse
401 Courthouse SquareTelephone (703) 299-2114
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March 10, 1997

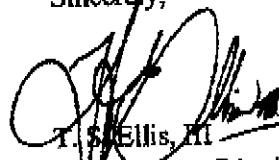
Appellate Court and
Circuit Administration Division
ATTN: ABA Citation Resolution
Suite 4-512
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Ms. Countryman:

My initial response to the questionnaire concerning the ABA Resolution on Citations was simply to answer "no" to each of the questions posed and further to note that "[T]hese proposals are unnecessary, fail any cost/benefit analysis and are likely unenforceable. The ABA should stay out of interfering with judge's work."

To that, I wish to add that I support the views expressed by Judge Brinkema in her thoughtful letter of March 5, 1997. As a matter of principle, neither the ABA nor any other external organization has any business setting standards for judicial opinions, however innocuous the proposed standards may appear.

Sincerely,

T.S. Ellis, III
United States District Judge

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