

1 Rule 8.2. Judicial ~~e~~Officials.

2 (a) A lawyer shall not make a public statement that the lawyer knows to be false or  
3 with reckless disregard as to its truth or falsity concerning the qualifications or integrity  
4 of a judge, adjudicatory officer, or ~~of~~ a candidate for election or appointment to judicial  
5 office.

6 (b) A lawyer who is a candidate for judicial office shall comply with the applicable  
7 provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

8 Comment

9 [\[1\]](#) Assessments by lawyers are relied on in evaluating the professional or personal  
10 fitness of persons being considered for election or appointment to judicial office.  
11 Expressing honest and candid opinions on such matters contributes to improving the  
12 administration of justice. Conversely, false statements by a lawyer can unfairly  
13 undermine public confidence in the administration of justice.

14 [\[2\]](#) When a lawyer seeks judicial office, the lawyer should be bound by applicable  
15 limitations on political activity.

16 [\[3\]](#) To maintain the fair and independent administration of justice, lawyers are  
17 encouraged to continue traditional efforts to defend judges and courts unjustly criticized.

18 [\[3a\]](#) Utah has not adopted ABA Model Rule 8.2 because the Utah Rule 8.2 provide  
19 appropriate protection to the judiciary.

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