SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF THE CLERK WASHINGTON, DC 20543-0001

WILLIAM K. SUTER CLERK OF THE COURT

February 25, 1998

AREA CODE 202 479-3011

Ann Ryder 481 Wolf Pit Road Mars Hill, NC 28754

Dear Ms. Ryder:

I am writing in response to your recent letter concerning judicial complaints addressed to the Chief Justice which was referred to me for a reply.

If you are alleging that a federal judge has engaged in conduct prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts, you may file with the clerk of the court of appeals for the circuit a written complaint containing a brief statement of the facts constituting such conduct. Your attention is invited to section 372(c) of Title 28 of the U.S. Code.

The Supreme Court of the United States has no authority to institute or conduct investigations. Under Article III of the Constitution, the jurisdiction of this Court extends only to the consideration of cases or controversies properly brought before it from lower courts in accordance with federal law and filed pursuant to the Rules of this Court.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM K. SUTER, Clerk

By

Cynthia Rapp Staff Attorney