

1 **RULE 3.3 Testifying as a Character Witness**

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3 A judge shall not testify as a character witness in a judicial, administrative, or other  
4 adjudicatory proceeding or otherwise vouch for the character of a person in a legal proceeding,  
5 except when duly summoned.  
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8 **Comment**

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10 [1] A judge who, without being subpoenaed, testifies as a character witness abuses  
11 the prestige of judicial office to advance the interests of another. See Rule 1.3. Except in  
12 unusual circumstances where the demands of justice require, a judge should discourage a party  
13 from requiring the judge to testify as a character witness.  
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16 **Comparison to Ohio Code of Judicial Conduct**

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18 Rule 3.3 is comparable to the last sentence in Ohio Canon 4(A).  
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20 **Comparison to ABA Model Code of Judicial Conduct**

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22 Rule 3.3 is identical to Model Rule 3.3.