BOLIN, Justice (concurring specially to the April 1, 2010, order amending the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Inquiry Commission).

Like Justice Smith, I am one of the Justices who had indicated that a special writing would issue from my office with the release of the order adopting the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Inquiry Commission ("the JIC Rules"). This indication, like that of other members of the Court, was available for all nine members of this Court to see. I was therefore disappointed when the protocol of the Court was ignored by the release of the order adopting those amendments on April 1, 2010, which was inappropriately accompanied by only the dissent of the Chief Justice.

The above being said, rather than forcing more special writings to be released piecemeal, I hereby join the well reasoned special writing of Justice Smith, which points out the unique constitutional framework of Alabama's Judicial Inquiry Commission ("JIC") and Court of the Judiciary ("COJ") and the charge of this Court to "strike a balance between protecting the constitutional right of the people to have their elected judges serve freely and independently, on the one hand, and protecting the constitutional right of the people to hold judges accountable through the JIC and the COJ, on the other" (see Justice Smith's special concurrence to

Order Amending the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Inquiry Commission, Misc. Item No. 09-10/37, 19).

The regrettable manner in which these amendments to the JIC Rules were released illustrates the need for fairness to all sides of any issue, such as in balancing the rights of all concerned in matters involving judicial discipline.