

## *A Judge's Conflict of Interest*

Kudos to Theodore Olson on his wonderful op-ed "Proliferating Recusal Demands Threaten the Judiciary" (July 9). But I think he errs in the claim that judges are disqualified only when a financial interest is "direct and substantial." Federal law is that a judge who has a direct financial interest in a case—meaning he owns even a single share of a company that is a party to the litigation—may not hear the case. When the financial interest is direct, it need not be substantial.

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