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April 13, 2015

Dear Editor:

I am writing you on behalf of the _____ Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates. ABOTA, as it is known nationally, is an invitation-only group composed equally of more than 6,000 plaintiff and defense lawyers as well as judges. One of our primary purposes is the preservation of the independence of the judiciary. As you may know, the judicial canons preclude judges from responding to public criticism of their rulings and when a member of the judiciary has been publicly criticized, our ABOTA protocol requires us to evaluate the criticism and determine whether a response on behalf of the judge or court is appropriate. Our board of directors has unanimously agreed that a response to the comments of House Speaker Dean Cannon is appropriate and would request that the enclosed letter be published. Thank you very much for your anticipated cooperation.

Very truly yours,

_____, President
_____ Chapter of ABOTA