The hearing before the Texas Senate Jurisprudence Committee on October 11, 2006, featured testimony from Robert Alpert, who detailed allegations of judicial misconduct and abuse within the Harris County probate system, specifically involving Judge Michael Wood. Alpert described a situation where a former lawyer allegedly orchestrated a scheme to become trustee of trusts established for Alpert's children, misappropriating funds and enriching himself at the children's expense. Alpert further claimed that Judge Wood enabled this scheme by ignoring the beneficiaries' interests, disregarding evidence of the lawyer's breach of fiduciary duty, and authorizing the distribution of millions of dollars to the lawyer and his associates. Alpert recommended legislative reforms to protect beneficiaries from abusive probate judges and to expand the rights of beneficiaries to challenge judicial misconduct.