rec'or 9/9/00



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Information and Privacy

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Washington, D.C. 20530

August 3, 2000

Ms. Elena R. Sassower Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. Post Office Box 69, Gedney Station White Plains NY 10605-0069

Re: Request No. OIP/00-R0558

Dear Ms. Sassower:

This is to advise you that your administrative appeal from the action of Office of Information and Privacy Deputy Director Melanie Ann Pustay on on your request for information from the files of the Department of Justice was received by this Office on July 17, 2000.

The Office of Information and Privacy, which has the responsibility of adjudicating such appeals, has a substantial backlog of pending appeals received prior to yours. In an attempt to afford each appellant equal and impartial treatment, we have adopted a general practice of assigning appeals in the approximate order of receipt. Your appeal has been assigned number 00-3511. Please mention this number in any future correspondence with this Office concerning this specific appeal.

We will notify you of the decision on your appeal as soon as we can. The necessity of this delay is regretted and your continuing courtesy is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Claudia J. Tweed

FOIA Specialist