

State of New York Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department Special Counsel for Grievance Matters 30 East Hoffman Avenue Lindenhurst, New York 11757-5001 (631) 854-1130

WILLIAM F. MASTRO ACTING PRESIDING JUSTICE ROBERT P. GUIDO SPECIAL COUNSEL

April 30, 2012

George Sassower 10 Stewart Place White Plains, NY 10603-3856

Re: Your complaint to the Grievance Committee 9th J.D. dated March 16, 2012

Dear Mr. Sassower:

The review of this matter is now complete and I am in a position to follow-up on my previous letter to you dated March 26, 2012, and provide you with this further response to your recent inquiries.

As to your February 10, 2012 letter addressed to Gary Casella, Chief Counsel to the Grievance Committee for the Ninth Judicial District, and designated as a "Freedom of Information Request," please be advised that the Court has referred that matter to the Office of Court Administration Counsel's Office. It is anticipated that you will be receiving a response directly from that office, if you have not done so already.

Your letter of March 16, 2012 alleges that the statements by Mr. Casella in his letter to the Court dated February 23, 2012 that you were "disbarred" and that your former wife, Doris Sassower was "suspended for failure to submit to an examination" are "defamatory" and "libelous" assertions. You further allege that Mr. Casella engaged in misconduct by prosecuting proceedings against yourself and Doris Sassower which he knew were "meritless" and which were intended "to conceal" his participation in an "egregious criminal adventure." You have attempted to amplify this last allegation within your 21-page letter to me dated April 6, 2012. In response to these allegations, I am constrained to inform you that they are found to be completely without merit. The Court's records reflect that in fact you were disbarred by order dated February 23, 1987 (see *Matter of Sassower*, 125 AD2d 52), and Doris Sassower was suspended from practice by order dated June 14, 1991 based upon her failure to comply with a prior order of the Court directing her to be examined by a qualified

medical expert (copy attached). The public record further reflects that there is a lengthy history of unsuccessful appellate and collateral challenges previously pursued by you and Doris Sassower regarding both decisions. Finally, the allegation of Mr. Casella's participation in a "criminal adventure" remains a bald-faced assertion, unsupported by any proof, and one completely contradicted by the regular course of the underlying proceedings.

The Court is aware that you continue to make written requests of the Grievance Committee for the Ninth Judicial District for documents related to these matters, most recently by letters dated April 20 and April 23, 2012. In light of your allegations of misconduct against Mr. Casella, the Court has directed that office not to engage in any further communication with you. Any further requests or other communication you wish to have with that office instead should be directed in writing to the Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department, 45 Monroe Place, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, attention: Clerk of the Court.

With regard to your requests for records, please be advised that pursuant to Judiciary Law section 90(10), the repository for public records pertaining to attorney disciplinary matters is the Appellate Division. Any request for records pertaining to matters adjudicated by the First Judicial Department should be directed to that court.

Please be guided accordingly.

very truly yours

ROBERT P. GUIDO

RPG:tbm

cc: Grievance Committee for the 9th J. D. Aprilanne Agostino, Clerk of the Court