FELTMAN, KARESH & MAJOR

MARTIN S. MAJOR
LEE FELTMAN
JOHN I. KARESH
DAVID M. FARBMAN
DONALD F. SCHNEIDER

RICHARD G. KLEIN
SAUL K. GROSS
RICHARD C. GILES
AVE MARIA BRENNAN

:

PARK AVENUE PLAZA
55 EAST 52ND STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10055
(212) 371-8630

January 9, 1985

Robert H. Straus, Esq.
Grievance Committee for the
Second and Eleventh Judicial
Districts
Municipal Building
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Re: Complaint against George Sassower, Esq. Docket No. K-671-1984

Dear Mr. Straus:

I am writing to apprise you of two recent developments concerning George Sassower, Esq. First, Mr. Sassower has violated yet another Order of the New York State Supreme Court. On December 7, 1984, the Honorable Thomas J. Hughes signed an Order to Show Cause which contained the following Temporary Restraining Order:

> "ORDERED, that pending the hearing of this motion, George Sassower, Esq. and Hyman Raffe ... are hereby enjoined and restrained from serving or filing in any tribunal or court of this state any further lawsuits or proceedings against the law firm of Feltman, Karesh & Major or any member or employee thereof or anyone affiliated therewith, or against its client, Lee Feltman, Esq., in his capacity as court-appointed permanent Receiver for Puccino Clothes, Ltd., arising out of or relating to Puccini Clothes, Ltd., its shareholders, officers, directors or employees, or its judicial dissolution, or the litigations or proceedings arising therefrom, or the receivership, or the representation of the Receiver by Feltman, Karesh & Major."

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A copy of this Order to Show Cause is enclosed herewith.

On December 19, 1984, Judge Gammerman orally extended the Temporary Restraining Order and granted on the merits the separate motions of each of the share-holders for Puccini, the Receiver, and the attorneys for these litigants, permanently enjoining and restraining Mr. Sassower and his client (Hyman Raffe), inter alia, from commencing any further litigations against any of these parties, and directed that we settle an order.

However, with this temporary restraint still in place pending the signing of such an order, Mr. Sassower personally served three new lawsuits in which he is named as attorney of record, against these parties in direct violation of such restraint. Copies of these latest lawsuits are enclosed herewith:

At approximately the same time, Special Referee Donald Diamond, who as I reported in my letter of November 30, 1984 was assigned to supervise certain matters in the Puccini litigations, issued a 16-page decision and Order in which he directs Mr. Sassower's client (Mr. Raffe) to retain another attorney, and in which he discusses his conclusion that Mr. Sassower has continuously violated the Disqualification Orders. Referee Diamond states in pertinent part as follows:

"From the events that have occurred since my appointment, it has become apparent that [Raffe's] pro se status is being used to mask the fact that he is being represented by a disqualified lawyer [Mr. Sassower] and [Raffe] is requesting the appointment of counsel on this motion to obtain free legal services during court sessions when his attorney is not permitted to be present.... Since the date of the making of those orders, George Sassower, Esq. and [Raffe] have engaged in a continuous course of conduct consisting of a contumacious disregard of those orders and the professional duty that [Sassower] owes to Puccini

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Clothes, Ltd., Messrs. Sorrentino and Dann, the parties intended to be protected by the making of those orders.

George Sassower, Esq. has been adjudged in contempt for his willful refusal to obey the disqualification order and when the contempt motion was sub judice, he continued to represent [Raffe] in the proceedings before me. During those proceedings, it was necessary to order him to be removed from the room and thereafter have him escorted out of the courthouse, by a court officer, when he refused to absent himself...."

I am enclosing herewith a copy of this decision and Order.

Very truly yours,

Donald F. Schneider

DFS:dj Enclosures