

LEE CROSS, ESQ.
Chairwoman

SHERIDAN ALBERT, ESQ.
JOSEPH A. BAUM, ESQ.
MRS. FRANCES BERKWITS
HON. WILLIAM H. BOOTH
PAUL F. CALLAHAN, ESQ.
MRS. OLLIE D. DENT
JOSEPH H. GELLMAN, ESQ.
FREDRIC R. GRAE, ESQ.
RICHARD B. IRWIN
RALPH H. KRESS, ESQ.
ALLEN LASHLEY, ESQ.
EVELYN R. LAWRENCE, ESQ.
CONSTANCE M. MANDINA, ESQ.
PETER J. NAPOLITANO, ESQ.
EDWARD S. REICH, ESQ.
THOMAS O. RICE, ESQ.
PERRY SKLARIN, ESQ.
RABBI SIDNEY SOLOMON
SPENCER STEELE, ESQ.

State of New York
Grievance Committee

for the
Second and Eleventh Judicial Districts

MUNICIPAL BUILDING - 12th FLOOR
210 JORALEMON STREET
BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11201

(718) 624-7851

ROBERT H. STRAUS
Chief Counsel

VINCENT J. CARROLL, JR.
Deputy Counsel

LESLIE S. EVANS
DIANA L. MAXFIELD
ROBERT J. SALTZMAN
MARK F. DE WAN
Assistant Counsel

February 28, 1986

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Hon. Michael Potoker
67-64 Groton Street
Forest Hills, New York 11375

Re: Matter of George Sassower

Dear Judge Potoker:

The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention a problem which has arisen as a result of a misconception concerning Charge VI of the Petition. I have discussed the contents of this letter with Mr. Sassower.

Mr. Sassower has devoted considerable time and attention attempting to demonstrate that he was not discharged by Mr. Raffe in either January or July 1985. He has also made it clear that he intends to devote considerably more time to pursuing this issue. However, as I have explained to Mr. Sassower, there is no allegation that Mr. Raffe discharged him of all duties. Charge VI simply alleges (Paragraph 2) that Mr. Raffe, in January 1985, instructed Mr. Sassower "to commence no further litigation with respect to Puccini in Raffe's name or on his behalf." It is for acting contrary to these instructions and against Mr. Raffe's interests that Mr. Sassower (in Charge VI) is charged with professional misconduct.

For these reasons, as I also explained to Mr. Sassower, it is clear that there is no need to pursue a line of cross-examination for the purpose of demonstrating that Mr. Sassower had not been discharged by Mr. Raffe. The Petition does allege that Mr. Sassower was not permitted to act as Mr. Raffe's attorney, but that disability, it is alleged (Charge V), was the result of the various orders, rulings and decisions set forth in Paragraphs 1-10 which allegedly disqualified, restrained, enjoined or otherwise barred Mr. Sassower's appearance.

Hon. Michael Potoker
February 28, 1986
Page 2

I am hopeful that this clarification of this issue will avoid any additional, unnecessary cross-examination or direct evidence.

Very truly yours,



Robert H. Straus
Chief Counsel

✓ RHS/pb
cc: George Sassower, Esq.