

GEORGE SASSOWER

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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March 31, 1986

Grievance Committee, Second Judicial Dept.
210 Joralemon Street,
Brooklyn, New York, 11201

Re: Robert H. Straus, Esq.
210 Joralemon Street,
Brooklyn, N.Y., 11201

Gentlemen:

As is my obligation under Disciplinary Rule 1-103, I herewith file a partial list of the professional transgressions of the above, as I have perceived them.

1a. In his presence, Mr. Straus has permitted one of his subalterns, who apparently will shortly try a disciplinary proceeding before Hon. Michael M. Potoker, to engage himself and/or become engage in ex parte conversations with His Honor (see Disciplinary Rule 7-110[B]). Portions of such conversations, which took place within my hearing, I would classify as prejudicial to the accused.

b. Whether Mr. Straus advised the involved attorney or his attorney of such ex parte communications, I do not know, but Mr. Straus has refused to supply me with the identity of such person, or, on information and belief, advise such attorney to communicate with me so that I could advise him of what I saw and heard, so that he could act to protect his or his client's rights!

2a. On Thursday morning, March 27, 1986, apparently while I was out of the courtroom for a few minutes, on information and belief, Mr. Straus, Hon. Michael J. Potoker, and the court stenographer made arrangements to have a private, ex parte, conference for the purpose of changing a ruling that His Honor had made earlier that morning.

b. Such ex parte conference, apparently took place after I had left the courtroom for the luncheon recess. Indeed, I was misled by being told that such sub rosa conference did not involve or affect me.

c. As a direct result of such ex parte, sub rosa, conference, the ruling made by His Honor that morning, affecting very substantial constitutional rights, was changed and altered.

d. It takes a vivid imagination to conceive that the Chief Counsel for the Grievance Committee, while under strong attack by reason of such ex parte conversations, would while such matter was sub judice, deliberately and intentionally, with unabashed arrogance, become involved in still another ex parte conversation with the same judicial officer.

3. Mr. Straus, knowing and even contending that I was the attorney for Mr. Hyman Raffe, made no attempt to terminate the activities of other attorneys, including adversarial counsel, from communicating with my client (Disciplinary Rule 7-104) or report such improprieties (Disciplinary Rule 1-103). Indeed, all information is that he, Mr. Straus, by his conduct, aided, abetted, and encouraged the continuation of such transgressions.

4a. Mr. Straus has had in his possession the uncontroverted documented evidence that the firm of Kreindler & Relkin, P.C., engineered the massive larceny of judicial trust assets, submitted perjurious papers denying same, and engaged itself in corrupt activities on a large scale.

b. Mr. Straus also has had in his possession the uncontroverted documented evidence that the firm of Arutt, Nachamie, Benjamin, Lipkin & Kirschner, P.C. and Feltman, Karesh & Major, Esqs., actively participated in such felonious conduct, to the prejudice of their judicial trust and clients.

c. Knowing that I cannot report such transgressions, except by "running the gauntlet", by reason of an extant order which prohibits me from communicating with the "grievance committee", Mr. Straus had and has the augmented obligation to convey the evidence of felonious conduct by my adversaries to the appropriate authorities for investigation (Disciplinary Rule 1-103), but on information and belief, Mr. Straus has failed and refused to do so.

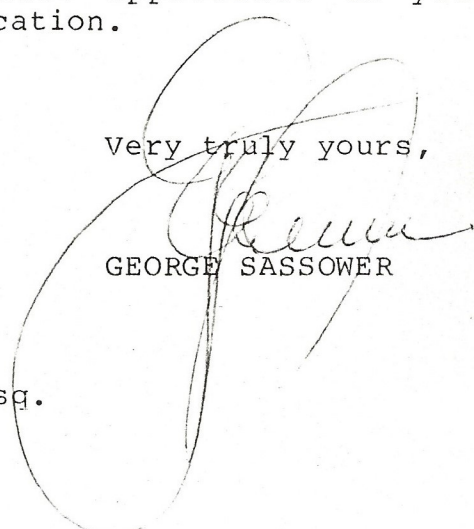
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5a. There are other charges that I believe that Mr. Straus should be compelled to respond to, but the time is inappropriate to set them forth in detail.

b. I hope you will give this communication the appropriate, impartial attention it deserves.

c. I would also appreciate if you would acknowledge this communication.

Very truly yours,



GEORGE SASSOWER

GS/bh

cc: Robert H. Straus, Esq.