

June 1, 2009

VIA FAX – (718)649-7661

The Honorable John Sampson, Chair  
Senate Standing Committee on the Judiciary  
9114 Flatlands Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11236

Dear Senator Sampson:

I wholeheartedly support the public hearing on the Disciplinary Committee to be held on June 8, 2009. Average citizens have no idea of the enormous hurdles they face when they seek justice through the legal system. Even worse, they cannot imagine the agonizing process that awaits them when they dare to lodge complaints with the Disciplinary Committee against dishonest or incompetent lawyers.

My complaint against former attorneys was made to the Disciplinary Committee, pro se, on November 1, 2005. I charged that my attorneys advised me to conceal the fact that I had taped fellow employees and deliberately lied to a federal Magistrate concerning their knowledge of the taping, resulting in my being fined \$500 and undermining my lawsuit against my employer. The Committee dismissed my complaint twice, but I attributed the dismissals to a layman's difficulty to clearly articulate complex legal facts.

In April 2006, Mr. Thomas F. Curnin began to represent me pro bono in this matter. Few are fortunate enough to have someone advocate for them as competently, clearly and forcefully as he has done for me. Mr. Curnin skillfully unraveled all the lies and presented solid documentation that buttressed every point. Yet, another three years went by without a ruling from the Committee.

Finally, by letter of May 19<sup>th</sup> the Committee advised that the file was being closed. Attached is Mr. Curnin's response of May 30<sup>th</sup> to the Committee. Surely, after more than 3-1/2 years of providing in-depth briefs, proofs and voluminous files, we were entitled to know the basis of the Committee's decision.

The lies and betrayal of my former attorneys were devastating but pale compared to the torturous, exhausting, incomprehensible and indefensible delays of the Committee. I refused to believe the many people who warned me that it was useless to complain to the Committee. The Committee's refusal to censure dishonest and incompetent attorneys disgraces the legal profession, undermines the virtue of the Court and destroys the public's trust. Who will protect the truth? Who can stand against such unbridled power? No ordinary person can emotionally or financially afford to fight such a powerful entity without the help of that rare Good Samaritan who has the talent and generosity to devote hundreds of hours to zealously advocate for a just cause. Too few attorneys are capable of competently untangling facts that have been mangled beyond recognition and presenting the truth with clarity.

**The mission of the Committee should be to seek the truth and to offer redress in a timely manner to those betrayed and harmed by incompetent or unscrupulous attorneys.**

**I urge you to thoroughly investigate the dismal failures of the Committee and to effect the critical reforms necessary to restore faith in the integrity of the Court. To allow such incompetence to continue is to make a mockery of justice.**

**I will be happy to provide any additional information you may require. Thank you for your service to the public in this crucial matter.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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