CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

(914) 421-1200 • Fax (914) 684-6554

Box 69, Gedney Station
White Plains, New York 10605

BY FAX: 202-225-7680
13 pages

January 29, 1996

Democratic Minority Side: Subcommittee on Courts
and Intellectual Property
Washington, D.C. 20515

ATT: Stephanie Peters, Counsel

RE: Oversight over Judicial Discipline by the House Judiciary Committee

Dear Ms. Peters:

As you requested, enclosed is a copy of our June 30, 1995 letter to Chief Counsel Tom Mooney--to which we have received no response.

As you can see, that letter refers to the fact that we had received no response to our four previous letters, dated August 26, 1993, January 31, 1994, December 2, 1994, and December 27, 1994. Those letters were written in the period when the Democratic minority was the majority. The first two unresponded-to letters were addressed to Assistant Counsel Edward O'Connell, the second two unresponded-to letters were addressed to Chief Counsel Hayden Gregory.

By letter dated February 2, 1995, we brought our unresponded-to correspondence to the attention of the now Republican-controlled House Judiciary Committee--to no avail.

Last July 3-5, 1995, I was down in Washington and spoke at length with Assistant Counsel Mitch Glazier, as well as with Thomas Chesno, the Legislative Counsel to Chairman Henry Hyde--to whom I gave complete duplicate copies of our prior House Judiciary Committee correspondence.

Our further correspondence with the House Judiciary Committee, addressed to Assistant Counsel Mitch Glazier, is dated July 10, 1995, November 8, 1995, and December 1, 1995. Only the July 10, 1995 letter was responded to--by a 3-sentence note from Mr. Glazier, dated July 20, 1995, informing us that it had been referred to "the full committee's general counsel". Yet, we have heard nothing in the more than six months that have since elapsed--despite several telephone inquiries by us.

I would point out that our December 1, 1995 letter to Mr. Glazier put him on notice that we were going to refer this matter to the Democratic minority. Its germane closing paragraph was as follows:

> "As you know, we are still awaiting response from the House Judiciary Committee to the serious matters raised in our long-standing correspondence. Should you not act to resolve these matters before the New Year, we request that you ready the file of our correspondence so that it may be reviewed by the Democratic minority." (emphasis in the original)

We would, therefore, appreciate if a meeting could be arranged for Monday, February 5th. Since our correspondence so plainly documents the House Judiciary's abandonment of its oversight responsibilities for judicial discipline--and its knowing misrepresentation of that fact in the 1993 Report of the National Commission on Judicial Discipline and Removal--we believe the personal attention of the minority's Chief Counsel, Perry Apelbaum, is warranted. We will, however, gladly meet with other counsel as he may designate.

Because this is a bi-partisan issue--reflecting adversely on both the Democratic and Republican sides--we believe it would be most expedient for a meeting to be held jointly with the Republican majority. In the alternative, we would appreciate if back-to-back meetings could be arranged with the majority and minority. For this reason, a copy of this letter is being faxed to the Republican side with a request that it be coordinated on your end.

Finally, FYI, I enclose a copy of the Center's informational brochure--and include my most recent published letter in the New York Law Journal, appearing last Wednesday, January 24, 1996.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

Elena Ruth Sassower

ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Coordinator
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc.

Enclosures: 6/30/95 ltr to Tom Mooney with attachments
Center brochure
Letter to the Editor, NYLJ, 1/24/96,

cc: Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property
ATT: Messrs. Mooney and Glazier (202-225-3673)
Congressman Jerry Nadler
Congresswoman Nita Lowey

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc.

Box 69, Gedney Station
White Plains, NY 10605
Tel: (914) 421-1200 Fax: (914) 684-6554

FAX COVER SHEET

This fax transmission consists of a total of 14 pages including this cover page. If you have not received all the pages, please call (914) 421-1200.

DATE: 1/29/96 TIME: 2:50 pm

TO: Sharon Levin 202 TITLE: Cep. asst

FAX #: 225-0546 RE: House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Elena Sassower

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MESSAGE: Re enclosed ltr to the Democratic minority will update yr as to where we're at!

I would appreciate if a meeting w/R yr + the Congresswoman could be arranged. Is anytime available on Monday or Tuesday Feb 5th/6th?

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. is a national, non-partisan, not-for-profit citizens' organization raising public consciousness about how judges break the law and get away with it.

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

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