

CENTER FOR JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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BY HAND

September 26, 1996

Ralph Nader, Esq.  
Center for Responsive Law  
P.O. Box 19367  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. Nader:

We congratulate you on your courage in running for President of the United States. We need a leader like you, whose first and foremost commitment has been to the People of this country--not vested interests.

It was for this reason that more than two years ago our citizens' organization\* first wrote you, asking if you would "meet with us and give us the benefit of your guidance and support in developing our organization". For your convenience, a copy of our August 2, 1996 letter to you is annexed (Exhibit "A").

Three months later, by letter dated November 14, 1994, we reported to you that our organization had become incorporated, that we were in the process of putting together a Board of Directors, and that you were "our first and immediate choice for membership on our Board". A copy of that letter is annexed (Exhibit "B"), as is our letter dated December 20, 1994 (Exhibit "C").

Thereafter, you may recall we spoke briefly by telephone. In that conversation I described to you that no existing organization--including "public interest" organizations--were willing to protect the public from judicial misconduct. Right off, you recognized the reason: they were constrained from doing so because they were involved in litigating a wide range of other issues and feared jeopardizing such litigation by "taking on" judges.

It was in that context that I brought up the judicial retaliation to which my judicial whistle-blowing parents, both lawyers, had been subjected--each run out of the profession, without fundamental due process. I believe you already were familiar with the judicial <sup>retaliation</sup> whistle-blowing to which my mother was subjected--having read the \$17,000 paid advertisement that we ran on the Op-Ed page of the October 26, 1994 New York Times.

\* whose "laser-beam focus"  
is judicial selection + discipline  
on local, state + federal  
levels

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Indeed, you were surprised by my description of how The Times had suppressed the story and you were good enough to advise me that we should contact Gene Roberts and Michael Oreskes at The Times, from whom you were most confident we would get a response.

A copy of the January 17, 1995 letter I sent Mr. Roberts and Mr. Oreskes, reflecting the telephone conversation we had together and your advice to me to contact them, is enclosed<sup>1</sup>.

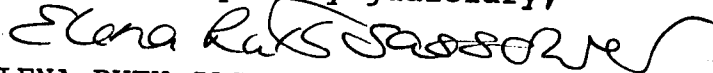
Since then, and notwithstanding the continued unremitting judicial retaliation to which we have been subjected--and the continued black-balling of us by the press--we have not been deterred from our ground-breaking activities, documenting our defective and politicized processes of judicial selection and discipline.

So that you can see how very far we have come, we are pleased to transmit herewith a copy of the Center's funding proposal we are sending out to individual donors and--in slightly modified form--to foundations for grant support.

We believe you will be impressed by the portfolio of our activities, over a seven-year period, set forth in our proposal. As described therein, it "represents an inspiring example of citizen action and its potential to challenge government to do what it is supposed to do: serve the public and be faithful to democratic ideals." (at p. 3).

Now, as before, and irrespective of whether you become our next President, we ask for your guidance, assistance, and participation as a member of our Board of Directors. We are in a particularly important and delicate stage of our growth, as we seek--for the first time--funding that will enable the Center to continue and expand.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



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

Enclosures

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<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless, although shortly thereafter I received a telephone call from The Times' "Investigative Projects Editor" for the Metro section, Jane Fritch, who told me that she had been instructed to call and "look into" the possibility of a story--and I transmitted to her dynamite supporting documentation--I never heard back from her. Indeed, my repeated telephone calls to Ms. Fritch, over a period of many, many months, were all unreturned.