

CENTER *for* JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

(914) 421-1200 • Fax (914) 684-6554

E-Mail: [probono@delphi.com](mailto:probono@delphi.com)

Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605

By Fax: 518-486-9652 (3 pages)  
By Certified Mail/RRR: P 801 449 981

April 24, 1996

Governor George Pataki  
Executive Chamber, State Capitol  
Albany, New York 12224

ATT: Michael Finnegan, Counsel

Dear Mr. Finnegan:

We understand from today's New York Law Journal that yesterday the Governor sent the Commission on Judicial Conduct a letter requesting it to reconsider its decision not to pursue charges against Judge Duckman based on the Galina Komar case (Exhibit "A"). We request a copy of that letter.

We also reiterate our telephone and letter request, made more than three weeks ago, for a copy of the Governor's "referral" to the Commission and its accompanying "Report on the Allegations Against Judge Duckman". For your convenience, a copy of our March 29, 1996 letter request is enclosed (Exhibit "B").

Your prompt attention would be greatly appreciated.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



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

Enclosures

NYCV 4/24/96

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**Governor Pataki yesterday sent a letter to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct asking the commission to reconsider its decision not to pursue disciplinary charges against Brooklyn Criminal Court Judge Lorin Duckman over his handling of a bail hearing for Benito Oliver, the man who killed Galina Komar in a domestic violence incident. The judicial commission has said it will only pursue disciplinary charges against Judge Duckman for comments showing a possible bias against prosecutors, women and blacks.**

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EX "A"

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

(914) 421-1200 • Fax (914) 684-6554

E-Mail: probono@delphi.com

Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605

By Fax: 518-486-9652 (3 pages)  
By Certified Mail/RRR: P-624-546-598

March 29, 1996

Governor George Pataki  
Executive Chamber, State Capitol  
Albany, New York 12224

ATT: Michael Finnegan, Counsel

Dear Mr. Finnegan:

This confirms our telephone request to your office today for a copy of the "Report on the Allegations Against Judge Duckman". That Report is referred to in Governor Pataki's Letter to the Editor, published in the New York Law Journal on March 18, 1996. A copy is enclosed, for your convenience.

In that letter, the Governor states:

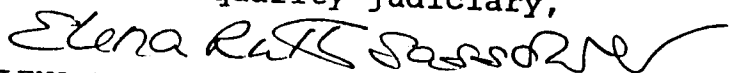
"I can only wonder how many of those who endorsed the resolution took the time to read the Report on the Allegations Against Judge Duckman that accompanied the referral [to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct]. Had they done so, they would have appreciated the basis for the referral..."

In addition to the "Report on the Allegations Against Judge Duckman", we would appreciate a copy of the "referral" itself.

May we also take this opportunity to alert you to the fact that we have still received no response from your office to our repeated requests--spanning the past several months--for specific information about the Governor's judicial screening procedures, and his consideration of a particular candidate. A copy of our repeatedly-faxed letter request is enclosed.

Your prompt attention to the foregoing would be greatly appreciated.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



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

Enclosures

Ex "B"

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

(914) 421-1200 • Fax (914) 684-6554

Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605

2/12/96 fax: 486-9652

To: Kathleen Sanvidge  
Per ON request by phone,  
please direct this to  
Mr. Finnegan  
By Fax: 518-474-8099  
5 pages  
response.  
Thanks  
ERS

January 10, 1996

Susan Meier, Legislative Assistant  
Office of the Governor  
Executive Chamber, State Capitol  
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Ms. Meier:

As discussed a short while ago by phone, please confirm for us whether Andrew O'Rourke is being considered for appointment to a judgeship. If "confidentiality" prevents you from doing so, we would appreciate a letter to that effect.

Also, we request a list of the names of the members of the Temporary Judicial Screening Committee, established by Governor Pataki's Executive Order #11.

Finally, I enclose a copy of the Center's brochure--as well as our New York Times' Op-Ed ad, "Where Do You Go When Judges Break the Law" and our New York Law Journal letter to the editor, "Commission Abandons Investigative Mandate". As may be seen from those newspaper items, our judicial process has been corrupted by self-interested judges who have jettisoned fundamental legal standards. We will be sending a letter to the Governor on that subject, enclosing petitions signed by over 1,000 citizens of this State for appointment of an investigatory commission.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

Elena Ruth Sassower

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

Enclosures

1/16/96  
To: Linda DiBernardo

\* see  
paragraphs  
1+2

per our telephone conversation  
the enclosed is faxed relevant to  
assist Mr. Finnegan in obtaining for  
us the basic information we have  
been endeavoring unsuccessfully to procure.

1/29/96  
To: Priscilla Aboudeau  
As discussed--  
our repeated requests  
for this information--  
beginning in December  
in phone conversations  
with Brian Maloney--  
have gotten us nowhere.  
Direct oversight by  
Mr. Finnegan w/in order.  
Thanks!

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TIME: 01/03/1994 02:56  
 NAME:  
 FAX: 9146846554  
 TEL:

DATE, TIME	3/29/96	
FAX NO./NAME	<del>01/03 02:54</del>	230pm
DURATION	15184863652	
PAGE(S)	00:01:54	
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MODE	OK	
	STANDARD	

P 624 546 598

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

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Sent to *Gov. George Pataki*  
*Executive Chamber*  
 Street and No. *State Capitol*

P.O., State and ZIP Code  
*Albany NY 12224*

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	3. Article Addressed to: <i>Gov. George Pataki</i> <i>Executive Chamber</i> <i>State Capitol</i> <i>Albany, NY 12224</i> <i>Att: Michael Finnegan</i> <i>Chief</i>	4a. Article Number <i>P 624 546 598</i>
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