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FOR MEDIA DISTRIBUTION

October 23, 1988

Commission on Judicial Conduct
801 Second Avenue,
17th Floor
New York, New York 10017

Re: Presiding Justice Francis T. Murphy

Gentlemen:

- 1a. This complaint, is another aspect of the larceny of the judicial trust assets of Puccini Clothes, Ltd. -- "the judicial fortune cookie" -- in which Presiding Justice Francis T. Murphy is an active participant.
- b. Presiding Justice Francis T. Murphy adds hypocrisy to his criminal and unethical conduct.
2. In this mass distributed complaint, it would serve a salutary purpose to briefly review the underlying scenario.
 - a. Kreindler & Relkin, P.C. ["K&R"] engineered the massive larceny of Puccini's judicial trust assets.
 - b. Lee Feltman, Esq. ["Feltman"], the court appointed receiver, agreed to conceal such larceny and make no attempt at recovery for his judicial trust, provided Puccini's remaining assets were transferred to him.
 - c. Since Feltman's fees are established by statute, they agreed that such judicial trust assets would be conveyed to his law firm, Feltman, Karesh, & Major, Esqs. ["FK&M"], thereafter Feltman, Karesh, Major & Farbman, Esqs. ["FKM&F"].
 - d. In addition to the general rules which would have prohibited the receipt of such monies by FK&M and/or FKM&R, Presiding Justice Francis T. Murphy and his Court had enacted 22 NYCRR §660.24.
 - e. Subdivision "f" thereof, absolutely prohibited, in no uncertain terms, the payment of any fees to the aforementioned firms, since they had not been judicially appointed in accordance with such rule.

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f. There are other provisions of the law which require reporting where the fees awarded are over the sum of \$200 (Judiciary Law, §35-a), and detailed reports where the fees are over the sum of \$2,500 (22 NYCRR §36.4[b]), all of which are records supposed to be open for public inspection.

g. FK&M and FKM&F, pursuant to such unlawful agreement between K&R and Feltman, received from Puccini approximately one million dollars (\$1,000,000), although they did nothing -- absolutely nothing -- to benefit the judicial trust.

h. There have been no filings, according to the records of the Office of Court Administration although, to repeat, such filings are mandated by statute and judicial rule.

3a. In addition to imposing a "reign of judicial terror" to silence the victims, the "Murphy judiciary" has made every attempt to stonewall disclosure.

b. On September 13, 1988 I made a proper request to the Clerk of the Appellate Division, pursuant to Article 6 of the Public Officers Law, with respect to the aforementioned appointment, and received no response.

c. On September 27, 1988 I served an appeal from such non-response with Presiding Justice Francis T. Murphy, which also requested that he "fully explain" such inaction to the Committee on Open Government, as mandated by Public Officers Law, §89[4](a).

4a. While the Presiding Justice may revile against the peddlers of dope, advocate the inspection of the books and records of attorneys, and advocate general obedience to the law, he acts otherwise, at least when his "cronies" are involved.

b. When his "cronies" -- "the criminals with law degrees" -- are concerned, there simply is no disclosure, as mandated by The Freedom of Information Law (see Matter of Burr, 1984 Commission Report p. 72-75).

c. I believe it is your obligation to obtain such information, and take such disciplinary measures as are appropriate under the circumstances.

Most Respectfully,


GEORGE SASSOWER

cc: Presiding Justice Francis T. Murphy
Harold J. Reynolds, Esq.
Committee on Open Government