



NINTH JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

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FAX COVER SHEET

5/19/92

12:40 p.m.

DATE

TIME

VILLAGE VOICE

ATT: Mr. Mike Tomasky

TO:

212-475-3300 (tele: 212-475-8944)

FAX NUMBER:

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This fax consists of a total of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, including this cover sheet. If you do not receive the indicated number of pages, or if there is a question as to the transmittal, please call (914) 997-8105.

Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

FROM:

MESSAGE:

Dear Mr. Tomasky:

Our Senate Judiciary submission fully justifies the drastic action which our letter to Senator Majority Leader Mitchell urges.

As documented therein (Exhibit "SS"), Senator D'Amato and President Bush (Exhibit "U") have refused to provide us with any information as to the basis upon which Andrew O'Rourke is a suitable candidate for a federal judgeship.

Of course, Mr. O'Rourke was the "sacrificial lamb" for the Republican Party in 1986 when he agreed to run against Mario Cuomo for the governorship. Indeed, it is not only Mr. O'Rourke's federal court nomination which is pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee, but that of Michael Kavanaugh, who, likewise was recommended by Senator D'Amato for a judgeship. Perhaps you will recall that in 1986 Michael Kavanaugh ran on the Republican line for Lieutenant Governor (see footnotes #41, #61).

FAX-CONT'D

MR. MIKE TOMASKY

The story behind Mr. O'Rourke's nomination for a judgeship to which he is not qualified embraces the big political names on the NY Republican scene--Anthony Colavita, as well as Jonathan Bush (pp. 19-20). We believe that the involvement of Jonathan Bush, brother to the President, facilitated such--otherwise inappropriate--nomination by the White House.

Perhaps such blatant politicization of the federal judiciary by politicians such as Senator D'Amato (pp. 19-20, 24, 29-32) is not new. However, the failure of the Justice Department, the American Bar Association, and other organizations to conduct appropriate screening (pp. 29-38) is a story that has not been told--and must be. As our letter to Senator Mitchell sets forth, a dangerous situation presently exists.

We look forward to working with you on this breaking story!

END

