



Help Hold Senators Saxby Chambliss And Hillary Clinton Accountable

An Appeal From Doris L. Sassower, President/Co-Founder, Center For Judicial Accountability

In its January 10, 2008 issue, *The Guardian* published an article about the Center for Judicial Accountability's (CJA's) opposition to Senator Clinton's presidential aspirations. It summarized misconduct by Senator Clinton, now reportedly being considered by President-Elect Obama for Secretary of State, as well as misconduct by Georgia Senator Saxby Chambliss, now facing a December 2, 2008 run-off election for a second term.

The article described the chain of events Senator Clinton set in motion – and Senator Chambliss executed – by which my daughter, Elena Sassower, then CJA's coordinator, was arrested on a completely bogus charge of “disruption of Congress”, and prosecuted in a court funded by Congress where she was railroaded to trial and wrongfully-convicted, following which she was sentenced to the maximum jail term of six months after she refused to write apology letters to Senators Clinton and Chambliss, among others.

Her crime? At the Senate Judiciary Committee's May 22, 2003 public hearing to confirm five federal judicial nominees, she respectfully requested to be permitted to testify in opposition to one of those nominees. Her exact words, not uttered until after the hearing was already announced adjourned, were:

“Mr. Chairman, there's citizen op-

position to Judge Wesley based on his documented corruption as a New York Court of Appeals judge. May I testify?”

The chairman presiding, Senator Chambliss, did not answer my daughter's question. Nor did he answer her immediately following question, “Are you directing that I be arrested?”, which Elena repeated three times as Capitol Police led her from the hearing room. Instead, he put on his reading glasses and reached for a paper which, once my daughter was out of the room, he read from:

“Out-side witnesses are welcome to submit letters supporting or opposing nominees for the Committee's consideration, but it is not our usual procedure to invite outside witnesses to testify either in support or in opposition to the nomination.

I realize that this lady is disappointed that she is not able to make any statement this afternoon, but her disappointment in no way condones any disruption of this hearing. Again, we will stand adjourned. Thank you very much.”

Such was a deceit. A citizen's respectful request to testify at a public congressional hearing is not “disruption of Congress” -- even were the hearing not already adjourned, which it was. Moreover, two months before the hearing, my daughter, as CJA's coordinator, had asked the Committee, in writing, for its rules, procedures, and standards, simultaneous

with her written request to be permitted to testify in opposition at the confirmation hearing. The Committee never sent any rules, procedures, and standards, or any letter denying her request to testify.

Indeed, it was precisely because the Committee had ignored, without any findings of fact or conclusions of law, the particularized written statement that my daughter had filed with the Committee, laying out Judge Wesley's corruption on the New York Court of Appeals, for which she had also transmitted the substantiating documentary proof, that my daughter went down to Washington to request to testify about it.

In so doing, my daughter notified the Committee, in advance, that she would be coming to the hearing and would request to testify, if the presiding chairman did not himself ask whether there was anyone who wished to testify – as had been done in the past. For this reason the Committee prepared a script for Senator Chambliss to read – but not until AFTER my daughter had requested to testify and was taken out and arrested.

Minutes after reading the script, Senator Chambliss exited from the backdoor of the hearing room to the corridor, where my daughter was standing in handcuffs. He walked right past her, keeping silent as she asked him “Are you directing that I be arrested? Do you wish me to be arrested?”

According to the police reports

thereafter filed, Senator Chambliss was the “complainant” against my daughter for her alleged “disruption of Congress”. This absolutely entitled her to his testimony at trial. However, with the other Senators, including Senator Clinton, he wrongfully invoked his immunities under the Constitution's “speech and debate clause” to quash her trial subpoena.

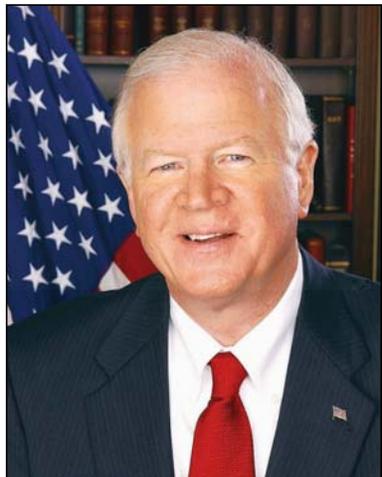
The record of what Senator Chambliss did is readily-verifiable from the primary-source evidence posted on the Center for Judicial Accountability's website, www.judgewatch.org, and accessible via the sidebar panel “Disruption of Congress”. It includes the Senate Judiciary Committee's own videotape of the May 22, 2003 hearing, presided over by Senator Chambliss, as well as the “Paper Trail to Jail” containing my daughter's correspondence with Senator Chambliss and the other big-name Senators, in addition to the litigation papers in D.C. Superior Court.



Elena Sassower

Such evidence would support criminal prosecutions of Senator Chambliss, as likewise his fellow Senators for their brazen corruption of federal judicial selection and betrayal of the public trust.

It is evidence the voters of Georgia need to know about.



Senator Saxby Chambliss