



NINTH JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

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By Fax and Mail  
212-621-1679

December 9, 1992

Sam Boyle, Chief of Bureau  
Associated Press  
50 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10020

Dear Mr. Boyle:

Thank you for your November 30th letter informing us that Ms. Mills' story did not contain an attribution to us.

We assume that you have not seen a copy of the materials we sent to Ms. Mills and, therefore, have no personal knowledge as to the extent to which Ms. Mills actually incorporated our workproduct into her AP story.

As indicated by our November 20th letter to Mr. Boccardi (at p. 2), the materials which Ms. Mills returned to us were "marked-up". Such markings evidence that our materials provided Ms. Mills with more than just "a tip" for her story.

Since Ms. Mills' story is now five months old and, presumably, of no further commercial value to AP, there should be no legitimate objection to sending us a copy of the story so that we might confirm the accuracy of your statement that Ms. Mills "did all of her own reporting".

For our part, we will gladly supply AP with the materials reviewed by Ms. Mills so that you, as Chief of Bureau, can lay bare the issue that should greatly concern AP Management: Ms. Mills' lack of judgment in, purportedly, casting aside a fully-documented report based on six-months investigation by a citizens group acting entirely pro bono, in favor of "her own reporting".

The fundamental issue is not whether Ms. Mills owed us an attribution for the materials she used, but rather why she did not recognize in our materials a major national story.

Mr. Boyle

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We trust you would agree that AP has an obligation to its subscribers to investigate evidence that its reporters fail to exercise proper news judgment.

Please let us know when we can meet with you--or with someone you might designate--for this important purpose.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elena Ruth Sassower". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

ELENA RUTH SASSOWER  
Coordinator, Ninth Judicial Committee

cc: Louis Boccardi, AP President