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BY FAX: 518-436-0130 (15 pages)

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Jay Gallagher, Albany Bureau Chief
Gannett
150 State Street
Albany, New York 12224

RE: Tomorrow's "BY INVITATION ONLY" Senate Judiciary Committee
Hearing on Justice Graffeo's Confirmation to the NY Court of
Appeals

Dear Jay:

Tomorrow's Law Journal will be running a story by John Caher about the Senate Judiciary Committee's "BY INVITATION ONLY" confirmation hearing.

Enclosed is my November 22nd letter to you, which I inadvertently faxed to the Law Journal. It's not too late to provide Gannett readers – and the general public – with a matching story.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Coordinator
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

P.S. So that the Senate Judiciary Committee does NOT pretend to you – as it did to John Caher – that its confirmation hearings to our State's highest court have always been "by invitation only", enclosed is the final page of the transcript of the January 27, 1987 confirmation hearing for Joseph Bellacosa, reflecting the question of Acting Chairman John Dunne:

"Are there any other members of the public who wish to be heard on the subject of Judge Bellacosa's qualifications to the Court of Appeals?" (at p. 152)