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BY FAX: 516-843-2953 (3 pages)

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Jack Sirica, Investigative Reporter
Newsday
235 Pinelawn Road
Melville, New York 11747-4250

RE: THE REAL NEWS ABOUT JUDICIAL PATRONAGE

Dear Jack:

What is it about the patronage scandal in Brooklyn that has elicited such a tidal wave of press coverage, and with it, announcement by Chief Judge Judith Kaye of a state investigative commission and, according to today's Times, a federal inquiry?

As your Newsday series made eminently plain, patronage is NOTHING new. Indeed, the REAL NEWS is that it has long been the subject of complaint by both citizens and lawyers – including to Chief Judge Kaye, as well as federal authorities – to no effect. Likewise, it has been the subject of complaint to the Governor, the Commission on Judicial Conduct, district attorneys, the Attorney General, the courts, grievance committees, bar associations, etc. – also to no effect.

CJA can provide Newsday with a wealth of *primary source* materials relating to this NON-response to complaints of judicial patronage. As discussed last week – and reflected by CJA's informational brochure – the 1989 *written* cross-endorsement Deal, which our citizens organization was formed to challenge, required that judicial nominees agree to a split of patronage.

Enclosed is a copy of the *written* Deal, which CJA repeatedly, filed with the Commission on Judicial Conduct from 1989 onward, including as part of judicial misconduct complaints, as well as with everyone who is anyone in state and federal government and with public leaders. [See also A-99-100 of the cert petition in the *Sassower v. Mangano* federal action, sent to you under my November 12th coverletter].

I look forward to speaking with you further about this latest story proposal – which accords with my January 4th story proposals to you about the nonfeasance and misfeasance of agencies, officers, and public leaders, in freeing the judicial process from political influences.

Elena