

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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BY FAX: 518-465-8083 (3 pages)

November 22, 2000

Newsday, Capitol Bureau
Albany, New York

ATT: Thai Jones, Reseacher

RE: The Public's Right to "Hear" and "Be Heard" at the Senate Judiciary
Committee Hearing on Justice Graffeo's Confirmation to the NY
Court of Appeals: Wednesday, November 29th

Dear Thai:

Thanks for confirming receipt of CJA' previous fax. So that you can see for yourself that the concept of "By Invitation Only" is something new *vis-à-vis* confirmation hearings for Court of Appeals appointees, enclosed are the final words of Acting Chairman John Dunne at the confirmation hearing on Joseph Bellacosa, reflected by the January 27, 1987 transcript:

"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)

Yours for a quality judiciary,



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

Enclosure