

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

BY FAX: 312-988-5100 (7 pages)

November 8, 1999

Office of the President, American Bar Association
750 Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60611

ATT: Luke Bierman, Director, Standing Committee on Judicial Independence

RE: ABA Forum on Judicial Selection:
November 5, 1999/Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bierman:

Following up our phone conversation a short time ago, please confirm:

- (1) Whether ABA records reflect ANY response to CJA's November 30, 1998 letter to President Anderson – a copy of which is enclosed for your convenience, together with the certified mail/return receipt;
- (2) Whether CJA's voluminous correspondence with ABA Presidents since 1992 is reposed in the Office of the President or its archive and, if so, is accessible to the ABA Standing Committee on Judicial Independence. This includes, most particularly, our 1992 critique of the pre-nomination federal judicial screening process and 1996 supplement pertaining to the federal judicial post-nomination screening process;
- (3) Whether, in view of your statement that the Committee on Judicial Independence is only examining judicial selection issues, there are ANY committees within the ABA examining issues of judicial discipline – federal and state.

As discussed, I will ready for transmittal to the Committee on Judicial Independence a copy of the current lawsuit against the New York State

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Commission on Judicial Conduct – referred to in Doris Sassower's remarks at the November 5th forum – and involving the corruption of the "merit selection" process to the New York Court of Appeals.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Elena Ruth Sassower". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elena" being the most prominent.

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

Enclosure