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TO: Daniel Kolb, Chairman,
Judiciary Committee, Association of the Bar of the City of New York

FROM: Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

RE: Protecting the Public from unfit judicial appointees

DATE: December 19, 1997

Thank you for your prompt return call -- and for your generous time. Nothing I said in our hour's conversation is not documented. This will be evident upon your reading of the enclosed letters:

(1) CJA's June 2, 1997 letter to Governor Pataki, together with its June 12, 1997 coverletter to prestigious bar associations, including the City Bar. We received no response from any bar associations and, likewise, no response from the Governor.

(2) CJA's March 7, 1997 letter to President Cardozo -- whose significance is mentioned in each of our aforesaid two letters. Additionally, the March 7th letter depicts the kind of indecent treatment I routinely receive from the two men you so highly praised -- Mr. Cardozo and Robert Haig. We received no response from them or anyone else to our March 7th letter, copies of which were sent to each of them and to you. Please check your files.

Also enclosed, FYI, are CJA's two public interest ads, "*A Call for Concerted Action*" and "*Restraining 'Liars in the Courtroom' and on the Public Payroll*", which summarize -- albeit in a different context, our experience with the City Bar over these years.

Meantime, I will telephone Alan Rothsein and ask him to do what he can to ensure that the voluminous record of my correspondence with the City Bar about the federal judicial screening process and about Governor Pataki's manipulation of judicial selection -- which is complete with exhibits and exhibit tabs -- is available to you.

This is, of course, the "holiday season" -- a time when no one wants to be loaded up with additional work. However, there are only three weeks in which to "move heaven and earth" to stop Mr. O'Rourke from being confirmed to the state bench. The City Bar must meet its professional and ethical responsibilities to protect the citizens of this state from a nominee, whose absolute unfitness for the federal bench our non-partisan citizens' organization decisively documented more than five years ago.

Elena R. Sassower