

CENTER *for* JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

BY FAX: 212-428-2188

BY CERTIFIED MAIL/RRR: Z-203-707-608

20 pages

January 30, 1998

Jonathan Lippman, Chief Administrative Judge
Office of Court Administration
25 Beaver Street
New York, New York 10004

RE: Reconsideration and Withdrawal of OCA Waiver to Court of
Claims Judge Andrew O'Rourke and Informational Requests

Dear Judge Lippman:

This letter calls upon you to reconsider and withdraw the approval you gave to the waiver request of Court of Claims Judge Andrew O'Rourke, permitting him to collect an \$80,000 yearly pension on top of his \$113,000 annual judicial salary as a Court of Claims judge. It also calls upon you to investigate the competence and integrity of OCA Counsel Michael Colodner -- on whose advice you purportedly relied in giving your approval.

The enclosed letter of today's date to OCA Deputy Counsel, John Eiseman, particularizes the basis upon which you should take such action and asserts the public's rights to information, as *expressly* provided for under §211 of the Retirement and Social Security Law -- the statute governing the waiver in question.

Please obtain from Chief Judge Kaye the extensive materials we hand-delivered to her New York Chambers in connection with our opposition to Mr. O'Rourke's nomination and confirmation. You already have a copy of CJA's informational brochure -- which I gave you in-hand on January 9th at the City Bar's Twelfth Night celebration of Chief Judge Kaye.

You may be assured of our complete cooperation in resolving this serious matter.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

Elena Ruth Sassower

ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Coordinator
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc.

Enclosures

- cc: Michael Colodner, OCA Counsel
- Chief Judge Judith Kaye
- Senator Richard Dollinger
- Senator Franz Leichter
- Michael Cardozo, President, Association of the Bar of the City of New York
- Joshua Pruzansky, President, New York State Bar Association
- Blair Horner, Legislative Director, NYPIRG
- Rachel Leon, Executive Director, Common Cause Media

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