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AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary

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February 9, 1993

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Dear Ms. Sassower:

The matters that you and your mother have raised in your recent correspondence with President McWilliams and me, including each of your specific charges relating to Mr. O'Rourke, were discussed fully by the Committee at its meeting on Saturday, February 6, 1993.

The Committee reviewed and reaffirmed the procedures that it follows when new information bearing on a candidate's qualifications is received by the Committee after the Committee has rendered its report but before the Senate has acted on the nomination. It is the practice of the Committee when it receives such information to decide initially whether the information is new and material. If the information is new and material, the recommendation is fully reconsidered by the Committee. If on reconsideration the Committee decides that the prior recommendation should be changed, the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Attorney General are so advised.

These procedures were followed last year with respect to the materials which you submitted to the Committee and which you simultaneously submitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Attorney General.

Our rules pertaining to confidentiality prevent my setting forth or discussing the specific steps that were taken at the time by the Committee.

I understand that Mr. O'Rourke's November 1991 nomination was not acted upon by the Senate and his nomination was returned to the White House last year. Currently there is no nomination of Mr. O'Rourke pending.

Sincerely,

William E. Willis

Chair