

CENTER *for* JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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January 20, 1999

Professor Christopher L. Eisgruber
New York University Law School
New York, New York

RE: Your Op-Ed article, "Impeachment's Trickle-Down Effect"
New York Times, January 18, 1999

Dear Professor Eisgruber:

Following up our brief conversation this morning, I was sorry that you did not give me the opportunity to discuss with you the reality of how the House Judiciary Committee handles individual complaints, filed with it, preferring that I provide you a letter about it.

Although I don't have time now to write you a personal letter, I appreciate that you were agreeable to my sending you a copy of the press release on the subject that our non-partisan citizens' organization is presently circulating. It is enclosed, together with our press release about our impeachment complaint against Chief Justice Rehnquist, filed more than two months ago with the House Judiciary Committee.

As I stated to you, we would be most pleased to provide you with a copy of our FIVE-YEAR correspondence with the House Judiciary Committee -- which is part of our documentary compendium to our June 11, 1998 statement to the Committee. Such materials will demonstrate the incorrectness of your statement to me that the House Judiciary Committee is "too willing to consider impeachments". As you conceded, you are unaware of how the House Judiciary Committee handles the hundreds of judicial impeachment complaints it receives.

Indeed, we believe that the primary-source materials we can offer you will impell you and Professor Lawrence Sager to write a follow-up article about the House Judiciary Committee: one which recognizes that there is NO functioning judicial impeachment mechanism at the House Judiciary Committee, that Democrats, as well as Republicans have been jointly responsible for this, and that were the House Judiciary Committee to be somehow activated to pursue illegitimate impeachments of federal judges, threatening "judicial independence" it is because the highest levels of the federal judiciary have long been complicitous in the House Judiciary Committee's absolute nonfeasance in discharging its legitimate impeachment duties -- whose consequence has been even more destructive of "judicial independence".

Professor Eisgruber

Page Two

January 20, 1999

I would appreciate if you would be good enough to share the foregoing and enclosed with Professor Sager, with whom I left a voice mail message this morning -- and look forward to the opportunity to make a personal presentation to each of you.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elena Ruth Sassower".

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

Enclosures