

CENTER *for* JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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April 6, 1998

Daniel J. Meador, Executive Director
Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals
Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building
One Columbus Circle, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20544

RE: April 24th Public Hearing: New York City

Dear Professor Meador:

Following up our phone conversation earlier today -- and your faxed letter which arrived thereafter -- I have reviewed the issues and questions of interest to the Commission, as reflected by its press release. They are essentially that same as those included in the Third Branch notice, to which my April 4th letter-memo referred. The answer is YES -- ABSOLUTELY, YES -- the Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) has much to contribute and reiterates its request to make such contribution at the April 24th public hearing in New York.

As indicated, I would appreciate receiving a copy of the *actual* bill which created the Commission -- or at least the number so that I can pull it off Congress' website (<http://thomas.loc.gov>), together with the relevant legislative history.

Let me again say that having met you -- albeit very briefly -- following your testimony before the Long-Range Planning Committee of the Judicial Conference at its December 9, 1994 hearing -- I was most excited to learn that you had been appointed Executive Director of the Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals. Over the years -- and particularly after reading your testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee at its May 21, 1996 hearing on "The Role of the American Bar Association in the Judicial Selection Process" -- and reading the Miller Center's 1996 Report, Improving the Process of Appointing Federal Judges -- I have wanted to contact you¹. I am most

¹ CJA's written testimony to the Senate Judiciary, dated May 27, 1996, is preserved in the record of those hearings (pp. 125-127). Because of the significance of what we had to say, I will send you a copy by mail, together with a copy of our December 9, 1994 testimony before the Judicial

pleased that your appointment as Executive Director has created a circumstance to "bring us together".

I look forward to your confirmation that CJA will be included among the presenters at the April 24th public hearing

Thank you.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

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

Enclosures (by mail):

- (a) 12/9/94 testimony before the Long-Range Planning Committee
of the Judicial Conference
- (b) 5/27/96 letter/testimony to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee

Conference's Long-Range Planning Committee -- since you may no longer have the copy that I believe I gave you in-hand when we met at that time.