

**C**ENTER *for* **J**UDICIAL **A**CCOUNTABILITY, INC.\*

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March 31, 2008

TO: American Judicature Society (AJS)  
ATT: Seth Andersen, Executive Vice President  
Cynthia Gray, Director/AJS Center for Judicial Ethics

FROM: Elena Ruth Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

RE: Queries on Federal Judicial Discipline:  
(1) the Federal Judiciary's New Rules;  
(2) the Breyer Committee & its Report;  
(3) Proposed Congressional Legislation  
for an Inspector General for the Judicial Branch

Your website posts AJS' comments to the federal judiciary concerning its draft rules governing judicial conduct and disability proceedings under 28 U.S.C. 351-364. What is the date of those submitted comments? – as they are undated. Also, did AJS submit any further comments to the federal judiciary concerning subsequent drafts of the rules – or concerning the final rules adopted by the Judicial Conference on March 11, 2008?

Additionally, it appears from searching your website that AJS did not issue any press release about Chief Justice Rehnquist's appointment, in May 2004, of the committee headed by Associate Justice Breyer to study the federal judiciary's implementation of the 1980 Act. Is this correct? How about editorials? The only thing I see is an apparently unpublished May 27, 2004 letter to the editor of The New York Times, by Professor Stephen B. Burbank, identified therein as chair of AJS' "Judicial Independence and

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\* The **Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)** is a national, non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, documenting, by independently-verifiable empirical evidence, the dysfunction, politicization, and corruption of the processes of judicial selection and discipline on federal, state, and local levels.

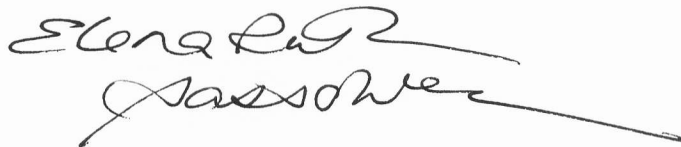
Accountability Task Force”.

How about once the Breyer Committee Report was released in September 2006? Did AJS issue any press release about it? I did find an AJS editorial entitled “*Politics and progress in federal judicial accountability*”, bearing an October 28, 2006 date of posting, whose favorable comments about the Breyer Committee Report include a description of it as “an impressive document – clear, candid, and based upon...a methodologically sound research protocol...” Was this written by Professor Burbank? – and/or other members of the Judicial Independence and Accountability Task Force? Has AJS or its Task Force undertaken any studied analysis of the Breyer Committee Report in substantiation of this and other conclusory assessments in the editorial?

Finally, it appears that AJS did not issue any press releases concerning the legislation introduced in the House and Senate, in 2006, to create an Inspector General for the Judicial Branch, reintroduced in 2007. Is this correct? How about editorials? Has AJS taken no position on such legislation, other than what appears at the end of the “*Politics and progress in federal judicial accountability*” editorial?

Your prompt response, by fax and/or e-mail, would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elena R. Jasso". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.