

**Subject: Follow-Up Coverage: "Disruption of Congress" -- June 28th Sentencing**

**Date:** 6/25/2004, 1:10 PM

**From:** Elena Ruth Sassower <judgewatchers@aol.com>

**To:** iy@rollcall.com, David Meyers <dbm@rollcall.com>, cauvinh@washpost.com, millerb@washpost.com, dewarh@washpost.com, pianine@washpost.com, Ombudsman Internet DropBox <ombudsman@washpost.com>, tschoenberg@legaltimes.com, jgroner@legaltimes.com, erodriguez@legaltimes.com, Kristina Fischer <kfischer@amlaw.com>

**cc:** public@nytimes.com, meto@nytimes.com, washnews@nytimes.com, washington@nytimes.com, rayhern@nytimes.com

**Organization:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc.

**TO:** Roll Call, Washington Post, Legal Times, and New York Law Journal


**FROM:** Elena Ruth Sasower, Coordinator/Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
(914) 421-1200


**RE:** Follow-up Coverage: "Disruption of Congress"  
June 28th sentencing -- 11:00 a.m. courtroom of D.C. Superior Court Judge Brian Holeman


Attached is my already faxed memo to you of today's date and its enclosed May 28th and June 24th memos to Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Leahy, New York Home-State Senators Schumer & Clinton, and Senator Chambliss.

For your convenience, also attached is my prior May 27th memo to each of you. For developments since then -- including my June 8th-9th memos to Ralph Nader and the host of non-partisan, liberal, and conservative "public interest" & judicial monitoring organizations, on which you routinely and gullibly turn for "info" on federal judicial selection -- see the homepage of CJA's website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), under the heading "Paper Trail Documenting the Corruption of Federal Judicial Selection/Confirmation & the 'Disruption of Congress' Case it Spawned."

Thank you.

 [6-25-04-follow-up-coverage.doc \(35KB\)](#)

 [5-28-04-senators.doc \(51KB\)](#)

 [6-24-04-senators.doc \(43KB\)](#)

 [5-27-04-follow-up-coverage.doc \(41KB\)](#)

**cc:** New York Times: [BY E-MAIL]

Daniel Okrent, Public Editor

Gerry Mulaney, Deputy Metro Editor for Politics

Philip Taubman, Washington Bureau Chief

Ray Hernandez/Washington Bureau

Neil Lewis/Washington Bureau

**CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.**

P.O. Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605-0069

Tel. (914) 421-1200  
Fax (914) 428-4994

E-Mail: [judgewatch@aol.com](mailto:judgewatch@aol.com)  
Web site: [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)

**BY E-MAIL & FAX**

June 25, 2004 (7 pages)

**TO: ROLL CALL**

ATT: Jennifer Yachnin; David Meyers/Managing Editor  
**WASHINGTON POST**

ATT: Henri Cauvin; Bill Miller/Assistant City Editor  
Helen Dewar; Eric Pianin/National News Editor  
Michael Getler/Ombudsman

**LEGAL TIMES**

ATT: Tom Schoenberg; Jonathan Groner/Editor-at-Large  
Eva Rodriguez/Editor-in-Chief

**NEW YORK LAW JOURNAL**

ATT: Kris Fischer/Editor-in-Chief

**FROM: Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator/Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)**

**RE: FOLLOW-UP COVERAGE: "DISRUPTION OF CONGRESS"  
JUNE 28<sup>th</sup> SENTENCING: USA v. Elena Ruth Sassower  
"Championing Basic Citizen Rights – and the Vital Importance  
of Citizen Participation in Federal Judicial Selection"**

**This Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. in courtroom 218 of D.C. Superior Court Judge Brian Holeman, I am to be sentenced to up to six months in jail and a \$500 fine in connection with the bogus and malicious "disruption of Congress" charge for which I was wrongfully convicted in April.**

The previous sentencing date – June 1<sup>st</sup> – was adjourned upon my asserted right to "reasonable time" to review D.C. Court Services' May 28<sup>th</sup> presentence report and the U.S. Attorney's June 1<sup>st</sup> memorandum in aid of sentencing.

Please be advised that following my May 27<sup>th</sup> memo to each of you, urging you to ask Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Leahy, New York Home-State Senators Schumer and Clinton, and Senator Chambliss "how much jail time they deem appropriate" for the "concocted 'crime'" of which I was convicted, as well as the other questions suggested by my published Letters to the Editor in the May 10<sup>th</sup> Roll Call and in the May 19<sup>th</sup> New York Law Journal, I decided to ask those questions myself. A copy of my May 28<sup>th</sup> memo to those Senators is enclosed – as is my follow-up June 24<sup>th</sup> memo.

*Elena Ruth Sassower*

**CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.**

P.O. Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605-0069

Tel. (914) 421-1200  
Fax (914) 428-4994

E-Mail: [judgewatch@aol.com](mailto:judgewatch@aol.com)  
Website: [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)

**PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED**

DATE: June 24, 2004

TO: Senator Orrin G. Hatch, Chairman, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee  
By Fax: 202-224-6331 / 202-224-9102 [2 pages]  
By E-Mail: [senator\\_hatch@hatch.senate.gov](mailto:senator_hatch@hatch.senate.gov)  
[swen\\_prior@judiciary.senate.gov](mailto:swen_prior@judiciary.senate.gov)

Senator Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee  
By Fax: 202-224-9516 [2 pages]  
By E-Mail: [senator\\_leahy@leahy.senate.gov](mailto:senator_leahy@leahy.senate.gov)  
[mona\\_lewandoski@judiciary.senate.gov](mailto:mona_lewandoski@judiciary.senate.gov)

New York Home-State Senator Charles E. Schumer  
By Fax: 202-228-4562 [2 pages]  
By E-Mail: [michael\\_tobman@schumer.senate.gov](mailto:michael_tobman@schumer.senate.gov)  
[robert\\_paxton@schumer.senate.gov](mailto:robert_paxton@schumer.senate.gov)

New York Home-State Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton  
By Fax: 202-228-0121 [2 pages]  
By E-Mail: [josh\\_albert@clinton.senate.gov](mailto:josh_albert@clinton.senate.gov)  
[leecia\\_eve@clinton.senate.gov](mailto:leecia_eve@clinton.senate.gov)

Senator Saxby Chambliss  
By Fax: 202-224-0103 [2 pages]  
By E-Mail: [saxby\\_chambliss@chambliss.senate.gov](mailto:saxby_chambliss@chambliss.senate.gov)

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

RE: **JUNE 28<sup>th</sup> SENTENCING FOR "DISRUPTION OF CONGRESS"**  
**& Your As-Yet NOT Received Response to CJA's May 28, 2004 Memo**

I have received NO response to my May 28, 2004 memorandum, addressed to each of you – even to the limited extent of a response to my request for publicly-available documents for 11 New York federal judicial nominees so that, “in the event I am sentenced to jail – with no stay granted me pending appeal – I [might] make productive use of my jail time”.

June 24, 2004

In the unlikely event that Senate Legal Counsel and/or the U.S. Attorney did NOT inform you that my June 1<sup>st</sup> sentencing for "disruption of Congress" was adjourned to Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, you are hereby so advised and afforded this further opportunity to respond to my May 28, 2004 memorandum, which I will be submitting to the Court at the June 28<sup>th</sup> sentencing.

Please note that I not only faxed and e-mailed that memorandum to you on May 28<sup>th</sup>, but 20 copies were thereafter hand-delivered to the Senate Judiciary Committee office on June 4<sup>th</sup> by George McDermott, a CJA member, with his own coverletter requesting "that each member of the Senate committee on the judiciary receives a copy...in their mailbox." Included with each of these 20 hand-delivered copies were my appended two published Letters to the Editor in Roll Call (May 10, 2004) and the New York Law Journal (May 19, 2004) – whose "pertinent recitations, *corroborative of my innocence*", stand undenied and undisputed by you.

Consequently, I am not herewith re-faxing/e-mailing my May 28, 2004 memorandum and published Letters to the Editor – which, moreover, are conveniently posted on the homepage of CJA's website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org) -- along with the "Paper Trail" of my correspondence with you to which they refer.

Finally, please be advised that the D.C. Court Services' May 28, 2004 presentence report recommended that I perform "community service". I am perfectly willing to perform "community service" -- so long as it consists of my working with the Senate Judiciary Committee to develop ways of facilitating and enhancing citizen participation in federal judicial selection and otherwise advancing the unimplemented non-partisan, good-government reform recommendations of The Ralph Nader Congress Project (1975), Common Cause (1986), and The Twentieth Century Fund Task Force on Judicial Selection (1988)<sup>1</sup>. Would this be acceptable to you?

If I do not hear from you, I will assume you have NO OBJECTION and will so inform the Court at the June 28<sup>th</sup> sentencing.

cc: U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia  
Senate Legal Counsel  
D.C. Superior Court Judge Brian Holeman  
George McDermott, CJA member  
The Public

<sup>1</sup> Excerpts of these important recommendations are quoted by my June 16, 2003 memo to Ralph Nader, Public Citizen, and Common Cause – posted at the TOP of CJA's homepage.

**CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.**

P.O. Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605-0069

Tel. (914) 421-1200  
Fax (914) 428-4994

E-Mail: [judgewatch@aol.com](mailto:judgewatch@aol.com)  
Web site: [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)

BY E-MAIL & FAX (6 pages)

TO: ROLL CALL  
ATT: Jennifer Yachnin; David Meyers/Managing Editor  
WASHINGTON POST  
ATT: Henri Cauvin; Bill Miller/Assistant City Editor  
Helen Dewar; Eric Pianin/National News Editor  
Michael Getler/Ombudsman  
LEGAL TIMES  
ATT: Tom Schoenberg; Jonathan Groner/Editor-at-Large  
Eva Rodriguez/Editor-in-Chief  
NEW YORK LAW JOURNAL  
ATT: Kris Fischer/Editor-in-Chief

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

RE: FOLLOW-UP COVERAGE: "DISRUPTION OF CONGRESS"  
JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> SENTENCING: USA v. Elena Ruth Sassower  
"Championing Basic Citizen Rights – and the Vital Importance  
of Citizen Participation in Federal Judicial Selection"

DATE: May 27, 2004

Following up your trial coverage, this is to remind you that on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, I will be sentenced to up to six months in jail and a \$500 fine on the bogus and malicious "disruption of Congress" charge for which I was wrongfully convicted last month.

It is worthy of comparison – and press reporting – that the protestors at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Senate Armed Services Committee hearing who unfurled a banner and shouted for Defense Secretary Rumsfeld to be fired were NOT EVEN ARRESTED. By contrast, I was arrested, incarcerated for 21 hours, and prosecuted for respectfully requesting to testify with "citizen opposition" at the Senate Judiciary Committee's May 22, 2003 "hearing" to confirm New York Court of Appeals Judge Richard C. Wesley to a "lifetime" Second Circuit Court of Appeals judgeship – a request not even made until the "hearing" was adjourned.

May 27, 2004

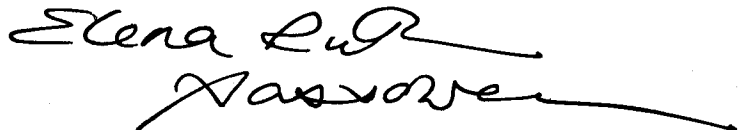
It is my view -- publicly stated in my Letter to the Editor, "*Correcting the Record*", in the May 10<sup>th</sup> Roll Call (the same issue as has a large color photo of protestors at the May 7<sup>th</sup> hearing with their unfurled banner "FIRE RUMSFELD") -- that Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Hatch, Ranking Member Leahy, New York Home-State Senators Schumer and Clinton, and Senator Chambliss should each be asked "how much jail time they deem appropriate" for the "concocted 'crime'" of which I have been convicted. Based on what is summarized by that Letter -- and by my further Letter to the Editor, "*Portrayal in News Item Found 'Denigrating'*" in the May 19<sup>th</sup> New York Law Journal -- substantiated by the "paper trail" of primary source documents posted on the homepage of CJA's website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)<sup>1</sup> -- this is the LEAST of the questions the public would rightfully expect you to ask them.

So that each of you may have the benefit of the formal research and investigative proposals that CJA has been circulating -- and which, if not pursued by you, will be pursued by others whose powerful scholarship and journalism will probe your failure to report on *readily-verifiable* documentary proof of the corruption of federal judicial selection/confirmation, I refer you to (1) CJA's May 4, 2004 proposal to scholars; (2) CJA's May 11, 2004 proposal to The New York Times; and (3) CJA's May 20, 2004 proposal to The Washington Post. All are posted as part of the "paper trail", as likewise will be this memo. I respectfully request that you bring these to the attention of the appropriate and uppermost editors and managerial echelons so that investigative coverage may be promptly authorized, consistent with your publications' journalistic responsibilities to readers and the public at large.

Meantime, for your convenience, copies of my two summarizing Letters to the Editor in Roll Call and the New York Law Journal are enclosed.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday when I stand for sentencing -- without penitence or remorse -- for my championing of the transcendent issues outlined by my June 16, 2003 memo to Ralph Nader, Public Citizen, and Common Cause: "Basic Citizen Rights -- and the Vital Importance of Citizen Participation in Federal Judicial Selection."

Thank you.



Enclosures

---

<sup>1</sup> Legal Times does NOT have to avail itself of these posted materials, as I previously provided it with "hard copies" to enable it to more easily verify and investigate the politically-explosive story that has yet to be written.

**CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.**

P.O. Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605-0069

Tel. (914) 421-1200  
Fax (914) 428-4994

E-Mail: [judgwatch@aol.com](mailto:judgwatch@aol.com)  
Website: [www.judgwatch.org](http://www.judgwatch.org)

**PRIORITY ATTENTION REQUIRED**

DATE: May 28, 2004

TO: Senator Orrin G. Hatch, Chairman, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee  
By Fax: 202-224-6331 / 202-224-9102 [8 pages]  
By E-Mail: [senator\\_hatch@hatch.senate.gov](mailto:senator_hatch@hatch.senate.gov)  
[swen\\_prior@judiciary.senate.gov](mailto:swen_prior@judiciary.senate.gov)

Senator Patrick Leahy, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee  
By Fax: 202-224-9516 [8 pages]  
By E-Mail: [senator\\_leahy@leahy.senate.gov](mailto:senator_leahy@leahy.senate.gov)  
[rachel\\_arfa@judiciary.senate.gov](mailto:rachel_arfa@judiciary.senate.gov)

New York Home-State Senator Charles E. Schumer  
BY FAX: 202-228-4562 [8 pages]  
BY E-MAIL: [michael\\_tobman@schumer.senate.gov](mailto:michael_tobman@schumer.senate.gov)  
[robert\\_paxton@schumer.senate.gov](mailto:robert_paxton@schumer.senate.gov)

New York Home-State Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton  
BY FAX: 202-228-0121 [8 pages]  
BY E-MAIL: [josh\\_albert@clinton.senate.gov](mailto:josh_albert@clinton.senate.gov)  
[leecia\\_eve@clinton.senate.gov](mailto:leecia_eve@clinton.senate.gov)

Senator Saxby Chambliss  
BY FAX: 202-224-0103 [8 pages]  
BY E-MAIL: [refused]

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

RE: **JUNE 1ST SENTENCING FOR "DISRUPTION OF CONGRESS"**  
**& PICK-UP OF LONG-AGO REQUESTED DOCUMENTS**

On Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, I am to be sentenced to up to six months in jail and fined up to \$500 on the bogus and malicious "disruption of Congress" charge for which I was wrongfully convicted last month – after your Senate Counsel succeeded, by a fraudulent motion, to quash my subpoenas for your testimony at trial.

May 28, 2004

Had you testified, I would have sought your responses, under oath, to such material facts relating to you and the Senate Judiciary Committee as are summarized by my two recent Letters to the Editor, "*Correcting the Record*" (Roll Call, May 10, 2004) and "*Portrayal in News Item Found 'Denigrating'*" (New York Law Journal, May 19, 2004). Copies are enclosed for your convenience.

I intend to submit these published Letters, on my own behalf, at the June 1<sup>st</sup> sentencing – and hereby afford you the opportunity to deny or dispute the accuracy of their pertinent recitations, *corroborative of my innocence*.

It is my view – publicly stated by my May 10<sup>th</sup> published Letter -- that you should be asked "how much jail time [you] deem appropriate" for my "concocted 'crime'". I hereby expressly call for your respective answers.

Additionally, I intend to submit a copy of my correspondence with you, spanning from March 14, 2003 to January 29, 2004, relating to Judge Wesley's nomination and the nominations of P. Kevin Castel and nine others to district and circuit judgeships in the Second Circuit. Such correspondence is posted on the homepage of CJA's website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), under the heading "Paper Trail Documenting the Corruption of Federal Judicial Selection/Confirmation & the 'Disruption of Congress' Case it Spawned". Although you have never denied or disputed the accuracy or significance of this correspondence, I give you a further opportunity to do so now: in particular, to deny or dispute the accuracy of my memo of exactly one year ago, May 28, 2003, recounting what took place at the Senate Judiciary Committee's May 22, 2003 confirmation "hearing" – and identifying the basis upon which I would be calling you as my witnesses at trial.

A copy of this memo is being sent to the U.S. Attorney with a demand that his recommendation for sentencing – which he has "reserved" to June 1<sup>st</sup> – be informed by your responses to the foregoing.

Finally, in the event I am sentenced to jail – with no stay granted me pending appeal – I intend to make productive use of my time. Please instruct Senate Judiciary Committee staff to have ready for pick-up on June 1<sup>st</sup> copies of the public portions of the questionnaires completed by the nine federal judicial nominees which I have repeatedly requested, including in correspondence dated June 9, 2003, June 18, 2003, July 15, 2003, August 29, 2003, December 29, 2003, and January 29, 2004<sup>1</sup> -- and which have NOT been supplied.

---

<sup>1</sup> The final three letters are posted as part of the "Paper Trail". The first of these three, CJA's August 29, 2003 memo to Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Leahy, bears a RE: clause for:



May 28, 2004

These nine nominees are:

- (1) Barrington D. Parker, nominated on May 9, 2001 to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, confirmed by the Senate on October 12, 2001;
- (2) Reena Raggi, nominated on May 1, 2002 to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, confirmed by the Senate on September 20, 2002;
- (3) Dora L. Irizzary, nominated on April 28, 2003 to the District Court for the Southern District of New York and for whom the Senate Judiciary Committee held a confirmation hearing on October 1, 2003;
- (4) Stephen Robinson, nominated on March 5, 2003 to the District Court for the Southern District of New York and for whom the Senate Judiciary Committee held a confirmation hearing on July 22, 2003 and the Senate confirmed on September 17, 2003;
- (5) Sandra J. Feuerstein, nominated on July 25, 2002 to the District Court for the Eastern District of New York and for whom the Senate Judiciary Committee held a confirmation hearing on July 22, 2003 and the Senate confirmed on September 17, 2003;
- (6) Richard J. Holwell, nominated on August 1, 2002 to the District Court for the Southern District of New York and for whom the Senate Judiciary Committee held a confirmation hearing on July 22, 2003 and the Senate confirmed on September 17, 2003;
- (7) Gary Lawrence Sharpe, nominated on April 28, 2003 to the District Court for the Northern District of New York and for whom the Senate Judiciary Committee held a confirmation hearing on October 15, 2003;

---

“SUPERVISORY OVERSIGHT over Senate Judiciary Committee Staff whose Disregard of CJA’s Document Requests has Included Withholding from CJA the Public Portions of Questionnaires of Judicial Nominees whose Confirmations are Pending before the Committee and Senate” (emphasis in the original).

CJA’s subsequent December 29, 2003 and January 29, 2004 memos are similarly entitled.

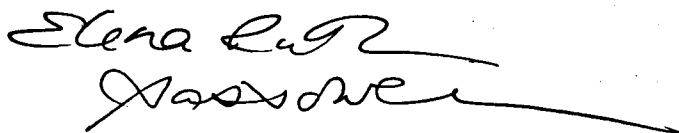
May 28, 2004

- (8) Sandra Lynn Townes, nominated on July 1, 2003 to the District Court for the Eastern District of New York and for whom the Senate Judiciary Committee held a confirmation hearing on November 12, 2003;
- (9) Kenneth Michael Karas, nominated on September 18, 2003 to the District Court for the Southern District of New York and for whom the Senate Judiciary Committee held a confirmation hearing on November 18, 2003.

Additionally, please also instruct Senate Judiciary Committee staff to have ready for June 1<sup>st</sup> pick-up the publicly-available financial statements of Richard C. Wesley and P. Kevin Castel which were MISSING from the public portions of their completed questionnaires, received in response to my March 14, 2003 letter (#1 on the "Paper Trail").

Needless to say, if these long-ago requested documents are now contained in bound volumes, containing, as well, the transcripts of the Senate Judiciary Committee's "hearings" to confirm the nominees and related submissions, I prefer to receive the bound volumes.

Thank you.



Elena Lu  
Jassone

Enclosures

cc: U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia  
ATT: Assistant U.S. Attorneys Aaron Mendelsohn & Jessie Liu  
Judge Brian Holeman  
The Public