

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

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

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

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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, 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

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**CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.**

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**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.



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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



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<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.**

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**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.

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<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:

**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;

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“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.

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

Enclosures

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

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

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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

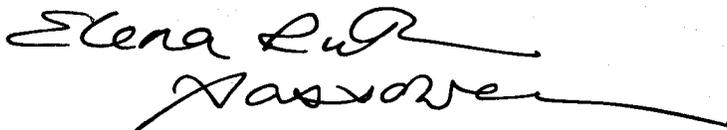
It is my view -- publicly stated in my Letter to the Editor, "*Correcting the Record*", in the May 10<sup>th</sup> Roll Call (the same issue as has a large color photo of protestors at the May 7<sup>th</sup> hearing with their unfurled banner "FIRE RUMSFELD") -- that Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman 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

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<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.

## Correcting The Record

I was wrongfully convicted of "disruption of Congress," which you reported on April 21 ("Jury Convicts Judiciary Protester"). Contrary to your story, I never "argued" that "the right of citizens to testify at public hearings ... 'is not and must never be deemed to be a disruption of Congress.'" Indeed, your quotes were only around the second half of that supposed argument.

What I actually argued was that "a citizen's respectful request to testify at a Congressional committee's public hearing is not — and must never be deemed to be — 'disruption of Congress.'" This was obscured by the prosecution, which, without any basis in fact, painted me as someone who "did not follow the rules," further alleging that I "broke the law by loudly disrupting a U.S. Senate Judiciary hearing."

In fact, more than two months before the committee's May 22, 2003, hearing to confirm New York Court of Appeals Judge Richard Wesley to the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals — and in conjunction with my request to testify in opposition, as coordinator of the national, nonpartisan, nonprofit citizens' organization Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. — I asked the committee, in writing, for its rules, procedures and standards. None were supplied, just as the committee never sent a letter denying my request to testify. Nor did anyone in authority at the committee deny the request orally. More seriously, no committee counsel ever called me, let alone interviewed me, about the case-file doc-

uments I had hand-delivered to the committee two and a half weeks before the hearing to substantiate CJA's particularized written statement as to Wesley's readily verifiable corruption as a judge on New York's highest state court in two public-interest cases affecting the rights and welfare of the people of New York. Committee underlings refused to even give me the names of reviewing counsel — and my many, many phone messages to speak to such unidentified counsel and to others in authority at the committee and in the offices of Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) and ranking member Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) were unreturned.

This scandalous state of affairs, where the Senate Judiciary Committee wilfully ignores evidence of nominee unfitness in order to consummate the political deals which Senators make over judgeships, is

chronicled in fact-specific correspondence I sent to Hatch and Leahy, as well as to New York Sens. Charles Schumer (D) and Hillary Rodham Clinton (D) and the Capitol Police prior to the hearing. It is posted on the home page of CJA's Web site, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), under the heading, "Paper Trail Documenting the Corruption of Federal Judicial Selection/Confirmation and the 'Disruption of Congress' Case it Spawned."

As to what took place at the Judiciary Committee's May 22, 2003, hearing, the best evidence is the videotape. The second best evidence is the official transcript. Both are posted at the top of CJA's home page — with an analysis of each. Such analysis highlights — apart from my correspondence — the tell-tale signs, revealed by the video, that "the Committee's leadership 'set me up' to be arrested."

On June 1, I will be sentenced to jail for up to six months for my words at the hearing. These words, not uttered by me until after the presiding chairman, Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-Ga.), had already adjourned the hearing, were: "Mr. Chairman, there's citizen opposition to Judge Wesley based on his documented corruption as a New York Court of Appeals judge. May I testify?"

Hatch and Leahy, Schumer and Clinton — and, of course, Chambliss — all of whom invoked their immunities under the Speech or Debate Clause to quash my subpoenas for their testimony at trial — should be asked how much jail time they deem appropriate for such a concocted "crime."

**Elena Ruth Sassower**  
Coordinator  
Center for Judicial  
Accountability Inc.

# ROLL CALL

Established 1955

[www.rollcall.com](http://www.rollcall.com)

Monday, May 10, 2004 • Vol. 49, No. 121

An Economist Group business

# New York Law Journal

Wednesday, May 19, 2004



## LETTERS

*To the Editor*

### Portrayal in News Item Found 'Denigrating'

Last month, an important case in which I was the criminal defendant went to trial in Washington, D.C. At issue was what took place at the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee's May 22, 2003, public hearing to confirm President George Bush's nomination of New York Court of Appeals Judge Richard C. Wesley to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Although a lengthy front-page article appeared in *Legal Times*, owned by American Lawyer Media, the same parent company as owns the *New York Law Journal*, the *Law Journal* did not run it. Instead, it ran a scurrilous front-page "News in Brief" item, "Sassower Faces Charges of Disrupting Congress" (April 12), whose most false and defamatory assertion is directly refuted by the *Legal Times* article.

According to the *Law Journal* item, I both "spoke out" and "was arrested for attempting to speak during the confirmation hearing without being invited to do so." It then continues "She contends she simply wanted to speak her mind..."

No sane professional would "contend[] she simply wanted to speak her mind" — a portrayal reinforcing the item's denigrating opening description that I have "made a career of challenging alleged corruption in New York Courts." The inference is that I am pursuing, in an individual capacity, "alleged" corruption that may be only "in my mind."

Conspicuously omitted — as likewise from the front-page "News in Brief" item, "Sassower Found Guilty of Disrupting Congress" (April 21) — are my professional title and organizational affiliation. No editorializing was needed for the *Law Journal* to plainly state that I am coordinator and co-founder of the Center for Judicial Accountability Inc. (CJA) — a national, non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization.

For more than a decade, CJA has been documenting the dysfunction, politicization and corruption of the closed-door processes of judicial selection and discipline by advocacy that is scrupulously evidence-based. Indeed, upon Mr. Bush's nomination of Judge Wesley, I personally prepared a fact-specific March 26, 2003, written statement particularizing the case-file evidence establishing Judge Wesley's corruption on the New York Court of Appeals in two major public interest cases, resulting in vast, irreparable injury to the People of New York. I then hand-delivered this statement — including the substantiating case-file documents — to the American Bar Association and Association of the Bar of the City of New York, to Senators Schumer and Clinton, and to the Senate Judiciary Committee. None made any findings of fact and conclusions of law with respect thereto. Nor did they — or Judge Wesley, to whom I sent a copy of the statement — ever deny or dispute its accuracy in any respect.

As to what I "contend" I said and did at the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, the *Legal Times* got it right:

"According to Sassower, she read from a prepared statement: 'Mr. Chairman, there's citizen opposition to Judge Wesley based on his documented corruption as a New York Court of Appeals judge. May I testify?'"

Judge Wesley's "documented corruption:" — covered up by the bar associations, Senators Schumer, Clinton, and the Senate Judiciary Committee, among others — is a major political scandal, yet to be reported. Its explosive ramifications would rightfully derail Senator Schumer's re-election campaign and Senator Clinton's talked-about future candidacy for president. Fortunately, readers do not have to rely on the *Law Journal*, but can verify this for themselves. The substantiating primary source documents — including the unrefuted and irrefutable March 26, 2003, statement — are posted on the homepage of CJA's Web site, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), under the heading "Paper Trail Documenting the Corruption of Federal Judicial Selection/Confirmation and the 'Disruption of Congress' Case it Spawned."

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