

NINTH JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

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By Fax: 694-5018

September 22, 1992

Milton Hoffman, Editorial Page Editor Gannett Newspapers 1 Gannett Drive White Plains, New York

> RE: Your September 6, 1992 Editorial: "O'Rourke Belongs on the Bench Now" "...Don't Play Politics with Judges"

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

This letter confirms our meeting scheduled for 1:00 p.m. tomorrow--at which you and Mr. Beaupre will be present--for purposes of discussing the Ninth Judicial Committee's critique.

As I stated last Wednesday by phone, it is our preference that other members of the Editorial Board be present, as well as news writers, specifically Ed Tagliaferri. Although you expressly rejected that request, we would be most pleased if you would reconsider.

We also wish you would reconsider your denial of the request made last Thursday by Doris Sassower, Director of the Ninth Judicial Committee, that she and other Committee members be allowed to participate in the meeting.

While I am flattered that you feel that I can adequately represent the substance of our critique--which was a <u>collective</u> effort--we believe that <u>Gannett</u> would be best served by expanding the meeting so that other Committee members might speak, without an intermediary, relative to their own contributions to the critique.

Yours for a quality judiciary, Elena Ratt Basson

ELENA RUTH SASSOWER Coordinator, Ninth Judicial Committee

cc: Lawrence Beaupre, Vice President and Executive Editor (fax: 694-5150)