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Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

BY FAX: 518-436-0130 (12 pages)

September 8, 1999

Mr. Kyle Hughes  
Gannett, Albany Bureau  
Albany, New York

RE: "Spitzer's Anti-Corruption Unit Gets Off to a Busy Start",  
The Journal News, 9/8/99, Front-Page, Westchester Section

Dear Mr. Hughes:

As discussed, CJA has *direct, first-hand experience* with Attorney General Spitzer on the subject of his "public integrity unit" – and, indeed, presented him with the FIRST of the "100 reports of "improper" government actions, cited by your today's article. That presentation, publicly made, was at the City Bar, on January 27<sup>th</sup>, and is recited in proposed Letters to the Editor which we submitted to The New York Times, responding to its August 26<sup>th</sup> article, "*Spitzer Sets Up Unit to Investigate Both State and Local Corruption*" and August 28<sup>th</sup> column, "*If a Judge Gets Out of Line: Seeking a Cure*", and to the Daily News, responding to its August 31<sup>st</sup> editorial, "*Mirror, Mirror*". Copies of the Letters are enclosed, as well as a copy of "*Mirror, Mirror*", which you stated you had not seen – and which, I believe, was based on the Times' article – no story having appeared in the Daily News.

Each of these proposed Letters refer to documentation establishing that Mr. Spitzer's "public integrity unit" is a hoax and fraud upon the public. Upon your request, I will be pleased to transmit it to you so that you can *independently* examine Mr. Spitzer's self-serving remarks about his "public integrity unit", quoted in your article. Indeed, notwithstanding the informative comments of Blair Horner, Barbara Bartolleti, and Jeanine Pirro, which your article quotes, none of them have ANY *direct, first-hand experience* – or even information – about the operations of the unit during its first SEVEN months.

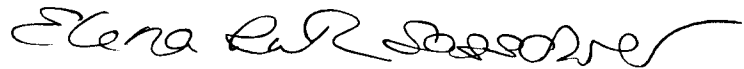
Yesterday, this documentation about the "public integrity unit" was transmitted to the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York under a September 7<sup>th</sup> coverletter – to the very same prosecutors that your article refers to as investigating Governor Pataki's parole decisions. This, because Mr. Spitzer's bogus "public integrity unit" has not only been covering up the corrupt litigation practices of the Attorney General's own office – which was what I presented Mr. Spitzer with on January 27<sup>th</sup> – but also the Governor's corruption of the judicial appointments process to the lower state courts and of the "merit selection" process to the Court of Appeals, as well as his

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complicity in the corruption of the Commission on Judicial Conduct. A copy of page 4 of that letter, referring to the recent media coverage about Mr. Spitzer's "public integrity unit", is enclosed. As noted therein and as we discussed by phone, notwithstanding the media-conscious Mr. Spitzer issues a steady stream of press releases about his activities and appointments, there is NO press release about his January 27<sup>th</sup> announcement of the "public integrity unit" - or of its staffing, including designation of Mr. Pope as its chief. That should tell you something right off.

I await your enthusiastic request for this same documentation.

Yours for a quality judiciary  
And government integrity,



ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, CJA Coordinator

P.S. Enclosed are pages 13-14 of the January 27<sup>th</sup> transcript reflecting my exchange with Mr. Spitzer on that date, as well as the \$3,000 public interest ad to which I referred, "Restraining 'Liars in the Courtroom' and on the Public Payroll" (NYLJ, 8/27/97, pp. 3-4). As discussed, although there may be controversy as to the Attorney General's jurisdiction to set up a "public integrity unit" to investigate governmental corruption, there can be NO question as to his jurisdiction to investigate corruption in his *own* office.