

Subj: **URGENT: Stopping Tomorrow's "Rubber Stamp" Senate Confirmation Proceedings**
Date: 12/16/02 3:01:45 PM Eastern Standard Time
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TO: Rick Brank, Newsday

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

RE: Stopping Tomorrow's "Rubber Stamp" Senate Confirmation of the
Nomination of Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman
Lack to the Court of Claims

DATE: December 16, 2002

Attached is CJA's 11-page letter of today's date to Senate Majority Leader Bruno, Senate Minority Leader Connor, and Senate Minority Leader-Elect Paterson, requesting, *inter alia*, postponement of tomorrow's Senate confirmation proceedings on the nomination of Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Lack to the Court of Claims. Copies have been e-mailed to every member of the State Senate with a request for their support of the postponement request for all the reasons set forth in CJA's letter.

CJA's letter also presents serious and substantial opposition to Chairman Lack's confirmation. This, based on his official misconduct as head of the Senate Judiciary Committee, overseeing judicial confirmations, wherein he has demonstrated "his flagrant disregard for the most fundamental rules of procedure, standards of evidence, due process, honesty, and decency -- the very qualities essential to being a judge."

Should you wish to see the two enclosures to the letter, consisting of the January 1997 Report of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York on the nomination and confirmation of Court of Claims judges [8 pages] and CJA's December 19, 2001 informational/FOIL request to the Senate Judiciary Committee [3 pages], please telephone 914-421-1200 and they will be faxed to you directly.

In the event Senate confirmation proceedings go forward tomorrow, I will be up in Albany to testify in opposition. I will bring with me copies of the massive documentary proof substantiating CJA's opposition to Chairman Lack -- not only for the Senators, but for the press.

Thank you.