

## CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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BY FAX: 631-843-2953 (6 pages)

January 2, 2003

Rick Brand  
Newsday  
235 Pinelawn Road  
Melville, New York 11747-4250

RE: An Investigative Expose of the Nomination and Confirmation  
of James Lack as an Acting Supreme Court Justice

Dear Rick:

Enclosed is the Daily News' December 30th editorial, "*New York's Best Supporting Actors*" – the latest in its on-going "*Judging the Judges*" editorial series – which purports that Acting Supreme Court justices got their positions by "merit appointment".

James Lack is an Acting Supreme Court justice. The as-yet untold story of his nomination and confirmation to the bench provides an extraordinary case study, from Newsday's own Long Island neighborhood, to expose the sham and repugnant process by which Governor Pataki, abetted by Lack, has made hundreds of state judges. Lack's judgeship was nothing more but his pay-back reward for having perverted the Senate's "advice and consent" function.

I am available to meet with you and provide you with the documentation substantiating CJA's December 16<sup>th</sup> letter to the Senate leadership – documentation having the power to effect sweeping reform for the benefit of the People of this State.

Meantime, enclosed are the first three pages of the Governor's Executive Order #10.1, pertaining to the State Judicial Screening, which purportedly reviewed Lack's qualifications. Paragraph 2c expressly requires "thorough inquiry"...

Yours for a quality judiciary,



ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Coordinator  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

Enclosures