

# CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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6 pages

September 7, 1998

Catherine Abate, Esq.  
232 West 40th Street  
Third Floor  
New York, New York 10018

RE: Raising Electorally-Significant Issues of Government Integrity  
Wednesday, September 9th Debate of Candidates for the Democratic  
Nomination for New York State Attorney General

Dear Ms. Abate:

This follows up my extensive conversation with your district counsel, Karen Lin, at the February 19-20th Public Interest/Public Service Symposium at NYU Law School. Ms. Lin -- and another member of your staff -- were manning a "table" for the "Committee for Catherine Abate"-- which happened to be just behind the "table" for our non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, the Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA).

At that time, I provided Ms. Lin with several copies of CJA's \$3,000 public interest ad "*Restraining Liars in the Courtroom' and on the Public Payroll*"-- published in the August 27, 1997 New York Law Journal (at pp. 3-4). It is my recollection that Ms Lin stated that the office was familiar with the ad, which describes how Attorney General Vacco engaged in litigation misconduct, including fraud, to defend state judges and the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, sued for corruption -- and had done so because he had no legitimate defense. The ad identifies three specific cases -- and I offered to provide you with copies of the litigation files so that you could verify, for yourself, that Mr. Vacco was covering up state judicial corruption by himself corrupting the judicial processes. I pointed out that such in-office misconduct was far more significant than the prominent press coverage then being given to the fact that Mr. Vacco's first deputy attorney general -- William Flynn -- had lied about his credentials -- which, of course, had nothing to do with how Mr. Flynn had performed in office, as, likewise, the fact that Mr. Vacco had engaged in politically-motivated firings and hirings did not establish a connection with the Law Department's litigation quality, *per se*.

Nonetheless, there was no follow-up from your campaign.

EX "E"

September 7, 1998

We have e-mailed a question to the Law Journal for Wednesday morning's debate at the City Bar. That question asks why the transcending issues of state judicial corruption and complicity by the State Attorney General (including interim A.G. Koppell), as presented by "*Restraining 'Liars'*" and by CJA's prior ad, referred to therein, "*Where Do You Go When Judges Break the Law?*" (NYT, 10/26/94, Op-Ed page ad; NYLJ, 11/1/94, p. 9) have not been raised by any of the would-be candidates for the Democratic nomination for Attorney General. We have also informed the Law Journal that we would give notice of our question to the four candidates.

This letter constitutes notice to you. We reiterate our willingness to provide you with copies of the files of the three public interest cases, described by "*Restraining 'Liars'*" so that you can verify Mr. Vacco's in-office misconduct, as well as that of Mr. Koppell. Such misconduct, if exposed, would not only defeat them electorally -- but result in their criminal indictment and disbarment.

Finally, we enclose a copy of the e-mail notice we sent to Mr. Koppell on Friday, September 4th. For your convenience, we also enclose copies of "*Restraining 'Liars in the Courtroom' and on the Public Payroll*" and "*Where Do You Go When Judges Break the Law?*"

Yours for a quality judiciary  
and for an Attorney General worthy of being "the People's Lawyer",

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

**Enclosures**

cc: New York Law Journal

Association of the Bar of the City of New York