

# CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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## FAX COVER SHEET

This fax transmission consists of a total of 2 pages including this cover page. If you have not received all the pages, please call (914) 421-1200.

DATE: 11/13/96 TIME: 12<sup>10</sup> pm

TO: Inell Willis TITLE: NYT: Letters

FAX #: 212 556-3622 RE: past published letters

FROM: Elena Ruth Sussor

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MESSAGE: Following up on phone conversation,  
enclosed is a copy of the Times'  
publication of my letter to the Editor  
on 7/17/92 "Untrustworthy Ratings"

The Ninth Judicial Committee is the  
predecessor local citizens group from  
which the Center for Judicial Accountability  
has emerged.

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC. is a national, non-partisan, not-for-profit citizens' organization raising public consciousness about how judges break the law and get away with it.

## Untrustworthy Ratings?

To the Editor:

"We have good, quality judges. I think I'd take that as a significant accomplishment." You quote that comment by President Bush in the sixth article of "The Bush Record" (July 1), about his appointment of conservative judges. The reality behind this is that one of every six of President Bush's judicial nominees has been rated "not qualified" by a minority vote of the American Bar Association's evaluating panel.

We believe the real story is not the conservative court built by President Bush but the mediocrities he has nominated for lifetime Federal judgeships. Our grass-roots citizen group recently submitted a critique to the Senate Judiciary Committee documenting the unfitness of one of President Bush's nominees to the Southern District of New York. That nominee also received a "not qualified" minority rating by the Bar Association panel.

You state that "in no case has a majority of the evaluating panel found a Bush nominee unqualified." Yet our critique, based on six months of investigation, found no basis for the Bar Association's majority rating of "qualified" for the nominee we studied. The evidence strongly suggests that the rating of that nominee was not the result of any meaningful investigation at all.

Because of the danger of Senate confirmation of unfit nominees to lifetime Federal judgeships, we have called on the Senate leadership to halt all judicial confirmations pending investigation and the setting up of safeguards.

ELENA RUTH SASSOWER  
White Plains, July 10, 1992

*The writer is coordinator of the Ninth Judicial Committee, a nonpartisan citizen group.*