

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

PRIORITY MAIL

April 23, 2004

Mr. Nat Hentoff
37 West 12th Street
New York, New York 10011

RE: The Corruption of Federal Judicial Selection/Confirmation – Now Covered
Up by a Corrupted Judicial Process

Dear Mr. Hentoff:

Thank you for your return call. I do appreciate that you are working on other important stories – and ask your forgiveness for offending you by suggesting that your personal and professional relationships might have affected your willingness to pursue this story.

Enclosed, as you requested, are the New York Law Journal's two front-page "News in Brief" notices about the "disruption of Congress" criminal trial against me (4/12, 4/21) – which is the extent of coverage by the New York press. Also enclosed are articles from Legal Times (4/12, 4/19), Roll Call (4/21), and The Washington Post (4/15, 4/21). Like the false and maligning first Law Journal notice, they, too, contain critical errors and distortions. Most egregious are the two slanted and distorted Post articles – as to which I am awaiting a return call from its ombudsman. So that you might discern this for yourself, enclosed is my opening statement at trial – the same as referred to in the first Post article as "rambling". This was how the reporter concealed the egregiousness of what Judge Holeman did.

Prior to trial, it was already obvious that I could not get a fair trial before Judge Holeman, which is why I made two motions for his disqualification and then brought a petition of mandamus to remove him – and to transfer this case to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, where it properly belongs. These important documents are all posted on the homepage of CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org – as part of the "Paper trail documenting the corruption of federal judicial selection/confirmation & the 'disruption of Congress' case it spawned". A print-out of the current homepage is enclosed for your convenience.

Please know that what took place at trial went beyond anything I could have imagined. Judge Holeman's evidentiary rulings were utterly insupportable, as, for instance, preventing

me from even identifying the basis for CJA's opposition to Judge Wesley, from even mentioning the "blue slip" prerogative of Home-State Senators Schumer & Clinton, and from even mentioning that I had filed a police misconduct complaint in 1996 against Sergeant Bignotti, the officer who arrested me in 2003. He not only cut off my opening statement, cut off my closing statement, cut off my cross-examination of prosecution witnesses and my direct examination of my witnesses, and had marshals monitoring me throughout most of the trial, but, when I took the stand in my own defense, refused to permit me to testify as to the very events on which the "disruption of Congress" charge is based.

The transcript of the trial – costing approximately \$6,000 – has been ordered and will be ready in two months. The appeal will be dated May 1, 2004 – "Law Day". Sentencing is scheduled for June 1st.

Perhaps you will ask New York Homestate Senators Schumer and Clinton, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Hatch and Ranking Member Leahy – who have had a year to verify the accuracy of CJA's March 26, 2003 statement as to Judge Wesley's on-the-bench corruption in two public interest cases, causing irreparable injury to the People of New York – what sentence they deem appropriate.

Thank you.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

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

Enclosures

P.S. Enclosed, for your convenience, is another copy of my October 24, 2003 coverletter to you – as well as my June 16, 2003 memo to Ralph Nader, Public Citizen, and Common Cause outlining the significance of the criminal case against me – both short term and long. In the event you do not have ready access to the referred-to recommendations for nonpartisan, good-government reform of the federal judicial selection process, I enclose the 1986 Common Cause Report, Assembly-Line Approval, as well as the pertinent pages from Ralph Nader's 1975 book, The Judiciary Committees, and the Twentieth Century Fund's 1988 book, Judicial Roulette.

Finally, FYI, enclosed is my analysis of the video and transcript of the Senate Judiciary Committee's May 22, 2003 confirmation "hearing". A copy of the pertinent transcript pages are enclosed, as is my May 30, 2003 letter to the transcription company. As for the video, it is accessible from the Senate Judiciary Committee website [www.senate.gov].