CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

P.O. Box 69, Gedney Station
White Plains, New York 10605-0069

Tel. (914) 421-1200
Fax (914) 428-4994

E-Mail: judgewatch@aol.com
Web site: www.judgewatch.org

Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

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PRESS RELEASE

House Judiciary Committee Ignores Hundreds of Judicial Impeachment Complaints

Defending his drive to impeach and remove the President, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde not only today proclaimed his transcendent belief in "equal justice under law", but that he would rather lose his seat in Congress than ever "sell out" on it. But Chairman Hyde should lose his seat -- and precisely because he has sold out on "equal justice".

The House Judiciary Committee receives hundreds of impeachment complaints against federal judges, filed by ordinary citizens. Like Paul Jones, these citizens are entitled to their "day in court". Their complaints assert that they have been deprived of that "day" by the misconduct of federal judges.

How does the House Judiciary Committee respond to these judicial impeachment complaints? The House Judiciary Committee does NOT investigate them. It does NOT refer them. Indeed, it does NOT even acknowledge them. Instead, it simply ignores them -- no matter how serious and fully-documented they are.

On top of this, Chairman Hyde's Judiciary Committee conceals its misfeasance by NOT even statistically recording the number of complaints it receives in its "Summary of Activities"[1], as it is supposed to. And it withholds the complaints from public access, although they are supposed to be "available upon request" [*Cf.* Report of the National Commission on Judicial Discipline and Removal, 1993, at p. 35]. Likewise, his Judiciary Committee ignores evidentiary proof that all avenues of redress in the other two government branches have been corrupted, such that citizens are wholly unprotected from even the most heinous depredations of federal judges.

This is the *true* measure of Chairman Hyde's commitment to upholding the "rule of law", the "integrity of the judicial process", and "equal justice" -- the rhetorical basis for his drive to impeach and remove the President.

As to the much-discussed three judicial impeachments in the 1980's, they were NOT the result of the House Judiciary Committee acting on citizen complaints filed with it, but of Justice Department criminal prosecutions, where two of the judges were convicted and the third was the subject of referral by the federal judiciary. This seems to have lulled the media into assuming that there is a

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[1] Last available figures are for the 101st and 102nd Congresses, when the House Judiciary Committee's "Summary of Activities" respectively reported that 141 and 120 complaints against federal judges were received.

functioning process at the House Judiciary Committee, rather than doing *any* investigation on the subject. Indeed, before those three impeachments, the last judicial impeachment was 50 years earlier -- in 1936.

The Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc., a (CJA), a national, non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization which documents judicial corruption, has a FIVE-YEAR correspondence with the House Judiciary Committee on the subject of the Committee's abandonment of its duty to address the hundreds of judicial impeachment complaints it receives. CJA's direct, first-hand experience with the Committee is summarized in CJA's 1997 published article, "*Without Merit: The Empty Promise of Judicial Discipline*" [The Long Term View (Massachusetts School of Law), Vol. 4, No. 1 (summer 1997)[2] and in its June 1998 written statement to the Committee -- both of which appear on CJA's website: *www.judgewatch.org*.

The June 1998 statement chronicles that the House Judiciary Committee's abandonment of its duty to safeguard the public from corruption by the federal judiciary is deliberate and with the knowledge of its **top leadership** -- *both* Republican and Democratic. This statement was provided to Chief Justice Rehnquist in September 1998 in conjunction with a case that came before the Supreme Court on a petition for a writ of certiorari. His *official* misconduct in that case, both in his capacity as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and as head of the Judicial Conference, is the basis for a judicial impeachment complaint against him, filed by CJA with the House Judiciary Committee more than two months ago. This is detailed in CJA's accompanying press release.

The scandalous story of the House Judiciary Committee's "green light" to even the most flagrant, *readily-verifiable* judicial corruption -- like the story of CJA's impeachment complaint against Chief Justice Rehnquist for his cover-up and complicity in that corruption -- is a *DEUS EX MACHINA* with the potential to blow apart the Senate impeachment trial of the President. They not only expose the hypocrisy of the House Judiciary prosecution team and of the presiding Chief Justice, but their *official* misconduct when required to uphold the "rule of law" and the integrity of the judicial process -- the very issues involved in the President's impeachment.

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[2] CJA's article not only details the House Judiciary Committee's *non*-investigation of citizen-filed impeachment complaints, but the federal judiciary's subversion of the judicial disciplinary complaint mechanism -- both concealed by the methodologically-flawed and dishonest 1993 Report of the National Commission on Judicial Discipline and Removal. The National Commission was Congress' panicked response to the three judicial impeachments of the 1980's.