

CENTER *for*
JUDICIAL
ACCOUNTABILITY



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January 20, 1996⁴

Peter Barton Hutt II, Esq.
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering
2445 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-1420

Dear Mr. Hutt:

I again thank you for taking the time to speak with me this morning and for your kind offer to secure, on my behalf, the bound Appendices of consultants' reports, testimony, etc. that accompany the Report of the National Commission on Judicial Discipline and Removal.

As discussed, I was quite struck by the fact that the National Commission's Final Report deletes the following statement, appearing at page 39 of the Draft Report:

"The Commission's analysis showed that well over 90 percent of the complaints do not raise genuine issues pertinent to judicial discipline or impeachment. A small number of complaints, however, raise troubling issues..."

Since you indicated that your consultant's study for the National Commission did not include an examination of the House Committee's handling of the less than ten percent of the complaints evaluated by you as raising "genuine issues pertinent to judicial discipline or impeachment", I am interested in ascertaining that information, as well as the percentage of said complaints not justiciable under the 1980 Act.

Such interest is heightened by the statement made of Edward O'Connell, Assistant Counsel to the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Intellectual Property and Judicial Administration, who told me last year that:

"there has never been an investigation of an individual complaint in the history of the House Judiciary Committee."

Peter Barton Hutt II, Esq.

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Should there be any cost for the Appendices, I will be glad to cover same. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elena Ruth Sassower". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Coordinator
Center for Judicial Accountability