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8 pages

January 23, 1997

Rob Weisman, Esq.  
Center for Responsive Law  
P.O. Box 19367  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Rob:

Let me thank you for your time on Tuesday and express my gratitude to Mr. Nader for surprising me with the opportunity to provide you a thumb-nail sketch of CJA. Indeed, I had expected to do no more than drop off the two copies of CJA's funding Proposal that Mr. Nader requested in our phone conversation an hour earlier.

How fortuitous that, while waiting for you in the entry area, I spotted a familiar-looking envelope perched high on a shelf-- the very envelope in which 2-1/2 years ago I had sent our first letter to Mr. Nader, our critique of the pre-nomination federal judicial screening process, and our three compendia of correspondence with Senate and bar "leadership". Talk about "a needle in a haystack"!

For your convenience -- and that of Mr. Nader -- the significance of our critique and the compendia of correspondence is summarized at pages 6-8 of our funding Proposal.

As reflected at page 2 of our December 4, 1996 letter to Mr. Nader, James Love, with whom Mr. Nader shared a 1995 award from Project Censored, expressed great interest in the critique and compendia when I met him last year at the Project Censored awards ceremony. We would greatly appreciate if you would make those materials available to him, together with the enclosures to our December 4, 1996 letter, among them: our June 28, 1996 letter to Senate Judiciary Chairman Hatch. That letter details the dysfunction of the post-nomination federal judicial screening process and the sham and fraudulent nature of the Senate Judiciary Committee's confirmation hearings for "lower court" judicial nominees.

For your convenience, a copy of our December 4, 1996 transmittal letter is enclosed. If you cannot locate the original -- with its enclosures -- please do not be embarrassed to ask us to send you a duplicate. We will gladly and readily do so since it is absolutely imperative that you and Mr. Nader understand the exigent situation that exists and the unmet need CJA is filling

in protecting the public from dysfunctional and corrupted processes of judicial selection and discipline.

Finally, to maximize CJA's effectiveness and to build on the invaluable work Mr. Nader has already done, we would very much like to obtain copies of various publications of Nader's Raiders listed at Appendix B of Citizen Action and Other Big Ideas. When I brought up the subject, you indicated that I should send you a list. So here goes:

With Justice for Some: An Indictment of the Law by Young Advocates, Bruce Wasserstein and Mark Green, 1970 (Beacon Press).

Action for a Change: A Student's Manual for Public Interest Organizing, Ralph Nader and Donald Ross, 1972 (Grossman).

Ralph Nader's Congress Project: The Judiciary Committees: House and Senate, 1972

Ruling Congress: Study of How Senate and House Rules Govern the Legislative Process, 1972 (Grossman/Viking-Penguin)

A Public Citizen's Action Manual, Donald Ross, 1973 (Grossman)

Proudly We Hail: Profiles of Public Citizens in Action, Kenneth Lasson, 1975 (Grossman)

The Other Government: The Unseen Power of Washington Lawyers, Mark Green, 1975 (Grossman)

Bringing the Bar to Justice: A Comparative Study of Six Bar Associations, Sharon Tisher, Lynn Bernabei, Mark Green, 1977 (Public Citizen)

Fundraising in the Public Interest: A Citizen's Guide to Direct Mail Fundraising, Kock, Knock, Who's There? Door-to-Door Canvassing, Walkathons, Bike-a-thons, and Assorted Marathons for Money, David L. Grubb and David R. Zwick, 1977 (Public Citizen)

Public Interest Perspectives: The Next Four Years -- Proceedings for the First Major Gathering of Public Interest Advocates, 1977 (Public Citizen)

Public Scholars Research Bank: 112 Proposals for Academic Research in the Public Interest, edited by Louis J. Sirico, Jr., 1977 (Center for Study of Responsive Law)

How to Appraise and Improve Your Daily Newspapers: A Manual for Readers, David Bollier, 1980 (Ralph Nader)

No Access to Law: Alternatives to the American Judicial System, edited by Laura Nader, 1980 (Academic Press)

Taking Ideals Seriously: The Case for Lawyers' Public Interest Movement, edited by Robert L. Ellis, 1981 (Equal Justice Foundation)

A Citizens Primer on the Fairness Doctrine, 1982 (National Citizens' Committee on Broadcasting)

Good Works: A Guide to Social Change Careers (Second Edition), edited by Kathleen Hughes, 1982 (Center for Study of Responsive Law)

A Citizen's Guide to Lobbying, Marc Caplan, 1983 (Dembner Books)

Representing Yourself: What You Can Do Without a Lawyer, Kenneth Lasson and Public Citizen Litigation Group, 1983 (Farrar Straus Giroux)

The Judicial Record of Judge Robert H. Bork, 1987 (Public Citizen Litigation Group)

More Action for a Change (A History of the Public Interest Research Groups) Kelley Griffin, 1987 (Dembner Books)

Citizens' Agenda: A Safer and More Democratic America in the 1990's, 1989 (Public Citizen's Congress Watch)

Know Your Local Government series of booklets, 1990 (Shafeek Nader Trust for the Community Interest)

Good Works: A Guide to Social Change Careers (Fourth Edition), edited by Jessica Cowan, 1991 (Barricade Books)

Ralph Nader's Civic Curriculum, Kathleen Isaac, 1991 (Center for Study of Responsive Law)

As you can see, we are serious citizen activists. Yet, although our "wish list" is extensive, it is really quite modest when compared to the more than 200 publications of Nader's Raiders that are listed. Besides, it is not our fault that Mr. Nader has generated so many important publications for citizen action and involvement!

Rob Weisman, Esq.

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Please let us know the cost so we can budget it in.

I will call next week, as Mr. Nader told me to do, to follow-up on funding possibilities. Again, our sincere thanks.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Coordinator  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc.

Enclosures