

# CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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

Tel: (914) 421-1200  
Fax: (914) 684-6554

E-Mail: [judgewatch@aol.com](mailto:judgewatch@aol.com)  
Web site: <http://www.judgewatch.org>

By Priority Mail

February 4, 1997

Phyllis Hurwitz Marcus, Legal Director  
The Appleseed Foundation  
733 15th Street, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Marcus:

It was most unfortunate that after calling back three times last week, you had only time to speak with me for a couple of minutes.

As discussed, the Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. is a non-profit, non-partisan, citizens organization focused exclusively on the dysfunction and politicization of the processes of judicial selection and discipline on the national, state, and local levels. Like Appleseed, we address systemic problems and have devised a variety of strategies for reform: litigation, research-based advocacy, education.

Enclosed is a copy of our informational brochure, as well as a copy of the funding Proposal we have been circulating so that you can have a more particularized understanding of the enormity of the issues CJA has been tackling, single-handedly and without any funding whatever.

I am most pleased by your indication that Appleseed has been getting a substantial response from bar associations and law schools -- particularly since, from our experience, they have been a part of the problem -- not the solution. This is reflected throughout the pages of our Proposal, as well as by Appendix 6-b thereto: our ad in the November 20, 1996 *New York Law Journal*, "*A Call for Concerted Action*", highlighting the refusal of bar associations and law schools to address the profound issues presented by our ground-breaking case against the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct. That important case is more fully described in our Letter to the Editor, "*Commission Abandons Investigative Mandate*", published in the August 14, 1995 *New York Law Journal*, which is Appendix "11" to the Proposal, as well as by pages 13-14 of the Proposal itself. As I mentioned, CJA requires assistance in appealing the lower court's fraudulent dismissal of the case. Additionally, we require assistance in drafting legislation relating to judicial selection and discipline issues.

February 4, 1997

At your earliest convenience, we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with you or other Appleseed staff how CJA may develop a meaningful working relationship with The Appleseed Foundation, one in which we may count on it for assistance. Additionally, since we are based in New York, we would like information on the formation of New York Appleseed Center for Law and Justice. Unfortunately, you indicated in our conversation that you were unable to supply that information to us.

Finally, is it possible to obtain the biographies or affiliations of The Appleseed Foundation's Board of Directors and Advisory Council? We would more confident that Appleseed will be faithful to the commitment reflected in its Statement of Purpose that "No issues or actors will be off-limits: injustices involving government...and the professions, including the legal profession and the courts", if we knew that whistle-blowers were among its lawyer members, determining policy and priorities.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



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

Enclosures