

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

BY AND MAIL FAX: 202-483-9430

2 pages

August 25, 1998

Virginia Sloan, Executive Director
Citizens for Independent Courts
1755 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036

RE: Citizen Participation in a "Citizens" Organization

Dear Ms. Sloan:

Following up our disturbing telephone conversation this morning, in which you refused to specify why the primary source materials we provided Citizens for Independent Courts were, in your view, "unpersuasive" of our assertion that they establish the dysfunction and corruption of the processes of federal judicial selection and discipline -- and of the complicitous involvement of organizations affiliated with Citizens for Independent Courts -- the American Bar Association and Alliance for Justice, among them -- this is to request that you provide that specificity in your coverletter returning the materials to us. Please include a specific response to CJA's critique of the 1993 Report of the National Commission on Judicial Discipline and Removal, which you expressly declined to do in our phone conversation. That critique is reflected by my published article, "*Without Merit: The Empty Promise of Judicial Discipline*", The Long Term View (Massachusetts School of Law) Vol. 4, No. 1 (summer 1997) -- reprinted at A-207-220 of our cert petition in *Sassower v. Mangano, et al.* -- and substantiated therein and by the evidentiary compendium supporting CJA's written statement to the House Judiciary Committee in connection with its June 11, 1998 "oversight hearing on the administration and operation of the federal judiciary".

We also request that you set forth the criteria which Citizens for Independent Courts used in inviting the participation of the individuals listed on its website as "members" so that we can better understand why you have not only refused to include us, but declined to allow us to participate in task force projects or otherwise assist us in independent research endeavors, i.e. access to law review publications.

Finally, in view of your disclosure to me of the fact that you worked for eleven years as counsel for the House Judiciary Committee, including, specifically, for Robert Kastenmeier, Chairman of the Courts Subcommittee and later Chairman of the National Commission on Judicial Discipline and Removal, please identify the dates of such employment -- as well as any other professional and personal relationships bearing upon your lack of impartiality and objectivity in this matter.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



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

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 08/25/1998 13:26

NAME : CJA

FAX : 9144284994

TEL : 9144211200

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