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March 31, 2008

Bert Brandenburg, Executive Director
Justice at Stake Campaign
717 D Street, N.W., Suite 203
Washington, D.C. 20004

RE: Clarification & Unanswered Questions: Federal Judicial Discipline

Dear Mr. Brandenburg:

Thank you for your March 19, 2008 letter – and your advice that Justice at Stake’s comments on the federal judiciary’s draft rules governing judicial conduct and disability proceedings can “now” be found on the Justice at Stake website. I have already downloaded Justice at Stake’s October 15, 2007 written statement of comments, as you did not enclose a “hard copy” for my convenience, notwithstanding it is only four pages.

Your March 19th letter additionally states that Justice at Stake has “not issued any other documents on this topic”. Does this mean that the reference in your March 14, 2008 press release that “Justice at Stake also urged the Conference to consider additional steps to strengthen the Rules” is to those comments in the Justice at Stake October 15, 2007 statement not adopted by the federal judiciary? To clarify: Do I understand you correctly that Justice at Stake did not submit any subsequent statements to the federal judiciary about the draft rules – and none after their adoption on March 11th by the Judicial Conference? Were there any oral communications?

Finally, although your March 19th letter answers in the negative my questions as to whether Justice at Stake issued any press release or took any positions on the 2006 and 2007 House

* The **Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)** is a national, non-partisan, non-profit citizens’ organization, documenting, by independently-verifiable empirical evidence, the dysfunction, politicization, and corruption of the processes of judicial selection and discipline on federal, state, and local levels.

and Senate bills to create an Inspector General for the Judicial Branch, you have not answered the questions in the predecessor paragraph of my March 18th memo. That paragraph was as follows:

“Additionally, it appears from searching your website that Justice at Stake did not issue any press releases about Chief Justice Rehnquist’s appointment, in May 2004, of the committee headed by Associate Justice Breyer to study the federal judiciary’s implementation of the 1980 Act or of the report thereafter rendered in September 2006. Is this correct? And has Justice at Stake also undertaken no analysis of the Breyer Committee’s report?”

What is the answer?

Kindly avoid further delay by responding by fax and/or e-mail, rather than – as with your March 19th letter – only by regular mail.

Thank you.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)