



**Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency  
for the District of Columbia**

*Community Supervision Services – Criminal Diagnostic  
Investigations, Diagnostics, and Evaluations Branch*

**PRESENTENCE REPORT**

**UNITED STATES V. ELENA SASSOWER**

<b>Docket No:</b>	M4113-03	<b>PDID No:</b>	550-474
<b>Conviction Date:</b>	4/8/04	<b>DCDC No:</b>	None Found
<b>Due Date:</b>	5/28/04	<b>FBI No:</b>	820289RA4
<b>Sentencing Date:</b>	6/1/04	<b>SSN:</b>	██████████

**DEFENDANT INFORMATION**

<b>True name:</b>	Elena Ruth Sassower	<b>Address:</b>	16 Lake Shore Apartment 2C White Plains, NY 10603
<b>Aliases:</b>	None Found	<b>PSA:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Birth date:</b>	██████████	<b>Telephone:</b>	914-421-1200
<b>Age:</b>	48	<b>Race/Ethnicity:</b>	White/Caucasian
<b>Sex:</b>	Female	<b>Citizenship:</b>	United States
<b>Height:</b>	5 Ft 2 Inches	<b>Alien No:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Weight:</b>	120 lbs		

**CASE INFORMATION**

**Offense, Code, & Penalty:** **Disorderly and Disruption § 10-503.16(b)(4)**  
Maximum Penalty that may be imposed: 6 months incarceration and/or \$500 fine.

**Bond Status:** Personal Recognizance

**Plea:** Not Guilty                      **Judgment:** Guilty

**Sentencing Judge:** The Honorable Brian Holeman                      **Telephone:** (202) 879-1010

**CSO:** Erika Westry                      **Telephone:** (202) 442-1454

**AUSA:** Jessie Liu                      **Telephone:** (202) 514-7716

**Defense Counsel:** Elena Sassower                      **Telephone:** (914) 421-1200  
Mark Golstone                      (202) 530-6612

"In accordance with the U.S. Parole Commission and Reorganization Act, Public Law 94-233, dated March 15, 1976, this report is disclosable to inmates in federal institutions for purposes of parole consideration."

**CONTACTS:**

5/10/04 Case assigned to this officer.

5/10/04 Voice message left with chambers regarding PSI report.

5/11/04 Voice message received from chambers of Judge Holeman. Follow-up consultation with law clerk of Judge Holeman. (202) 879-4208

5/11/04 Telephone consultation with Defense Attorney Mark Goldstone. (301) 530-6612.

5/11/04 Telephone contact with defendant. (914) 421-1200.

5/13/04 Telephone contact with the defendant. Faxed materials forwarded to acquaint her with presentence investigation.

5/18/04 Defendant's appointment rescheduled.

5/18/04 Warrant and record check conducted.

5/18/04 Voice message left for AUSA Jessie Liu. (202) 514-7716.

5/19/04 Defendant interviewed via telephone.

5/19/04 Voice message received and returned to AUSA Jessie Liu.

5/24/04 Telephone contact and fax to North Castle Town Court. (914) 273-8627.

5/24/04 Telephone contact with the defendant.

5/24/04 Fax received from the defendant regarding her account of the Instant Offense.

- 5/26/04 Telephone contact with chambers of Judge Holeman. (202) 879-4208.
- 5/26/04 Telephone contact with the defendant.
- 5/26/04 Telephone contact with defendant's mother, Doris Sassower. (914) 997-8105.
- 5/26/04 Telephone attempt to defendant's sister, Carey. (212) 427-2515.
- 5/26/04 Voice message left for Senator Saxby Chambliss. (202) 224-3521
- 5/27/04 Telephone contact with defendant's mother.
- 5/27/04 Case submitted to SCSO Karen McDaniel.

**THE OFFENSE:**

"On February 22, 2003 at approximately 1537 hours (100 Constitution Avenue NE) while assigned to 226. Officer Jennings observed the defendant stand up and shout "Judge Wesley, look into the corruption of the New York Appeals Court." The defendant further stated she wanted to "testify" to the committee. The committee chairman twice requested United States Capitol Police to "restore order" and asked everyone to remain seated. The defendant was then removed from the room and placed under arrest. The defendant was transported to 119 K Street NE for processing. The defendant was read [her] rights and refused to make a phone call."

**U.S. ATTORNEY'S STATEMENT:**

AUSA Jessie Liu reserves commentary for sentencing.

**DEFENDANT'S STATEMENT:**

Please note that the defendant submitted an 8-page memo to be included as her account of the Instant Offense. Yet, much of this memo detailed the events of the Court proceedings. As a result, her memo was not included in the presentence report as it was deemed as an inappropriate forum to do so. The purpose of the "defendant's statement" section of the report is used to

recount the defendant's version of the Instant Offense rather than a venue to express various injustices experienced during the trial proceedings. Following are excerpts from a 7/7/03 memo submitted to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) that pertain to the defendant's arrest in the Instant Offense:

"...it was purportedly signed and sworn to by Officer Jennings, who purported to describe "events and acts" I had committed. In so doing, this May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement both replicates AND substantially deviates from the May 22<sup>nd</sup> documents Officer Jennings had signed under Sergeant Bignotti's supervision, namely, the "Arrest/Prosecution Report", "Event Report", and "Supplement Report". As hereinafter demonstrated -- including by comparison to the videotape and stenographic transcript of the Senate Judiciary Committee's May 22<sup>nd</sup> "hearing" -- this May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement -- as likewise the predecessor May 22<sup>nd</sup> documents -- are knowingly and deliberately false and misleading and establish that the charge against me is not just bogus, but malicious.

According to the typed text of the May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement,

"Officer Jennings observed the defendant, later identified as Elena Sassower, stand up and shout, among other things, 'Judge Wesley, look into the corruption of the New York Appeals Court.' The defendant further stated that she wanted to testify before the Committee. The disruption occurred during a Judiciary Committee hearing. After striking the gavel twice, the Judiciary Committee Chairman Senator Chambliss requested United States Capitol Police to restore order and asked everyone to remain seated. The defendant was then removed from the hearing room and placed under arrest. Defendant was read her rights."

To this is appended a hand-written addition,

"After the Senator called for order, the defendant continued to shout."

To begin with, it is NOT "Officer Jennings" whose name should be appearing in this statement, but Sergeant Bignotti. It was Sergeant Bignotti and Sergeant Bignotti alone who ordered me to step out of

the "hearing room" and then immediately "placed [me] under arrest". This was done without the slightest consultation of Officer Jennings -- a fact I vigorously made known on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Capitol Police station when it first came to my attention that Officer Jennings was being substituted for Sergeant Bignotti<sup>1</sup> as the arresting officer.

As for my being "later identified as Elena Sassower", Sergeant Bignotti would have had reason to know who I was AT THE TIME. As reflected by my May 21<sup>st</sup> letter to Detective Zimmerman -- which should have been, but was not, included in the U.S. Attorney's May 23<sup>rd</sup> letter as *Brady* material<sup>2</sup> -- Capitol Police not only knew who I was IN ADVANCE of the Senate Judiciary Committee's "hearing", but had initiated a phone call to me at Senator Clinton's instance. In that call, Detective Zimmerman, who is part of the "Threat Assessment Section", threatened that Capitol Police would arrest me at the Senate Judiciary Committee's May 22<sup>nd</sup> "hearing" if, at its conclusion, I rose to request to testify and the presiding chairman banged his gavel -- even if he did not request that I be arrested. This, notwithstanding the precedent of the June 25, 1996 Senate Judiciary Committee "hearing" where I was NOT arrested by Capitol Police for rising, at the conclusion of the hearing, with a request to testify. Rather, Capitol Police had then merely warned me that if I said another word I would be removed.

It is hard to imagine that the senior officer dispatched to the Senate Judiciary Committee "hearing" room -- in this case Sergeant Bignotti -- was not "briefed" as to the conversation between Detective Zimmerman and myself. In any event, upon seeing me, Sergeant Bignotti may be presumed to have independently recalled what had transpired at the June 25, 1996 "hearing". Not only was she there, but, following that "hearing", she had participated in my arrest in the

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<sup>1</sup> This came to my attention when I was asked to sign a "Prisoner's Property Receipt", which identified Officer Jennings as the person I had been "arrested by". I refused to do so, adamantly stating that the arresting officer had been Sergeant Bignotti -- and that until it was changed I would not sign it. Rather than make such change to comport with the reality, Capitol Police wrote on the signature line, "Refused", leaving intact my strike out of Officer Jennings' name and number.

<sup>2</sup> According to the May 23<sup>rd</sup> letter (p. 6), the U.S. Attorney's office was "currently aware" of no *Brady* material.

hallway outside the Committee on a trumped-up "disorderly conduct" charge -- as to which I had filed a September 22, 1996 police misconduct complaint against her and her fellow officers<sup>3</sup>.

That Sergeant Bignotti may have received a directive from Capitol Police to carry out Detective Zimmerman's threat and arrest me in disregard for the precedent established by the June 25, 1996 "hearing" or that she harbored personal *animus* against me for filing the September 22, 1996 police misconduct complaint would explain her one-track, completely irrational decision to arrest me when there was NOTHING about my conduct at the May 22<sup>nd</sup> "hearing" that objectively called for such draconian response -- and when, additionally, the background facts were so dispositive in my favor. In vain, I tried to discuss both with Sergeant Bignotti as she put me in handcuffs -- specifically including that I had not been arrested for similarly requesting to testify in 1996. That my arrest is being pegged on Officer Jennings reflects Sergeant Bignotti's knowledge and that of Capitol Police that there is something to hide.

As to what occurred at the May 22, 2003 "hearing" -- Sergeant Bignotti -- and likewise Officer Jennings -- had positioned themselves only yards from the backrow in which I was seated. As such, they can be expected to have heard precisely what I said. Such expectation is all the greater since, according to Officer Jennings' May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement, I "st[oo]d up and shouted".

Moreover, if Sergeant Bignotti and Officer Jennings could not recall my two "shouted" sentences, they could see I was reading from a page of notes -- a fact reflected by the U.S. Attorney's May 23<sup>rd</sup> letter, annexing a "copy of def's handwritten statement from which she was reading during disruption (1 page)". From this notepage, which they

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<sup>3</sup> Detective Bignotti's name and number appears on the June 25, 1996 "Prisoner's Property Receipt" annexed as Exhibit "E" to my September 22, 1996 police misconduct complaint. Upon information and belief, she is the female sergeant whose misconduct is chronicled at pages 6-7 of the complaint.

Detective Zimmerman was alerted to this police misconduct complaint in our May 21<sup>st</sup> phone conversation together -- and it is further referenced in my May 21<sup>st</sup> letter to him. Capitol Police's file of that complaint is *Brady* material -- all the more relevant because of the U.S. Attorney's announced intention to use the June 25, 1996 arrest as *Drew/Toliver* evidence.

took from me upon my arrest, Sergeant Bignotti and Officer Jennings could recollect my exact words:

“Mr. Chairman, there’s citizen opposition to Judge Wesley based on his documented corruption as a New York Court of Appeals judge. May I testify?”

Unlike rookie Officer Jennings, Sergeant Bignotti may be presumed to know that this respectful question – asked at an appropriate point of the Senate Judiciary Committee’s public “hearing” – could not possibly support a “disruption of Congress” charge. Therefore, something wholly different had to be concocted. Indeed, it was concocted not just for Officer Jennings’ May 23<sup>rd</sup> mostly-typed statement, but for the handwritten entries on the documents he prepared within two hours of my arrest on May 22<sup>nd</sup>: the “Arrest/Prosecution Report”, the “Event Report”, and the “Supplemental Report”.

Thus, Officer Jennings’ May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement, as likewise his three May 22<sup>nd</sup> documents, purport that I shouted, “Judge Wesley, look into the corruption of the New York Court of Appeals”. By placing these words in “quotes”, Officer Jennings implies that this is actually what I said -- words directed to Judge Wesley, but having no stated relevance to him and the “hearing”. This is then compounded by Officer Jennings’ switch to a characterization, rather than my precise words, that I “wanted to testify” -- thereby concealing that I expressed this “want[ing]” by a proper request.

This replication from the May 22<sup>nd</sup> documents was apparently deemed insufficient for the May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement, to which there are additions not contained in the May 22<sup>nd</sup> documents. Thus the May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement purports that I “shout[ed]” “other things” -- without specifying what these “other things” are. It also identifies that this “disruption occurred during a Judiciary Committee hearing” – thereby implying that I interrupted proceedings then in progress. The statement adds the existence of a gavel -- stating that it was “after striking the gavel twice”<sup>4</sup> that “Judiciary Committee Chairman

<sup>4</sup> No gavel is mentioned in the May 22<sup>nd</sup> documents, whose reference to “twice” is to Chairman Chambliss twice requesting the police to “restore order”.

Senator Chambliss requested United States Capitol Police to restore order and asked everyone to remain seated". The hand-written addition that I "continued to shout" "after the Senator called for order", then implies that I was arrested precisely because I would not otherwise come to "order".

The true facts as to what occurred are best evidenced by the video -- which is why, upon my arrest, I made known to Sergeant Bignotti and Officer Jennings that it needed to be immediately secured. Assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron Mendelsohn (202-514-7700), who represented the prosecution at the June 20<sup>th</sup> status conference, provided me with a copy of the videotape at that time. Such is vastly superior to the stenographic transcript -- a copy of which Assistant U.S. Attorney Mendelsohn also provided me at the status conference -- since it presents, in real time, simultaneously occurring events, which the transcript only imperfectly records, if at all.

To begin with, both the videotape and transcript reflect that the so-called "disruption" did NOT occur "during a Judiciary Committee hearing" -- as Officer Jennings' May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement purports -- but upon its being "adjourned". Only AFTER Senator Chambliss said:

"...if there are no further questions or participation from anyone on the Committee, we will stand adjourned."

[Tr. 65, lns. 15-17]

did I begin I commence to speak -- which was for a total of eight seconds.

As to Chairman Chambliss striking his gavel "twice", the transcript of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> "hearing" indicates nothing about a gavel. From the video, the reason is obvious. The single strike of the gavel was NOT at all significant. It certainly was not to quell any "disruption", which is how Officer Jennings' May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement makes it appear. Rather, Chairman Chambliss struck the gavel to symbolize the close of the "hearing" -- while saying, "Thank you very much" [Tr. 65, ln. 18].



The video also makes plain that I began speaking as Chairman Chambliss was saying, "Thank you very much" [Tr. 65, ln. 18] – and not, as the transcript makes it appear, after [Tr. 65, ln. 20]. Indeed, it is because our words are simultaneous -- with mine coming from the back of the room – that my initial words are not audible from the video.

Presumably, these initial words were also not audible to the stenographer. However, her transcript fails to reflect such fact – while altering my words immediately following "Mr. Chairman". Her transcript also omits my final words "May I testify?", which, although eclipsed by the beginning of Chairman Chambliss' response, "I will issue a warning that we will have order" [Tr. 65, lns. 23-24], can nonetheless be discerned from the video.

The entirety of what the stenographer has me saying before any response from Chairman Chambliss is:

"Mr. Chairman, we are in opposition to Judge Wesley based on his documented corruption at the New York Court of Appeals." [Tr. 65, lns. 20-22].

Thus, the transcript, although imprecise<sup>5</sup>, nonetheless suffices to establish that I did NOT say, as the May 23<sup>rd</sup> statement and May 22<sup>nd</sup> documents purport, "Judge Wesley, look into the corruption of the New York Court of Appeals".

Further, the video makes plain that I had finished my concluding words, "May I testify?" by the time Chairman Chambliss had responded, "I will issue a warning that we will have order". [Tr. 65, lns. 23-24]. Indeed, as reflected by the video, his immediately following words, "The Committee will stand in recess until the police can restore order. Everyone remain seated." – as if there was some on-going, continued disturbance or ruckus -- were wholly superfluous, since, after asking, "May I testify?" I was completely silent.

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<sup>5</sup> The discrepancy in the transcript was the subject of my May 30, 2003 letter to the Miller Reporting Company, which asked that the stenographer preserve her "raw, untranscribed notes", as well as what I understand to be an audiotape of the "hearing" which the Company also records.

The heads of Officer Jennings and Sergeant Bignotti are not seen passing the video camera until this further, wholly unnecessary statement "until the police can restore order". They then pass from left to right.

It must be noted that the video, which is focused on Chairman Chambliss as he closes the hearing, shows no surprise on his face as I begin to speak from the back of the room. Rather, it shows him reaching for his reading glasses and then, presumably, for the paper from which, after I am taken out of the "hearing" room, he seems to read.

Before I am taken out, however, the transcript reflects a "pause". This can be timed from the video at eight seconds -- a period during which Sergeant Bignotti demanded that I step out of the "hearing" room. Although she did not state that I would be arrested, the very demand that I leave the "hearing room" was a significant enough departure from the precedent set at the June 25, 1996 Senate Judiciary Committee "hearing" as to lead me to believe -- based upon what Detective Zimmerman had threatened -- that I might be arrested. Because my stated position to Detective Zimmerman -- reiterated by my May 21<sup>st</sup> letter -- was that it was for the presiding chairman to decide whether a respectful request to testify should be punished by arrest, I then asked Chairman Chambliss:

"Are you directing that I be arrested? Are you directing that I be arrested" [Tr. 66, Ins. 3-4]

Chairman Chambliss did not respond to this straightforward question -- much as he had not responded to my straightforward question "May I testify?". Instead, he answered, "I am directing that the police restore order." [Tr. 66, Ins. 5-6]. Sergeant Bignotti then again demanded me to step out of the "hearing" room, prompting me to again ask Chairman Chambliss, "Are you directing that I be arrested?" [Tr. 66, ln. 7]. The transcript shows no response, but only a "[Pause.]".

The video reflects what occurs in this nine second "[Pause]". The head of Sergeant Bignotti passes from right to left, followed by my

head and the head of Officer Jennings. The sound of a door is then heard. Although the video does not zoom on Chairman Chambliss' face, the tempo of his immediately following words gives the impression that he is reading a prepared text:

"Outside witness are welcome to submit letters supporting or opposing nominees for the Committee's consideration, but it is not our usual procedure to invite outside witnesses to testify either in support or in opposition to the nomination.

I realize this lady is disappointed that she is not able to make any statement this afternoon, but her disappointment in no way condones any disruption of this hearing." [Tr. 66, lns. 9-17].

He then states, "Again, we will stand adjourned. Thank you very much." [Tr. 66, lns. 18-19].

As my voluminous correspondence with the Senate Judiciary Committee reflects, "letters" submitted by "outside witnesses" -- no matter how serious and substantial -- are simply ignored by the Committee, whose leadership refuses to respond to written requests to testify. Indeed, from the prepared statement read by Senator Chambliss, it appears that the Committee's leadership "set me up" to be arrested. Were it otherwise, Senator Chambliss would have been provided with a statement to be read BEFORE I rose to request to testify -- a statement which acknowledged that the Committee had received a written request to testify, which was being denied because it was "not our usual procedure" -- and because such request did not fall within an exception thereto.

#### DEFENSE ATTORNEY'S STATEMENT:

Defense Attorney Mark Goldstone stated, "She shouldn't have been convicted, she shouldn't have been charged."

#### VICTIM IMPACT STATEMENT:

A Victim Impact Statement is not applicable in this matter.

At the defendant's request, a voice message was left for Senator Saxby Chambliss regarding the Instant Offense. If a return message is received, the senator's statement will be forwarded to chambers for sentencing.

**PRIOR CRIMINAL RECORD:**

Washington, D.C.

**Adult:**

*White Plains, New York*

1/25/93	Resisting Arrest Docket # 93-0260	Transferred to North Castle Town Court; 2/5/93	NCIC
	Obstructing Government Docket # 93-0260	Guilty; 6/15/94 Conditional Discharge	"

*Washington, D.C.*

6/25/96	Disorderly Docket # Unknown	Nolle Prosequi; 5/11/01	ABA DABA
5/22/03	Disorderly and Disruption M04113-03 Count A	INSTANT OFFENSE	CIS

**PROBATION/PAROLE/PRE-DISPOSITION ADJUSTMENT:**

According to the clerk of North Castle Town Court, the defendant was found guilty for Obstructing Government. On June 16, 1994, she was conditionally discharged although the exact release stipulations were not delineated for inclusion in the presentence report.

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:**

Ms. Sassower has spearheaded a professional advocacy group, The Center for Judicial Accountability, since 1993. She related that she is the co-founder and coordinator of the non-profit organization that was initially developed from local citizens organizations seeking accountability among the 9<sup>th</sup> District Court.

According to her "blog" for The Center for Judicial Accountability website, the defendant is "a long-time judicial activist, ... fighting corruption on federal, state, and local levels, constantly breaking new ground with her dedication, creativity, and innovative strategies."

Aside from her crusade as a reformer and activist, the defendant also leads religious services at the Anshe Schese Synagogue of New York City. The services are primarily aimed at family networks with children at the ages of four-seven.

**SOCIAL HISTORY:****Sources of Verification**

The defendant, Elena Sassower  
www.judgewatch.org

**Family History**

Elena Ruth Sassower is the eldest child born to the marital union of George (age 80) and Doris Sassower (71). Her parents union has since dissolved, as they have been divorced for the past twenty years. Before their separation, they produced two other daughters: Carey (46) and Beth (37). Reportedly, the eldest daughter is a small entrepreneur, designing handbags. Formerly, she worked in the real estate market. The defendant's youngest sister, Beth, is an attorney formerly of the insurance field. Due to an unspecified illness, she did not work for a number of years but has since pursued the area of family law and mediation. During the presentence interview, the defendant suggested that perhaps the ethical compromise of the legal profession contributed to her sister's career change.

The defendant attributed the demise of her parent's union to their joint effort as "judicial whistleblowers." She emphatically believes that her family was "targeted maliciously for rocking the boat." As litigation attorneys of private practices, her parents were compelled to voice their degree of judicial dissidence. She accounts that as a result of her parent's activism, her father was disbarred while her mother's law license was suspended. The sheer gravity of their tireless activism weighed on the stability of their marriage influencing its dissolution.

As evidenced, the defendant absorbed the activist nature of her parents. She noted that a sense of civic mindedness has imbued her life, as she is the product of a "very idealistic family" and grew up in the Kennedy era. Furthermore, her background, where her parents are first generation immigrants, has perhaps served as an influencing factor to promote and pursue the ideals of civil liberties.

Defendant Sassower was primarily raised in the surrounding metropolitan area of New York City. Such locations include Brooklyn, Westchester County, New Rochelle, and more recently White Plains, New York.

**Education and Training**

Ms. Sassower received a Bachelor of Arts in Literature from Brown University. Following, she was a fellow at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1988 receiving a few college credits before discontinuing her tenure.

Following her collegiate education, the defendant traveled to Israel volunteering for a program similar to the Peace Corp. (1982-1987). She mentioned that she was on hiatus for a

brief period, returning home from abroad in 1985. During that time, she reportedly worked at the Israel Mission to the United Nations.

#### Military

The defendant has not served in the U.S. Military.

#### Marital Status and Living Arrangements

Ms. Sassower is single and has not produced any children.

Following her return from Israel, the defendant settled into her current apartment in White Plains, New York. She noted that her residence is an urban setting, located forty-five minutes north of New York City.

#### Financial Status

The defendant declined to divulge personal information regarding her financial health. She noted that if the purpose of the "financial status" section of the presentence report is used to ascertain her ability to pay a monetary fee, she is more than capable of doing so.

#### Health

The defendant denied any medical conditions, illnesses, or hospitalizations. Unfortunately, the defendant's mental health was not discussed during the investigation.

#### Substance Use/Abuse

The defendant denied consuming any substances, including alcohol.

**NOTE: This treatment recommendation is based solely upon information obtained in the Assessor's clinical interview with the offender, assessment instruments, toxicology reports, and the documented history of substance abuse issues. It is not a sentencing recommendation, but an evaluation of the offender's presenting substance abuse status. The PSI writer can and will use additional sources of information and consider other factors in making a sentencing recommendation. The final sentencing recommendation and treatment plan will encompass all factors derived from the investigative process; thus, the two recommendations may differ.**

Other Significant Information

Ms. Sassower was interviewed via telephone due to the distance of her residence.

Prior to the defendant's interview, this writer faxed an informal worksheet to orient the defendant of various sections that comprise the presentence report. At best, the worksheet is regarded as outdated but used loosely as a guideline for note taking. Ms. Sassower was told several times of the informal nature of the worksheet and as a result, many subtitles or suggestions offered through the worksheet may not be included in this presentence report. Specifically for instance, the defendant forwarded the following: "your OFFICIAL VERSION (regarding the official version section of the Instant Offense) must properly include his [Senator Saxby Chambliss] "applicable" "quote(s)" as to HIS complaint-i.e., specifically what he purports occurred at the May 22, 2003 "hearing, warranting arrest and prosecution." Yet, the Instant Offense section is solely used for the inclusion of the presentence report. This issue is being raised, as presumably, it will be discussed during sentencing.

Lastly, the defendant's sister, Carey, was overcome with disbelief regarding the outcome of the defendant's arrest. She related that the defendant is an extreme do-gooder, fairly benevolent, and a high achiever. It was apparent that she was quite moved due to the potential punitive measure facing the defendant "simply for exercising her civic duties." To her, the defendant's criminal contact counters her character.



**EVALUATIVE SUMMARY:**

Elena Ruth Sassower is before the Court awaiting sentencing for Disorderly and Disruption. The Instant Offense serves as her first conviction in this jurisdiction. Previously, she was arrested in 1996 for a similar charge although that case was nolle. FBI records show that in 1993, the defendant was arrested in White Plains, New York for Resisting Arrest and Obstructing Government. According to the clerk of the North Castle Town Court, the defendant was found guilty of the latter and conditionally discharged. As noted previously in the presentence investigation, the exact release stipulations were not delineated.

Before the Court is an individual dedicated to reform and accountability through activism. Her efforts have spearheaded a local effort, which has since transcended into a national commitment of ensuring judicial accountability of federal judicial selections—The Center for Judicial Accountability (CJA). The defendant serves as co-founder and coordinator of the non-profit, non-partisan organization as detailed on the CJA website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org). In fact, much of the website has been used to document every aspect of the defendant's contacts in the Instant Offense and proceeding Court matters—much of which was asked to be included for the presentence report. According to various documents listed on the website, as well as the defendant's own testament to which she spoke of great length, Ms. Sassower emphatically believes that she was unjustly persecuted, falsely and maliciously charged, and subjected to judicial misconduct. Certainly as a result, she denies any wrongdoing stating that the account of what transpired was bogus. It appears that the defendant's quest for judicial accountability and "documenting how judges break the law and get away with it" (as emblazoned on the title of CJA's website) has been further fueled through the Instant Offense and subsequent trial proceedings.

During the presentence investigation, the defendant requested the inclusion of several documents initially sent out on her behalf to various media outlets and civil liberties organizations detailing her ordeal. She not only requested but "demanded" the sentencing recommendation of the AUSA as well as Senator Saxby Chambliss. It was apparent that the defendant viewed the presentence investigation as a beneficial venue to further document her paper trail of judicial events although it was subsequently deemed inappropriate with supervisory contacts of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency. While Ms. Sassower was certainly willing to provide a wealth of information regarding the injustices of her arrest and subsequent Court proceedings, selections of her reported information that did not pertain to the specific purpose of the PSI report were not included.

It is clearly evident that the defendant remains steadfast in her tireless efforts. As she feels that she has been unfairly persecuted, she has taken extreme measures to document and expose every element of the judiciary as evidenced by her website. It is the view of this writer that her passion to demand change is perceived as overzealous which perhaps compromises her efforts at obtaining support and acknowledgement.

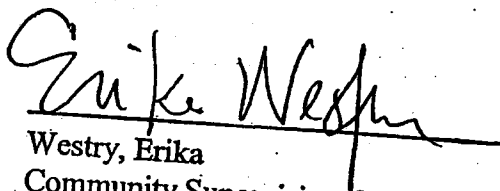
**INTERVENTION PLAN:**

1. The defendant shall perform community service.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

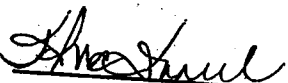
Fine.

Respectfully submitted:



Westry, Erika  
Community Supervision Officer  
(202) 442-1454

Approved by:



McDaniel, Karen  
Supervisory Community Supervision Officer  
(202) 442-1441

Report Completion Date: