SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF ALBANY

In the Matter of the Application of MARIO M. CASTRACAN and VINCENT F. BONELLI, acting Pro Bono Publico,

Petitioners,

Index No.

for an Order, pursuant to Sections 16-100, 16-102, 16-104, 16-106 and 16-116 of the Election Law,

-against-

ANSWER TO PETITION BY RESPONDENT HOWARD MILLER

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ANTHONY M. COLAVITA, Esq., Chairman, WESTCHESTER REPUBLICAN COUNTY COMMITTEE, GUY T. PARISI, Esq., DENNIS MEHIEL, Esq., Chairman, WESTCHESTER DEMOCRATIC COUNTY COMMITTEE, RICHARD L. WEINGARTEN, Esq., LOUIS A. BREVETTI, Esq., Hon. FRANCIS A. NICOLAI, HOWARD MILLER, Esq., ALBERT J. EMANUELLI, Esq., R. WELLS STOUT, HELENA DONAHUE, EVELYN AQUILA, Commissioners constituting the NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS, ANTONIA R. D'APICE, MARION B. OLDI, Commissioners constituting the WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS,

Respondents,

for an Order declaring invalid the Certificates purporting to designate Respondents Hon FRANCIS A. NICOLAI and HOWARD MILLER, Esq. as candidates for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Ninth Judicial District, and the Petitioners purporting to designate ALBERT J. EMANUELLI, Esq., a candidate for the office of Surrogate of Westchester County to be held in the general election of November 6, 1990.

Respondent HOWARD MILLER, by his attorney, SANFORD S. DRANOFF, ESQ., for his answer to the petition, respectfully shows and alleges:

- 1. Denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 24, 28, and 36 of the petition.
- 2. Denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 13 of the petition, except admits that a certificate nominating Joan Lefkowitz and respondents Nicolai and Miller as the candidates of the Democrat Party for election to the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York for the Ninth Judicial District was filed with respondent New York State Board of Elections at its office in Albany, New York.
- 3. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph 17 of the petition, except admits that Sections 6-124 and 6-126 of the Election Law relate to judicial conventions and the rules for holding same. Respondent respectfully refers the court to Sections 6-124 and 6-126 of the Election Law for the contents thereof and for their meaning and legal effect.
- 4. Denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraphs 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 31, except specifically denies that any "contract" was entered into which would bind delegates to the Judicial Conventions of the Republican and Democrat Parties.
- 5. Denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 25 of the petition, except specifically denies, upon information and belief, that Rockland County adopted the Resolution referred to.

- 6. Denies having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 29 of the petition, except admits that respondent EMANUELLI resigned as Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Ninth Judicial District in or about August of 1990, and is the candidate of both the Republican and Democrat Parties for the office of Surrogate of Westchester County in the election to be held November 6, 1990.
- 7. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph 30 of the petition, except admits that respondent COLAVITA convened the Republican Judicial Convention on September 18, 1990.
- Denies the allegations contained in paragraphs 18, 32,
 33, 34 and 35 of the petition.

AS AND FOR A FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

9. This court lacks subject matter jurisdiction of the issues raised in the petition.

AS AND FOR A SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

10. This court lacks personal jurisdiction over the respondent HOWARD MILLER.

AS AND FOR A THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

11. Petitioners have failed to name and serve indispensable parties.

AS AND FOR A FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

12. Petitioners have failed to serve the Attorney General in accordance with CPLR 2214(d).

AS AND FOR A FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

13. Petitioners have failed to comply with Section 6204.1(b) of the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of Elections.

AS AND FOR A SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

14. This proceeding is barred by laches and the statute of limitations.

AS AND FOR A SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

15. The petition fails to state a cause of action against respondent HOWARD MILLER.

Dated: October 11, 1990 Pearl River, New York

SANFORD S. DRANOFF, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent
HOWARD MILLER
Office & P. O. Address
P. O. Box 1629
One Blue Hill Plaza
Suite 900
Pearl River, New York 10965
(914-735-6200)

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