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Honorable James J. Lack  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Room 413, Legislative Office Building  
Albany, New York 12247

**Re: Confirmation of Appointment of  
Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo**

Dear Senator Lack:

With respect to the appointment by Governor George E. Pataki of Hon. Victoria A. Graffeo as Associate Judge of the Court of Appeals, I wanted to advise you that the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Judicial Selection evaluated the qualifications of Justice Graffeo.

Acting in accordance with the "Guidelines for Evaluating Qualifications of Judicial Candidates," adopted by our Association's House of Delegates, the Committee on Judicial Selection found Justice Graffeo "Well Qualified" for the office of Associate Judge. This finding was communicated to the Governor in advance of the appointment. For your information and convenience, I am enclosing a copy of the Guidelines which govern our Committee on Judicial Selection.

I trust you will find this information useful regarding the confirmation of the appointment of Justice Graffeo.

Respectfully yours,

Paul Michael Hassett