

CENTER *for* JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

Box 69, Gedney Station
White Plains, New York 10605-0069

Tel: (914) 421-1200
Fax: (914) 684-6554

E-Mail: judgewatch@aol.com
On the Web: <http://www.judgewatch.org>

BY FAX: 212-556-3717

9 pages

TO: The New York Times: Metro Desk
Joyce Purnick/Jan Hoffman

FROM: Elena Ruth Sassower, CJA Coordinator

RE: CJA's Response to Governor Pataki's
belated implementation of Executive Order #10,
setting up permanent judicial screening committees

DATE: March 7, 1997

Following up our two phone messages left yesterday at approximately 12:30 p.m. on each of your answering machines.

As you know, CJA was the *first* to expose Governor Pataki's failure to implement his Executive Order #10 and his use of a so-called "temporary" judicial screening committee -- a dynamite story which, for months and months and months, we tried to get you "to break".

Enclosed is our response to the City Bar's superficial and dishonest February 7, 1996 Report -- a Report given a *prompt* write-up by Ms. Hoffman in her 2/13/97 article, with a telling comment from James McGuire, Assistant Counsel to the Governor. Of course, you did not see fit to contact us about the Report or Mr. McGuire's comment -- although you knew that we would be able to give informed and honest comment. Nor did you bother giving credit to your *own* newspaper for running a letter to the editor, "*On Choosing Judges, Pataki Creates Problems*", written by us, 2-1/2 months before the City Bar's johnny-come-lately Report.

In sound-bite size, our enclosed letter calls for:

- (1) an investigation of Governor Pataki's two-year delay
- (2) statutory and constitutional safeguards to replace "Executive Orders"

Should you wish a "hard copy" of our letter with the exhibits, let us know and we will send it to you. As you know, we have always gone to great effort and expense to give The Times complete documentation to enable it to meet its journalistic obligations to report significant stories, affecting the welfare of the public and its democratic rights.

Elena Ruth
Sassower