



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
LEGAL DEPARTMENT

DAVID A. ROWLAND

COURT COUNSEL

August 11, 2003

Catherine W. Real
Citizens for Better Courts
2110 West Platt Street
Tampa, Florida 33606

Dear Ms. Real:

It is my understanding that some judges have recently received correspondence from you on behalf of "Citizens for Better Courts." In your letter to these judges you state: "I've spoken with Chief Judge Menendez and shared with him in writing some of the goals of CFBC." I understand you did meet with Judge Menendez (about 14 months ago) and provided him with some written material concerning this committee of continuing existence. Sometime after your meeting with the chief judge, you started a CFBC web site which likewise mentioned that you had met with Chief Judge Menendez concerning the committee. The web site also displayed Chief Judge Menendez's photograph.

The chief judge has neither endorsed nor disavowed the concept of your committee or its purported goals. The chief judge has not, however, authorized the use of his name or the Office of the Chief Judge in connection with your endeavor. In order to clear up any misconception that the use of Chief Judge Menendez's name and likeness implies his endorsement of your committee, I respectfully request that you cease and desist utilizing the chief judge's name and likeness in any connection with "Citizens for Better Courts."

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David A. Rowland".

David A. Rowland
Court Counsel

cc: Hon. Manuel Menendez, Jr., Chief Judge