

# Citizens for Better Courts

"Knowledge is Power"

August 18, 2003

David Rowland  
Court Counsel  
419 Pierce Street  
Room 214 E  
Tampa, Florida 33602

Re: Chief Judge Manuel Menendez's August 11, 2003 cease and desist letter

Dear Mr. Rowland,

We are in receipt of your August 11, 2003 letter in which you request that Citizens For Better Courts cease and desist from utilizing the Chief Judge's name and picture in any connection with Citizens For Better Courts.

One of the goals of CFBC is to acquaint the public with the individuals who occupy judicial public office. While the public sees the likeness of the Governor, our Senators and Representatives, our Mayor and other public servants, the public has few opportunities to see the faces and learn the backgrounds of those who sit on the bench. It is for this reason that the Chief Judge's picture and background are set out in CFBC's web site.

The content of CFBC's site gives absolutely no indication that the Chief Judge endorses Citizens For Better Courts. It merely identifies the occupant of the Office of Chief Judge, defines his duties and sets forth his picture. In this regard, therefore, Citizens For Better Courts declines to remove the Chief Judge's Picture from its site.

In order to accommodate some of Judge Menendez's purported concerns, however, we have added to our site the pictures of all of the Judges of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit. The one exception is the likeness of Judge Maye, whose picture is presently unavailable to us but will be added when it becomes available.

David Rowland  
August 18, 2003  
Page 2

We were delighted to hear that Judge Menendez has neither endorsed nor disavowed the concept of Citizens For Better Courts or its purported goals. We believe that the content of CFBC's site would not even suggest that Judge Menendez had done either.

We look forward to maintaining a good relationship with all of the Judges here in Hillsborough County as Citizens For Better Courts moves actively to accomplish its goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CWR', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Catherine W. Real  
Citizens For Better Courts

cc: James Shuler, Esquire