

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

October 11, 2012

Mrs. Sharon Kramer
2031 Arborwood Place
Escondido, California 92029

Dear Mrs. Kramer:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the California Judicial Branch. I appreciate hearing your concerns, and I welcome this opportunity to respond.

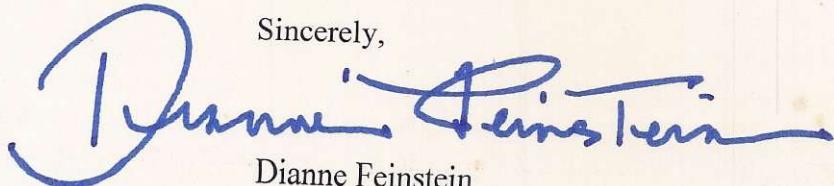
I understand that you were involved in a libel case in the Superior Court of San Diego County and the California Court of Appeal for the Fourth Appellate District. As I understand it, the Court of Appeal resolved your case in 2010, when it upheld a finding of libel that was made by a San Diego jury. As you may know, the Superior Court and the Court of Appeal that heard your case are within the jurisdiction of the State of California, not the Federal government. As a United States Senator, I cannot intervene in a matter that California's state courts have resolved.

However, you raise the issue of a potential ethics problem within California's state judiciary. While the Federal government has no role in investigating California state judges for potential ethical violations, California has an independent agency called the Commission on Judicial Performance that is responsible for investigating complaints of judicial misconduct and for disciplining state court judges. This Commission accepts complaints in writing and can be contacted at the following address:

Commission on Judicial Performance
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 14400
San Francisco, CA 95814
(415) 557-1200
<http://www.cjp.ca.gov/>

Again, thank you for writing. If you should have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact my Washington, D.C. staff at (202) 224-3841 or <http://feinstein.senate.gov>.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DF:kf