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January 29, 2013

HAND DELIVERY

Betty Jean Grant, Chairperson
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Chairperson Grant:

I have recently become aware of the fact that there may be an opening for the Erie County Water Commissioner positions in the next few months. By this correspondence I am respectfully requesting that my name be considered for that position. I am enclosing my Resume and would like to point out to you several factors which I believe qualify me to be selected for this position.

First, as a life-long resident of Western New York and Erie County, I am well aware of the importance of fresh clean water to our community and, similarly, the importance of keeping the cost of that water as reasonable as possible.

Second, as a successful small business owner, I have dealt with a number of personnel and organizational issues throughout my more than twenty years as an attorney. My research on the Erie County Water Authority makes it clear to me that a Commissioner should have some type of a business background to be able to properly handle personnel and staffing decisions. I believe I have that background.

Third, I think you will note on my Resume that I have a long history of being actively involved in a variety of community organizations. A commitment to our community is critical, I believe, because someone who is acting as an Erie County Water Authority Commissioner should have a strong commitment to the Western New York Community.

I am aware that my application must be reviewed by the entire Erie County Legislature and am more than willing to make myself available to speak to the individual Legislators or the Legislature as a whole to further discuss this application.

CHRISTOPHER J. O'BRIEN

**25 Crosby Boulevard
Amherst, New York 14226
(716) 907-7777**

Education

**Washington & Lee University
J.D., 1988**

**The College of the Holy Cross
B.A., 1985**

Professional

**The O'Brien Firm, P.C.
Buffalo, NY
Trial Attorney
2012-present**

**O'Brien Boyd, P.C.
Buffalo, NY
Trial Attorney
2001-2012**

**SUNY Buffalo Law School
Co-Director of Trial Advocacy, 2009-present
Adjunct Faculty
Trial Technique, Trial Advocacy, The Law and the Science of the Jury Trial
1998-2009**

**Ballow, Braisted, O'Brien & Rusin, P.C.
Buffalo, NY
Trial Attorney
1995-2001**

**Law Office of Christopher J. O'Brien
Buffalo, NY
Trial Attorney
1994-95**

**Corey Hogan & Associates
Buffalo, NY
Trial Attorney
1992-94**

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Thank you for your courtesy and attention in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Christopher O'Brien

CJO/jak
Enclosure

cc: Terrence D. McCracken, Chairperson
of Energy and Environment Committee

Hurwitz & Fine, P.C.
Buffalo, NY
Trial Attorney
1990-92

Jaekle, Fleischmann & Mugel
Buffalo, NY
1988-90

Licensed to practice in New York State (1989), United States Federal Court for the Western District of New York (1989), and United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of New York (1989).

Organizations:

State University at New York at Buffalo, Council, 2007-present
SUNY Buffalo Law School, Dean's Advisory Committee, 2009-present
National College of Advocacy, Trustee, 2010-12
Western Regional Affiliate of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, Past President
St. Christopher's Church Parish Council, Past President
Canisius High School Alumni Board, Past President
Na Fianna Gaelic Football Club, Past Chair
American Association for Justice, Diplomate
New York State Trial Lawyers Association
Million Dollar Advocates Forum, 1997-present
New York Superlawyers, 2007-12
Food Shuttle of WNY

Seminars/Colleges:

The Ultimate Trial College
American Association for Justice
Cambridge, Massachusetts
2003, 2006, 2009, 2012

Advanced Deposition College
American Association for Justice
Course Advisor
Denver, Colorado
2010

New Orleans, Louisiana
2009

Trial Skills College
National Institute for Trial Advocacy
San Francisco, California
2002, 2008

Basic Trial Skills College
American Association for Justice
Reno, Nevada
2000, 2004

Birmingham, Alabama
2005

Deposition College
American Association for Justice
Course Advisor
Reno, Nevada
2012

Course Advisor
Washington, D.C.
2012

Long Beach, California
2007

Course Advisor
Cleveland, Ohio
2006

Atlanta, Georgia
2001

Weekend with the Stars
American Association for Justice
New York, New York
2007

Ohio Association for Justice Annual Convention
Columbus, OH
2008

Arkansas Trial Lawyers Annual Convention
Hot Springs, AR
2009

Colorado Trial Lawyers Summer Convention
Aspen, CO
2010

Deposition College
National Institute for Trial Advocacy
Berkeley, California
2012

American Association for Justice
Annual Convention
and
Mid-Winter Convention
Lectures on trial advocacy, jury selection, and related topics
2005-present