

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



ALLEGHENY COUNTY  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
15219

ROBERT A. KELLY  
PRESIDENT JUDGE

JUDGE'S CHAMBERS  
(412) 350-5404

December 17, 2003

Alan Kalmanoff, Executive Director  
Institute for Law and Policy Planning  
P.O. Box 5137  
Berkeley, CA 94705

Dear Mr. Kalmanoff:

As my term as President Judge of Allegheny County is coming to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to convey my sincere appreciation and commend you on your work here in Pittsburgh.

It would be an understatement for me to confess that I was less than convinced that a Criminal Justice Policy Board was a sound concept in our politically charged environment. Not only were the principal players from different sides of the political spectrum, open hostilities among the group were commonplace. You entered this minefield with confidence, a sound knowledge base of the issues, and a style that allowed all at the table, for at least the 90 minutes of our meetings, to lay down their swords and talk freely without fear of political reprisal.

I am also greatly impressed with the methods you have employed to address the problem areas identified by the Board. Your analyses and reports of jail overcrowding and initial arrest processes were concise and provided timely.

I will certainly pass along to my successor my thoughts on your work. I wish you success in all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Kelly".

ROBERT A. KELLY

RAK/mem