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**Case file Number(s):** 377200-385999

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG018

INCOMING

Cor. summary

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 19, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE MARIO M. CUOMO

SUBJECT: URGES REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. IACOCCA TO  
POSITION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY  
COMMISSION ON THE RESTORATION OF THE STATUE  
OF LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ANDREW CARD		ORG	86/02/19	AC	APR 6/02/24
<i>DOZ</i>	REFERRAL NOTE:			<i>TR</i>	<i>A 10/04/02 AB</i>
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2100 \_\_\_\_\_

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODF = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE *       |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY *       |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

APR 2 1986

Honorable Mario M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York  
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

The White House has forwarded your recent letter concerning the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman and member of the Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Centennial Commission (Commission). I respect the fact that you disagree with my decision and appreciate your communicating your views.

I am pleased Mr. Iacocca has announced he will continue to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation (Foundation), as I suggested. He thereby will lead the Foundation down the home stretch of its fundraising effort. And, since the Foundation will continue to have control over the monies contributed by the public to the Foundation, Mr. Iacocca, as Foundation Chairman, will retain his ability to assure those monies are spent in a manner he approves.

However, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island belong to all the American people, not to the Foundation. That is why the Congress gave the Secretary of the Interior the ultimate responsibility for the preservation of these monuments. We have similar responsibilities with respect to the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.

To assist me in carrying out my duties to the American people with respect to their public monuments, I have appointed the Commission, a group of some 50 distinguished citizens whose task is to give me the best advice they can concerning preservation of these historic monuments. The Commission may or may not agree with the views of the National Park Service or the Foundation as to how, for example, we should restore the decaying buildings on Ellis Island. The Commission is a separate body which needs to be able to give me its own independent advice, free from domination by the National Park Service or the Foundation.

The issue of the independence of the Commission and its need to be free from domination by Foundation personnel was called to my attention by a telegram from the Foundation's General Counsel to two individuals who at the time held positions on both the Commission and the Foundation's board of directors. That telegram stated that Foundation Chairman Iacocca "requests that there be no crossover of Commission and Foundation board membership."

page 2

For the reasons stated above, I concluded that Mr. Iacocca was exactly right. The two individuals who received the telegram from the Foundation should not serve both organizations in a voting capacity, and they have resigned from the Foundation board. There no longer is the crossover membership to which Mr. Iacocca originally objected. The Commission cannot be free to give independent advice -- which we need and the Nation deserves -- when the same man is in charge of both the Foundation and the Commission. That concept applies to everybody, even to Mr. Iacocca, for the public nature of the Statue of Liberty- Ellis Island efforts require that we not employ double standards.

Like you, I admire the contributions Mr. Iacocca has made to the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island fundraising effort. Before this matter became public, I offered him the honorary position of Chairman Emeritus of the Commission. While he initially has declined that honor, I am confident that, once emotions have quieted down, both the Foundation, under Mr. Iacocca's continued leadership, and the Commission will be able to work together toward achievement of our shared goal -- the preservation of two important parts of America's heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald Paul Hodel". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

DONALD PAUL HODEL

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

FEBRUARY 26, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ACTION REQUESTED:

~~APPROPRIATE~~ ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 377232

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 18, 1986

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE MARIO M. CUOMO  
GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK

ALBANY NY 12224

SUBJECT: URGES REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. IACOCCA TO  
POSITION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY  
COMMISSION ON THE RESTORATION OF THE STATUE  
OF LIBERTY - ELLIS ISLAND

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

3156  
FEB 27 11:44  
RIOR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 24, 1986

Dear Governor Cuomo:

On behalf of the President, I want to thank you for your letter regarding the reappointment of Mr. Iacocca to the Statue of Liberty Restoration Commission. Your letter has been brought to the personal attention of the President.

I have also forwarded copies of your correspondence to the appropriate White House officials and to the Department of Interior for further review.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the attention of the Administration. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Andrew H. Card, Jr.  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable Mario M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York  
State Capitol  
Albany, New York 12224

377232



STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER  
ALBANY 12224

MARIO M. CUOMO  
GOVERNOR

February 18, 1986

*A. Card*

Dear Mr. President:

I write in the hope that after careful consideration of the action taken against Lee Iacocca by Interior Secretary Donald P. Hodel, you will right that wrong by reappointing Mr. Iacocca to the position of chairman of the advisory commission on the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and historic buildings on Ellis Island.

News accounts make it clear that you were not advised of Mr. Hodel's decision in advance, and I believe that a review of the matter would lead you to conclude that Mr. Iacocca was dealt with unfairly. I ask you to review his dismissal and reverse the decision.

The reason given by Mr. Hodel for the dismissal—that Mr. Iacocca might be in a conflict of interest situation—makes no sense at all. Everything that has been done, and will be done by the Statue of Liberty Commission will be open and subject to continuing public scrutiny. And Mr. Iacocca's splendid reputation is another assurance that such fears are unwarranted. Finally, no such conflict of interest question arose when Mr. Hodel reappointed him to his post as chairman last November.

Mr. President, Lee Iacocca is perhaps the foremost example of the spirit of volunteerism that you called upon all Americans to display. He has performed admirably in his positions on the advisory commission and the fund-raising commission, and it is unfair to remove him summarily without a valid reason. I respectfully request that you review this decision made without your knowledge and approval, and rescind it.

With my gratitude and best wishes,

Respectfully,

Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG018  
RHT-11

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 19, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. STEVEN K. HERLITZ

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF MR. IACocca FROM THE  
STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND COMMISSION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK		ORG	86/02/19	RT A	86/03/24
<i>Correspondence Hudson</i>		A	86/03/18	<del>RT A</del>	86/03/24
<i>Interior</i>	<i>Lea White</i>	A	86/03/27	C	86/04/02 AB
			/ /		/ /
			/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | OF SIGNER            | * |
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| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
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| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Herlitz:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Mr. Steven K. Herlitz  
Steven K. Herlitz, Inc.  
404 Park Avenue, South  
New York, NY 10016

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

FG018

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Herlitz:

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Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Mr. Steven K. Herlitz  
Steven K. Herlitz, Inc.  
404 Park Avenue, South  
New York, NY 10016

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

March 24, 1986

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New York, NY 10016

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

377256

STEVEN K. HERLITZ INC.

REPRESENTATIVES FOR PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS AND CONVENTIONS

404 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016 (212) 532-9400

February 13, 1986

K.B

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, DC


Dear Mr. President:

As a charter member of the Statue of Liberty Ellis Island Foundation since its inception in 1984, I resent Mr. Hodel's firing of Mr. Iacocca with the unbelievable statement, "This is a matter of public trust. Those of us who are heads of Federal departments or agencies have the responsibility to maintain the public's confidence in the integrity of Government activities. We owe that much to the schoolchildren, other individuals and corporations who have contributed their time and money to help in restoring the Statue of Liberty."

This petty bureaucrat by the name of Hodel would not have been able to raise much money or interest in the restoration of the Statue for the simple reason that most of us have little reason to trust the bureaucrats whether local or federal.

Mr. Hodel and his cronies now, since all the major work has been performed, wants in on the gravy and to get his name on plaques and historical documents. I hope you will fire the creep before he does more damage!

Sincerely,



Steven K. Herlitz

SKH:C

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

*FG018*  
*RHT-11*

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 21, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. WILLIAM DENIS FUGAZY

SUBJECT: URGES INTERCEDING IN MATTER OF DISMISSAL OF  
IACocca AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF  
LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK	ORG	86/02/21	RT	A 86/03/24 <i>CJ</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Correspondence Hudson</i>	A	86/03/17	<del>RT</del>	A 86/03/17 <i>TR</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Anterior</i>	A	86/03/27	TR	C 86/04/02 NAV <i>AB</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
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MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 377418

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 14, 1986

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. WILLIAM DENIS FUGAZY  
PRESIDENT  
COALITION OF ITALO-AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATIONS, INC.  
POST OFFICE BOX 153  
WHITESTONE NY 11357

SUBJECT: URGES INTERCEDING IN MATTER OF DISMISSAL OF  
IACOCCA AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF  
LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Fugazy:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Mr. William Denis Fugazy  
President  
Coalition of Italo-American  
Associations, Inc.  
Post Office Box 153  
Whitestone, NY 11357

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

**OFFICE OF THE  
UNDER SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**

3/31/86

Note To: Ms. Sally Kelley

Subject: White House Referrals Lee Iacocca letters

Return to White House for answer by Mr. Robert Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel  
Mr. Tuttle is response to all White House letter re: the  
dismissal of Lee Iacocca.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Betty", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left.

Betty Epps

3  
KB  
377418  
**COALITION OF ITALO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS, INC.**

P.O. Box 153, Whitestone, N.Y. 11357 • (718) 767-1492



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Hon. Mario Cuomo  
Hon. Alfonse D'Amato  
Lido A. Iacocca

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Nicholas Viglietta

February 14, 1986

Hon. Ronald Reagan,  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

The news of the firing of Lido A. Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission by Interior Secretary Donald Hodel has sent shock-waves throughout America and particularly in the Italian-American communities. The suggestion that Lee Iacocca had a conflict of interest is an insult to a good American.

As an umbrella organization, we urged our 116 individual Italian-American organizations representing over 850,000 family members to dig deep into their pockets and to make a sacrifice for a specific purpose - to restore the Statue of Liberty and to preserve Ellis Island. To deviate from that intended purpose, which certainly did not include a commercial endeavor, could be perceived almost as stealing or lying to our members and we certainly do not want to give that perception.

It is obvious from the above that we are opposed to the commercialization of Ellis Island; we want it to be preserved for its historical significance as a tribute to the many immigrants, including our parents and grandparents, who came to America seeking equality, freedom and opportunity. To do otherwise would be almost sacrilegious.

In view of our expressed feelings, we respectfully ask you to intercede in this matter. We ask you as our President to restore Mr. Iacocca to the position of Chairman of the Centennial Commission and to support and to exert your influence for the passage of federal legislation introduced by U.S. Senator Alphonse D'Amato and Congressman Mario Biaggi which will prevent the commercialization of Ellis Island.

In making this appeal, we also want you to know that we have complete faith and confidence in you as our President. We are totally satisfied that you had no part in the firing of Lee Iacocca. We also feel, however, that as our President you can intercede and can restore confidence to all Americans for what appears to have been a hasty, irresponsible decision by the Secretary of the Interior.

Respectfully,



William Denis Fugazy,  
President

COALITION OF ITALO-AMERICAN  
ASSOCIATIONS, INC.

WDF/jm/ic

cc: Officers and Members  
116 Participating Organizations  
180 Conduit Organizations

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

WS

February 13, 1986

37770435  
FG018  
PACCL  
PEDOT

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: DAVID CHEW *MC*

SUBJECT: Background on the Statue of Liberty Controversy

As we discussed on the telephone, we have put together a brief outline of events surrounding the Statue of Liberty controversy.

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission was established by the Secretary of Interior in March 1982 to be the primary citizen advisory body to him on all matters pertaining to the preservation of the Statue and Ellis Island. It is solely advisory and is prohibited from raising funds. The Secretary appoints the members. Lee Iacocca was initially designated Chairman in 1982 and redesignated last October when his 2-year term came up for renewal. The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation which was formed in 1981. Its principal purpose is to raise funds and select contractors for restoration and preservation of the island, subject to National Parks Service approval. Mr. Iacocca is chairman, chief executive officer and a member of the board of the Foundation.

On January 29, The Counsel to the Foundation informed the two other members of the Foundation board who also sat on the Commission board that the Chairman (Iacocca) wanted to have no board members serving on both groups, due to possible conflict of interest problems. Secretary Hodel, being informed of this action by one of the individuals, asked the Interior Solicitor to rule on the conflict question. The next day, Hodel sent Iacocca a telegram agreeing there were conflict problems, noting that the Foundation was a much more important group, and urged Iacocca to continue to lead the Foundation. In addition, Hodel requested his resignation from the Commission. At a meeting with Hodel on February 4, Iacocca refused to resign from the Commission. The two men did, however, agree to have their attorneys continue discussing the conflict question. But Hodel claims he made it clear he was persuaded that potential conflict existed. On February 6 Hodel called Iacocca and suggested that he serve as "chairman emeritus" and resign as a voting member of the Commission. That same day, the Foundation reversed itself and reelected the two members it initially requested to resign.

On February 10, Hodel and Iacocca met again, neither changed their position, and the Secretary handed him a letter informing him that his membership on the Commission was "terminated". Yesterday, in light of Iacocca's continued resistance, Hodel sent a telegram assuring him that the letter was final. Later, Hodel announced at a news conference that he had appointed Armen Avedisian, who had resigned from the Foundation Board, as chairman of the Commission replacing Iacocca. In addition, J.J. Simmons, the other Foundation Board Member who had served on the Commission, also resigned from the Foundation. Today, Iacocca angrily denounced Hodel at a press conference and the Secretary responded thereafter at another meeting with the press.

The White House Staff did not have any involvement in the decision making process on this matter. After Hodel sent his first telegram to Iacocca, Interior notified White House staff of what had happened. There was a brief discussion of the issue on Air Force One returning from the Houston Memorial Service, but it was agreed there and in a subsequent discussion that this was an Interior matter and the White House should not become involved. The next time we heard from Hodel was yesterday. He brought Al Kingon up to date, that he was convinced of a potential conflict of interest, and that he was going to try to get Iacocca to resign. The next time we heard from him was after his press conference where he had announced his decision and also indicated that there had been no White House involvement in his decision making nor had he sought any.

As of this evening, Iacocca remains Chairman of the Foundation, but did not accept Hodel's proposal that he serve as the honorary Chairman Emeritus of the Commission.

If you would like more information or feel something more needs to be done please let us know.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG018

INCOMING

*785*

*ZHT-11*

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 24, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. MICHAEL A. CAIRA

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA AS A MEMBER  
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS  
ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK	ORG	86/02/24	RT	A 86/03/29
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Correspondence Hudson</i>	A	86/03/18	<del>RT</del>	C 86/03/29 <i>TR</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Interior</i>	A	86/03/27		C 86/04/02 <i>AB</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Sea View</i>				NAN
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *           OF SIGNER  *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *           CODE = A   *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED        *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                       *           OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *                       *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                       *                       *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                       *                       *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 377877

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 21, 1986

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. MICHAEL A. CAIRA  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ORDER SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA  
219 E STREET, N.E.  
WASHINGTON DC 20002

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACocca AS A MEMBER  
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS  
ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Caira:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Mr. Michael A. Caira  
Order Sons of Italy in America  
219 E Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

377877

SUPREME LODGE

Order Sons of Italy in America

219 E STREET, N.E. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

(202) 547-2900



Founded 1905

National President  
Bruno S. Giuffrida, CA

February 21, 1986

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S. Joseph Avara, MD

National 2nd Vice President  
Albert J. Riccelli, Sr., NJ

National 3rd Vice President  
Peter R. Zuzolo, NY

National 4th Vice President  
Joanne L. Strollo, PA

National 5th Vice President  
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Ex-National President  
Aldo A. Cairra, MA

National Orator  
Gabriel L.I. Bevilacqua, PA

National Recording Secretary  
Josephine M. Falco, MA

National Financial Secretary  
Margaret Montemuro, PA

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Peter B. Gay, MA  
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Rev. Albert Palombo, FL

National Historian  
Dominic Massaro, NY

National Executive Director  
Michael A. Cairra

National Associate Director  
Salvatore M. Ambrosino

OSIA News Director  
Albert A. Maino

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

The Order Sons of Italy in America is disappointed over the recent events which have lead to the dismissal of Lee Iacocca as a member and chairman of the Statue of Liberty Ellis Island Centennial Commission. As active and contributing members of the "Save The Lady" National Ethnic Campaign, Sons of Italy members from throughout the country have proudly participated in fund raising efforts dedicated to the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. The purpose of this letter is not to interject the Order in the controversial battle over Lady Liberty, but to urge that the course of action taken by your administration protect the investment made by millions of Americans who truly believe in the spirit and strength embodied in the symbolism of our national landmarks.

An evaluation of the statements of Mr. Iacocca, Secretary Hodel, and others close to the issue lead us to believe that personal and or political reasons motivated the dismissal decision. We are told that Mr. Iacocca's position as chairman of both the Statue of Liberty Ellis Island Foundation and the Commission were in conflict. Secretary Hodel has yet to adequately explain to the American people what the conflict of interest is and why it took him four years to discover it. Because Secretary Hodel is in an important position of public trust, he is obligated to justify his actions. To merely say "I made the decision because I thought it was right" does not square with the American public. As you know, Mr. President, we all own an equal share of the Statue.

Mr. President, we trust that you will bring a positive resolution to this controversy. We assure you that as an organization, The Order Sons of Italy In America will

Mr. President  
Page 2  
February 21, 1986

continue to support efforts to restore our national shrines. We pledge that support, confident that our hard earned dollars and the dollars of every contributor will be used in such a way that enhances the memory of all those who have passed through the gates of freedom.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Cairra

cc: Supreme Council  
Order Sons of Italy  
in America

Lee Iacocca  
Donald Hodel

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG018

INCOMING

ZHT-11

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 24, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE NEIL A. DESENA

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA AS  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE RESTORATION COMMITTEE OF  
ELLIS ISLAND

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK REFERRAL NOTE:	ORG	86/02/24	RT A	86/03/24 CJ
CRISTY BACH REFERRAL NOTE:	RSI	86/02/24		C 86/02/24
<i>Correspondence Hudson</i> REFERRAL NOTE:	A	86/03/18	<del>RT</del>	86/03/24 TR
<i>Anterior</i> REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Lee White</i>	A	86/03/27	RT	C 86/04/02 PP NAW AB
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600 \_\_\_\_\_

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
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*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *           CODE = A   *
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*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                       *           OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *                       *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                       *                       *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                       *                       *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 377878

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 19, 1986

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE NEIL A. DESENA  
THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN  
CITY OF BAYONNE  
630 AVENUE C  
BAYONNE NJ 07002

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA AS  
CHAIRPERSON OF THE RESTORATION COMMITTEE OF  
ELLIS ISLAND

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. DeSena:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

The Honorable Neil A. DeSena  
Thir Ward Councilman  
City of Bfayonne  
630 Avenue C  
Bayonne, NJ 07002

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT+~~1~~chf

27

KB  
cc C. Bach



377878

# City of Bayonne

DENNIS R. COLLINS  
MAYOR

February 19th, 1986

NEIL A. DE SENA  
THIRD WARD COUNCILMAN

The Hon. Ronald Reagan, President  
The United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I read of, with total dismay, the dismissal of Mr. Lee Iacocca, Chairperson to the Restoration Committee of Ellis Island. Secretary Hodel claimed there was a conflict of interest and that is why he is removing Mr. Iacocca from that position.

I don't know where the conflict originated from. However, I have to believe that before Mr. Iacocca was appointed, all possible conflicts were given serious consideration. After four years of sweat and tears and 230 million dollars raised by one's ability to motivate people, one wonders, will we ever learn?

The dismissal of Mr. Iacocca has created a void in this country's thinking and feeling. I would not like to believe that being the son of an Italian immigrant has a bearing on the Secretary's decision for, in essence, we are all immigrants regardless of our time here. I, for one, am very pleased that my father did not miss the boat from Italy, for I would not be writing this letter.

I urge you now, please, to use your good name and office to have Secretary Hodel withdraw the dismissal of Mr. Iacocca, then all of us can join, once again, for the purpose at hand of retaining Ellis Island as a monument, not only to the Lady in the Harbor, but really what America stands for.

Sincerely,

Neil A. DeSena  
Third Ward Councilman

NADS:aj

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 378278

FG018

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 28, 1986

RHT-11

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. THOMAS E. DIANA

SUBJECT: VERY CONCERNED OVER THE FIRING OF LEE  
IACOCCA AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY  
RESTORATION COMMITTEE

	ACTION	DISPOSITION
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK	ORG	86/02/28
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Correspondence Hudson</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>86/03/18</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Anterior</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>86/03/27</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Lee White</i>		<i>86/04/02</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:		
REFERRAL NOTE:		
REFERRAL NOTE:		

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *           OF SIGNER  *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *           CODE = A   *
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*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                       *           OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *                       *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                       *                       *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                       *                       *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 378278  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 20, 1986  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: MR. THOMAS E. DIANA  
PRESIDENT  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF COLUMBIA  
ASSOCIATIONS IN CIVIL SERVICE, INC.  
SUITE 1500  
299 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK NY 10007

SUBJECT: VERY CONCERNED OVER THE FIRING OF LEE  
IACOCCA AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY  
RESTORATION COMMITTEE

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Diana:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Mr. Thomas E. Diana  
President  
National Council of Columbia  
Associations in Civil Service, Inc.  
Suite 1500  
299 Broadway  
New York, NY 10007

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116  
RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

KB

# National Council of Columbia Associations in Civil Service, Inc.

299 BROADWAY SUITE 1500 NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007



Hon. Mario Biaggi  
President

- Thomas E. Diana  
First Vice President  
Government
- Daniel R. Tina  
Second Vice President  
Education-Constitution
- Isadore Mollica  
Third Vice President  
Anti-Defamation
- Edward Cicchesi  
Fourth Vice President  
Welfare
- John Ranieri  
Fifth Vice President  
Public Relations
- John V. Oliviero  
Sixth Vice President  
Entertainment
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Recording Secretary
- Charles Cino  
Treasurer
- Robert Spedaleri  
Sergeant-at-Arms
- Peter Viscardi  
Historian  
Honorary Committee
- Salvatore Cangiarella
- Frank Caruso
- Dominic F. Cimino
- Lucile De George
- Angelo Favaloro
- Rocco Fusco
- Ralph Merigliano
- \*Charles N. Salimieri
- John Scuderi

February 20, 1986

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Reagan:

The National Council of Columbia Associations in Civil Service represents over 105,000 Italian-Americans in City, State and Federal government.

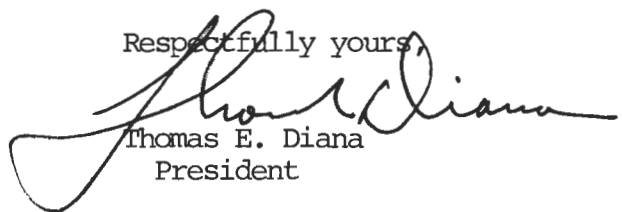
Our membership is very concerned with the recent firing of Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty Restoration Committee.

Our forefathers came to the United States from Italy and the first tangible evidence of the freedom and opportunity that this country had to offer was the sight of the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor. The Statue sent a message to our forefathers that if they were willing to work hard and care about the nation, that they would be able to share in its bounties.

Lee Iacocca is one of these outstanding Italian-Americans who has worked hard and cared enough about this nation to help raise funds to restore this symbol of freedom and opportunity in order that it continue to be an inspiration to the countless future immigrants who will come to our shores. The Statue of Liberty reminds us that our children must never forget the idea of America. We believe that we need Lee Iacocca to bring this project to a successful conclusion and we implore you to use your good offices to have Mr. Iacocca restored to the Chairmanship of the Statue of Liberty commission.

Thanking you for your consideration I remain,

Respectfully yours,

  
Thomas E. Diana  
President

\*Deceased



378329  
FG018

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

D1001-06  
PA002

## news release

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

David Prospero (202) 343-6416

For Release February 12, 1986

HODEL APPOINTS AVEDISIAN AS CHAIRMAN OF  
STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION  
REPLACING LEE IACOCCA

Secretary of the Interior Don Hodel today announced the appointment of Armen G. Avedisian, a Chicago area banker and businessman, as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission. Avedisian replaces Lee A. Iacocca, whose service as Chairman and member of the advisory Commission has been terminated.

In announcing the appointment of Avedisian, Hodel said, "I am very pleased that Armen Avedisian, who has long been active in the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island restoration efforts, has agreed to serve in the important role of Chairman of the Commission. I am confident that under Mr. Avedisian's leadership, the members of the commission will continue to work together to ensure the success of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island restoration and preservation to which we all are committed."

Avedisian has been a member of the Commission since 1982.

The Commission was formed in May 1982 to advise the Secretary of the Interior on the restoration of the Statue of Liberty, the stabilization and restoration of key historic buildings on Ellis Island, and on the implementation of plans for the Island's use as a living tribute to ethnic and national origins of all Americans.

The Secretary terminated Mr. Iacocca's appointment as Chairman and member of the Commission in order to avoid any question of conflict raised by Mr. Iacocca's continued membership on both the Commission and the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation.

(more)

"The matter was first brought to my attention by a telegram from the General Counsel of the Foundation to other members of the Commission who also held membership on the Foundation Board. The telegram asserted that Foundation Chairman Iacocca "requests there be no crossover of Commission and Foundation Board membership," Hodel said. "This is a matter of public trust. Those of us who are heads of Federal departments or agencies have the responsibility to maintain the public's confidence in the integrity of government activities. We owe that much to the school children, other individuals, and corporations who have contributed their time and money to help restoring the Statue of Liberty," Hodel added.

Hodel encouraged Mr. Iacocca's continued participation with the Foundation. "The Foundation needs the confidence and continued support of the American people and it requires that the fundraising efforts be timely and adequate for the job at hand," Hodel said. "Therefore, I have asked Mr. Iacocca to continue to serve as Chairman and member of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, which is responsible for funding raising activities. "Because of the key role Mr. Iacocca has played in the Foundation's successes to date, I indicated to him that his continued personal attention to the affairs of the Foundation must take precedence at this time."

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation organized to raise funds from the public for the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island projects. It also lets contracts for reconstruction subject to approval of the Department of the Interior's National Park Service, which reviews advise on the project from the Secretary's advisory commission.

DOI



OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMISSION.

I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH YOU AT AN EARLY TIME TO DISCUSS THE PROPER CONTINUED RELATIONSHIP OF THE FOUNDATION AND THE COMMISSION.

SINCERELY,

DONALD PAUL HODEL, SECRETARY  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR  
DEPT OF INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON DC 20240

\*\*\*\*\*

VALENTINE'S DAY TELEGRAM OFFER/

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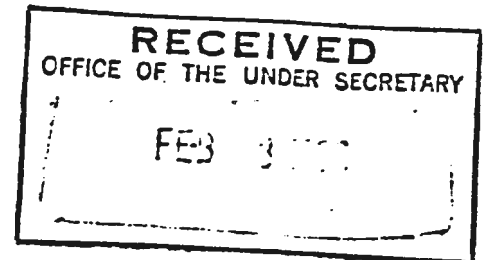
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4-039383S030002 01/30/86 ICS IPMMTZZ CSP WHSB  
1 2023435183 MGM TDMT WASHINGTON DC 01-30 0648P EST

STEPHEN GLEASON, DIRECTOR EXECUTIVE  
SECRETARIAT  
DEPT OF INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON DC 20240



THIS IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

2023435183 TDMT WASHINGTON DC 308 01-30 0648P EST  
PMS MR LEE IACCOCCA, CHAIRMAN  
STATUE OF LIBERTY ELLIS CENTENNIAL COMMISSION RPT DLY MGM, EARLY AS  
POSSIBLE, DLR  
CHRYSLER CORPORATION  
1200 LYNN TOWNSEND DR  
DETROIT MI 48211

DEAR LEE:

I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THE FOUNDATION'S JANUARY 29, 1986 TELEGRAM  
TO ARMEN AVIDISIAN AND JAKE SIMMONS, MEMBERS OF BOTH THE STATUE OF  
LIBERTY ELLIS ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF STATUE OF LIBERTY ELLIS ISLAND FOUNDATION, ADVISING THAT THERE  
SHOULD BE NO CROSSOVER OF MEMBERSHIP ON THE TWO BODIES.

I PERCEIVE YOU BELIEVE THERE IS OR COULD BE A CONFLICT OF SOME SORT  
IN SERVING TWO ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN THIS VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT.  
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS TO MY ATTENTION.

I ALSO FEEL STRONGLY THAT THIS HISTORIC PRIVATE/PUBLIC SECTOR  
INITIATIVE MUST BE SUCCESSFUL AND FREE FROM CONFLICTS.

WE ALL REALIZE THAT NOW IS A MOST CRITICAL TIME IN THE FUND RAISING  
EFFORT. THE PROJECT NEEDS THE CONFIDENCE AND CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE  
AMERICAN PEOPLE AND REQUIRES THAT THE FUND RAISING EFFORTS OF THE  
FOUNDATION BE TIMELY AND ADEQUATE FOR THE JOB AT HAND. BECAUSE OF THE  
KEY ROLE YOU HAVE PLAYED IN THE FOUNDATIONS SUCCESSES TO DATE IT  
SEEMS THAT YOUR CONTINUED PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THE AFFAIRS OF THE  
FOUNDATION MUST TAKE PRECEDENCE AT THIS TIME.

SINCE A SOLOMONS CHOICE MUST BE MADE, YOUR OBSERVATION OF THE  
NECESSITY FOR AN ABSENCE OF CROSSOVER MEMBERSHIPS ON THE COMMISSION  
AND BOARD REQUIRES THAT I ACCEPT YOUR RESIGNATION AS CHAIRMAN AND A  
MEMBER OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY ELLIS ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION. I  
WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE THANKS AS WELL AS THAT OF THE  
AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR YOUR VALUED SERVICE ON THE COMMISSION, AS SOON AS  
YOU CAN PLEASE MAKE TO MAKE PROPER PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF YOUR

**ARMEN G. AVEDISIAN**

**PERSONAL**

**RESIDENCES**

701 Taft Road  
Hinsdale, IL 60522  
312/323-4100

775 Lake Shore Drive  
Lake Geneva, WI 53147  
414/248-7333

Cacique #22  
Casa de Campo  
La Romana,  
Dominican Republic  
809/682-2111  
Ext. 2972

**OFFICES**

Citizens National Bank of Lake Geneva  
401 Broad Street  
Lake Geneva, WI 53147-0432  
414/248-6262

Avedisian Company  
Box 68  
Hinsdale, IL 60522-0068  
312/325-7320

**FOREFATHERS**

Eight previous generations were Ministers in the Armenian Apostolic Church in Van, Armenia.

**FATHER**

Purdue University. Entire career with the State of Illinois as Civil Engineer.

**FAMILY**

Married 33 years - Dorothy Donian, Roycemore School, Stephens College, Northwestern University,  
B.S. 1949. Concert singer and painter.

Son Guy, graduate of Avery Coonley School 1976, Lake Forest Academy 1980 and Trinity University,  
San Antonio, Texas, B.S. 1980. All American (Trap Shooting). International Polo Teams. Northern Trust  
Company, Financial Analysis Training Program and Commercial Lending, 1981-1984. Pursuing an MBA  
Degree at the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business. Vice President and Director of Citizens  
National Bank of Lake Geneva. Vice President and Director of Geneva Capital Corporation and Avedis-  
sian Company.

Son Vann, graduate of Avery Coonley School 1978 and The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, Connecticut,  
1982. Given golf, computer awards and Special Faculty Commendation at Hotchkiss. Attending Mid-  
dlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont. Graduating May, 1986. Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Daughter Donna, graduate of Avery Coonley School, 1982 and in third year at The Hotchkiss School.  
Summers drawing and painting at the Art Institute of Chicago and in France.

**EDUCATION**

University of Illinois, B.S. 1949  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Scholastic Honorary Society: Chi Gamma Iota  
Honors: Highest ten percent of senior class  
Fraternity: Sigma Nu  
University Representative to the Big Ten Interfraternity Council.

Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies

University of Chicago Graduate Business School Courses

**PAST BUSINESS CAREER**

Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, sole stockholder and founder (except Swenson) of:

Avedisian Industries, Inc.  
Lincoln Stone Quarry, Inc.  
Hillside Stone Corporation  
Midstate Stone Corporation

Delta Construction Corporation  
Swenson, Inc.  
DVG Corporation

These firms were involved in the quarrying of limestone aggregates and multi-million dollar contracts in the heavy construction of bridges, highways, and airports — (O'Hare Field, Illinois Tollroad, Interstate System, dams and nuclear cooling lakes, etc.)

Retired in 1977 after all of the above corporations were sold or dissolved, except Lincoln which became Avedisian Company, a personal holding company.

Inventor in 1976 and patentee of an impermeable, ecological shale barrier which permits quarries and pits (by lining their walls and floors with shale) to be used as landfills without leachates entering the aquifer. Shale patents are held in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, France, and West Germany.

**PRESENT CAREER**

Since retiring in 1977, business activities have been limited to serving as Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and sole stockholder of Avedisian Company, a personal holding company with investments in equities, bonds, real estate, natural resources, etc. and since 1980 as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Citizens National Bank of Lake Geneva and Geneva Capital Corporation. All of the stock of CNBLG and GCC is owned by Avedisian and his children.

Majority of time presently spent on eleemosynary activities.

**PAST ACTIVITIES**

The National Limestone Institute, Washington, D.C., past Chairman of the Board, 1971. An organization of 700 limestone quarry corporations in North, Central and South America.

Illinois Association of Aggregate Producers, President, 1968.

Midwest Crushed Limestone Institute, President, 1966-67.

Illinois Road Builders Association, Director and Treasurer, 1963.

Glenwood School for Boys, Trustee and Investment Committee.

Societe des Bains de Mer de Monte Carlo, World Backgammon Championship General Committee.

Avery Coonley School, Trustee, private day school for gifted children.

Easter Seal Society, Trustee.

Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation, Trustee.

University of Illinois Presidents Council.

**PRESENT ACTIVITIES**

Appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Centennial Commission in 1982 at the White House. Appointed by Chairman Lee Iacocca in 1982 to the Executive Committee of the Commission. In 1984 elected to the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation's Board of Directors and in 1985 to its Executive Committee. The purpose of the Commission through the Foundation is to raise 230 million dollars privately, to reconstruct the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island and to be responsible for the Centennial celebrations in 1986 and 1992 respectively.

Awarded by President Gerald Ford in 1983 at ceremonies in Oak Brook, Illinois, the Distinguished Eagle Scout award, which is given in recognition of distinguished achievement in his profession and service to his country.

Geneva Capital Corporation, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer.

Citizens National Bank of Lake Geneva, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer.

Art Institute of Chicago:

- Classical Art Acquisition Committee, 1978 to present
- Oriental Art Acquisitions Committee, 1964
- Men's Council, 1961
- Governing Life Member, 1961
- Sustaining Fellow

Paintings and/or sculpture donated or loaned to the Art Institute of Chicago, de Young Memorial Museum of San Francisco, New Orleans Museum of Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Ford Library at The Hotchkiss School, Middlebury College, Krannert Museum, University of Illinois, etc.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra: Trustee of the Orchestral Association and Chairman of 1981 and 1985 European Tour Committee, and Chairman of the 1986 Tour of Japan, Korea and Hong Kong.

Lyric Opera of Chicago: Director.

**TRAVEL**

Very extensive worldwide travel over the past thirty years, to visit foreign quarries and construction projects particularly in Europe and South America, to patent shale process in Europe, to plan and accompany the CSO on their European Tours and to search for classical antiquities and paintings for personal art collection.

**CLUBS**

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| The Casino                | Lake Geneva Country Club       |
| Chicago Club              | Polo Club (Oak Brook)          |
| Racquet Club of Chicago   | Palm Beach Polo & Country Club |
| Butler National Golf Club | Casa de Campo Golf Club        |

**REFERENCES**

Upon request.

# Who's Who in America.®

## 43rd edition 1984-1985 Volume I

**AVEDISIAN, ARMEN G.**, corporation executive, investor; b. Chgo., Oct. 23, 1926; a. Karekin Der and Kardovil (Ignatius) A.; m. Dorothy D. Donian. Nov. 22, 1952; children: Guy A., Vann A., Donna A. B.S., U. Ill., 1949. Civil engr. Standard Paving Co., Chgo., 1949; constr. supt. Gallagher Asphalt Corp., Thornton, Ill., 1950-55; v.p., dir. Am. Asphalt Paving Co., Chgo., 1956-64; chmn. bd., prez. Lincoln Stone Quarry, Inc., Joliet, Ill., 1964—, Avedisian Industries, Inc., Hillside, Ill., 1964—; chmn. bd. Delta Constr. Corp., Joliet, 1968—, Swenson, Inc., 1970—, Midstate Stone Corp., Gillespie, Ill., 1970—; chmn. bd., chief exec. officer Hillside Stone Corp., 1969—, Avedisian Co., 1978—; chmn. bd., chief exec. officer Geneva Capital Corp., Lake Geneva, Wis.; chmn. bd. Citizens Nat. Bank, Geneva. Mem. prez.'s com., bd. dir. Lyric Opera, Chgo., 1968—; mem. classical art acquisitions com. Art Inst. Chgo., 1961—; trustee Avery Coonley Sch., Chgo. Symphony Orch., 1978—; trustee chmn. European tour com. Chgo. Symphony Orch.; trustee Glenwood (Ill.) Sch. for Boys, Max McGraw Wildlife Found.; mem. exec. bd. Boy Scouts Am., 1978—; mem. Statue of Liberty / Ellis Island Centennial Commn., 1982; v.p. Geneva Lake Water Safety Patrol; mem. gen. com. Société des Bains de Mer de Monte Carlo World Backgammon Championship. Served with AUS, 1944-45. Recipient Disting. Eagle Scout award, 1983. Mem. Nat. Limestone Inst. (chmn. bd. 1971—), Midwest Crushed Limestone Inst. (prez. 1966-67), Nat. Crushed Stone Inst. (bd. gova. 1972—), Ill. Rd. Builders Assn. (dir., treas. 1963), Am. Western socs. civil engr., Ill. Assn. Aggregate Producers (dir., prez. 1968), Sigma Nu Clubs: Chgo., Casino, Racquet (Chgo.); Butler Nat. Golf (Oak Brook, Ill.) (gov. 1978—); Casade Campo Golf (Dominican Republic); Dunham Woods Riding (Wayne, Ill.); Lake Geneva Country, Palm Beach (Fla.) Polo and Country. Patentee impermeable ecol. shale barrier in U.S., Can., U.K., W. Ger., France. Office: Citizens Nat. Bank Box 432 401 Broad St. Lake Geneva WI 53147

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1. Phyllis Savoy/White House

TO/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1. David Chew/Santa Barbara

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

INFORMATION ADDRESSEES/LOCATION/TIME OF RECEIPT

1.

2.

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# U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

## Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 383113 MAIN SUBCODE: FG999

Current Status	Open
User Name	dbarrie
Status Date	2018-08-31
Case Number	S11-431/4
Notes	1 p. Transferred to FG018

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## Review Status History

No.	Status	Date	User	Case Number	Notes
1	Open	2018-08-31	dbarrie	S11-431/4	1 p. Transferred to FG018

383113

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

2/13/86

PJB:

Alec Christie called to say the  
President should put Iacocca back  
into his job.

Sec. Hodel made a fool of himself  
and should reverse his position.

Number: 320-4904.

1110

FG999

PED09

PA002

WE004

FG018



## U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

### Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 383114 MAIN SUBCODE: FG999

Current Status	Open
User Name	dbarrie
Status Date	2018-08-31
Case Number	S11-431/4
Notes	1 p. Transferred to FG018

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### Review Status History

<u>No.</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>User</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1	Open	2018-08-31	dbarrie	S11-431/4	1 p. Transferred to FG018

383114

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

2/13/86

CJ

PJB:

Mr. Wilson Hulley, a friend  
of yours from McLean, called  
to tell you he thinks Hodel  
made a grave mistake.

He said firing Iacocca was a  
big mistake, and hopes you  
will pass this word along.

If you want to speak to him  
about it his number is: 387-1643.

P.S. He suggests you stop jogging,  
you are losing too much weight.

1110

FB999

PE009

WE004

PA002

FB018



# U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

## Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 383115 MAIN SUBCODE: FG999

Current Status	Open
User Name	dbarrie
Status Date	2018-08-31
Case Number	S11-431/4
Notes	1 p. Transferred to FG018

[Change Status](#)

[Close Window](#)

## Review Status History

No.	Status	Date	User	Case Number	Notes
1	Open	2018-08-31	dbarrie	S11-431/4	1 p. Transferred to FG018

JV

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

CJ

383115

2/12/86

PJB:

A Mr. James Downey of Pittsburgh,  
PA called to vent his frustration  
over the firing of Iacocca.

He has been a long and dedicated fan of yours and the Administration's, and wanted you to know he his quite upset with Sec. Hodel, and hopes you can speak to the President about the situation.

He contributed quite a bit of money to the Liberty reconstruction, and wants to see it put to good use.

His number: 412-321-4889.

FB999

PE009

WE004

PA002

FG018

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG018

INCOMING

*MASB*

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 03, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE MAX BAUCUS

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS REINSTATEMENT OF LEE IACOCCA AS HEAD  
OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND  
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	86/03/03	WB	A 86/03/05 TR
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1210 \_\_\_\_\_  
MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                      *                      *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM      *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *          OF SIGNER    *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE     *C-COMPLETED        *          CODE = A    *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED        *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                      *          OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                      *                      *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE      *                      *                      *
*X-INTERIM REPLY      *                      *                      *
*****

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

March 5, 1986

Dear Senator Baucus:

Thank you for your February 21 letter to the President regarding the dismissal of Lee Iacocca as head of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission.

I have relayed your thoughts on this matter to the President. In addition, I will make sure that your concerns are brought to the attention of key members of the President's advisory staff.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

William L. Ball III  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Max Baucus  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

WLB:KRJ:hlb

~~cc:~~ w/copy of inc to Don Regan - FYI  
~~cc:~~ w/copy of inc to Al Kingnon - FYI  
~~cc:~~ w/copy of inc to Bob Tuttle - FYI  
~~cc:~~ w/copy of inc to Katja Bullock - FYI

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 21, 1986

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Americans are looking forward with great anticipation toward the centennial of the Statue of Liberty. This celebration should be an occasion of pride in our country and our accomplishments--past and present--and a promise to remain true to the ideals which have made America great. Unfortunately, a dark cloud now hangs over this event: I am referring to the dismissal of Lee Iacocca as head of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission.

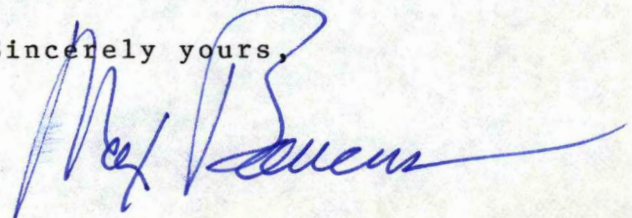
Mr. Iacocca has demonstrated a unique ability to get the job done and to do it well. He is often viewed as an example of what can be accomplished in the land of opportunity, and his entrepreneurship and strong character are admired by many. He almost singlehandedly has raised much of the money needed to restore a national landmark for future generations. Because of his efforts, Big Business and Traditional Values are not considered so unlikely a team.

Mr. Iacocca is an innovator, but he is also viewed by many people as a person who defends and wants to preserve America's history. His stand against commercialization of Ellis Island is applauded by the average citizen who is perplexed by Mr. Iacocca's abrupt removal from his position on the Centennial Commission. And, at this stage of the game, a falling out between Mr. Iacocca and the administration can only be a real disappointment to everyone.

Mr. President, I respectfully request that you look into this matter. If this decision could be reconsidered, I believe that many Americans would be grateful. And, in any event, I think an attempt on your part to heal the breach and lead us in rising above personalities and politics in connection with a project of great importance to the American public, would be appreciated.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG018  
RHT-11

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 03, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. JOSEPH F. VALLETUTTI

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA FROM POST AS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY - ELLIS  
ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK		ORG	86/03/03	RT A	86/03/24
<i>Correspondence Hudson</i>		A	86/03/18	<del>RT</del>	86/03/24 TR
<i>Interior</i>		A	86/03/27		C 86/04/10 AB
	<i>Lee Uhre</i>				<del>86/03/24</del> NAN

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 383635  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 26, 1986  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: DR. JOSEPH F. VALLETUTTI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
AMERICANS OF ITALIAN DESCENT, INC.  
SUITE 306  
104 EAST 40TH STREET  
NEW YORK NY 10016

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA FROM POST AS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY - ELLIS  
ISLAND CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Dr. Valletutti:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

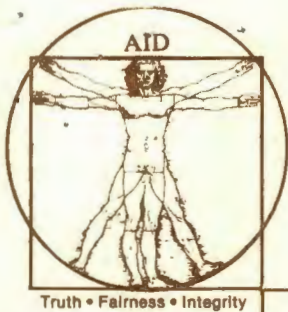
As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Dr. Joseph F. Valletutti  
Executive Director  
Americans of Italian Descent, Inc.  
Suite 306  
104 East 40th Street  
New York, NY 10016

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116  
RHT:8echf  
RHT-11



383635

# Americans of Italian Descent, Inc.

United and Dedicated to Combat Defamation

104 E. 40th St., Suite 306, New York, N. Y. 10016

Telephone (212) 697-8850

Truth • Fairness • Integrity

2/26/86

KB

Hon. Ronald Reggan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

The firing of Lee Iacocca from his post as Chairman of the ~~Statute of Liberty - Ellis Island Centennial Commission~~ is an abuse of power by Donald Hodel that brings discredit on the conduct of your administration. The magnitude of this folly requires your immediate intervention so that this insult to a great American can be repaired.

Lee Iacocca is a legend for all Americans. He is the acknowledged genius who turned around the nation's depressed and faltering automotive industry. Only through his charisma, networking, and friends in financial circles, have the enormous funds been raised to restore the "Lady" and renovate Ellis Island.

As the son of immigrants, he brought to this task a special enthusiasm. His own spirit spilled over and infected the nation inspiring millions upon millions of ordinary people to give of their earnings to keep American's beacon of liberty visible for all to admire and revere.

Lee Iacocca deserves our undying praise. He is perceived as a man of presidential timber who single-handedly raised \$ 240,000,000. To fire him four years later in his tenure after he had raised most of the money on such tenuous grounds as a conflict of interest, is nothing but sheer stupidity. Thinking people consider this episode as an exercise in gross pettiness and the height of callousness against a first class citizen. You Mr. President, in good conscience, cannot remain indifferent.

DR. JOSEPH F. VALLETUTTI  
Executive Director



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104 E. 40th St., Suite 306, New York, N. Y. 10016

Telephone (212) 697-8850

Mr. President, we the sons and daughter of Italian immigrants ask you to rectify the travesty committed by your Secretary of the Interior. Through you, let the greatness of America prevail. We call upon you to reverse your Secretary and light the torch for a wonderful American, Lee Iacocca. Give us more reason to respect, honor and love you.

In further support of Lee Iacocca we endorse and urge you to put the weight of your office behind the D'Amato/Biaggi legislation preventing the commercialization of Ellis Island.

We anxiously await your reply.

Sincerely yours.

*Joseph F. Valletutti*  
Dr. Joseph F. Valletutti  
Executive Director

JFV:jc

c.c. Hon. Mario Cuomo  
c.c. Hon. Joseph Addabbo  
Hon. Alfonse D'Amato  
Hon. Joseph Dio Guardi  
Hon. Frank Annunzio  
Hon. Pete Domenici  
Hon. Guy Molinari  
Hon. Peter Rodino, Jr.  
Hon. Mario Biaggi  
Hon. Denis Cuomo  
Hon. Denis De Concini  
Hon. Daniel P. Moynihan.  
Hon. William D. Fugazy



# U.S. National Archives & Records Administration

## Current Status Details for CTRH RECID: 384297 MAIN SUBCODE: FG999

Current Status	Open
User Name	dbarrie
Status Date	2018-08-31
Case Number	S11-431/4
Notes	4 p. Transferred to FG018

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## Review Status History

No.	Status	Date	User	Case Number	Notes
1	Open	2018-08-31	dbarrie	S11-431/4	4 p. Transferred to FG018

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

*FG999*  
*RHT-11*

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 04, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROSE A. CAPUTO

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA AS HEAD OF  
THE FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMISSION ON  
RESTORATION OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK		ORG	86/03/04	<i>RT A</i>	<i>86/03/04</i> <i>CJ</i>
ANDREW CARD		RSI	86/03/04		C 86/03/04
<i>Correspondence Hudson</i>		<i>A</i>	<i>86/03/18</i>	<i>RT</i>	<i>86/03/04</i> <i>TR</i>
<i>Anterior</i>		<i>A</i>	<i>86/03/22</i>		<i>C 86/03/02</i> <i>NAN</i>

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2130 \_\_\_\_\_

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- ```

*****
*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *           OF SIGNER  *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *           CODE = A   *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED        *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                       *           OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *                       *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                       *                       *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                       *                       *
*****

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 384297

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 21, 1986

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE ROSE A. CAPUTO  
JUDGE  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD  
45 SECOND AVENUE  
NEW YORK NY 10003

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA AS HEAD OF  
THE FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMISSION ON  
RESTORATION OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Judge Caputo:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

The Honorable Rose A. Caputo  
Judge  
Workers' Compensation Board  
of the State of New York  
35 Second Avenue  
New York, NY 10003

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116  
RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

27

agpt.

384297



KB  
cc. andy  
clerk

ROSE A. CAPUTO  
JUDGE

STATE OF NEW YORK  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD

February 21, 1986

Ronald R. Reagan  
President of the United States  
Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Having read about the removal of Lee A. Iacocca as head of the Federal Advisory Commission on restoration of the Statue of Liberty and historic buildings on Ellis Island, I am deeply concerned and horrified that such an action can take place in this day and age. To remove a man who epitomizes the contributions of persons whose immigrant parents came through the doors of Ellis Island is unfair. It impinges the integrity of a man who has been praised as "a classic example of American Volunteerism".

The coming together of all ethnic groups to create this great land of ours has made America strong. We have not however forgotten our roots. We must and should treat Ellis Island as a hallowed place for our children, resident aliens, visitors and Americans to remember our forefathers.

Mr. Hodel's action is disgraceful. Does Mr. Hodel want to destroy our heritage? Does he want to forget the past and present immigrants who have struggled and fought for our way of life?

Please, Mr. President, look into this matter and restore Mr. Iacocca to the post he justly deserves. He has caused this project to be so successful because of his image of knowing a person can be a success. He is Mr. Statue of Liberty. He stands up tall for the American way.

Very truly yours,

ROSE A. CAPUTO  
Judge, Workers' Compensation Board

RAC/jc

cc: Coalition of Italo-American Assoc.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

FG018  
RHT-11

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 05, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. EDMOND A. FASANO

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA  
FROM THE STATUE OF LIBERTY COMMISSION

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY | (STAFF NAME)                                | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION     |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|                            |                                             | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP    | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| KATJA BULLOCK              |                                             | ORG         | 86/03/05         | RT A            | 86/03/04                  |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Correspondence Hudson</i> | A           | 86/03/18         | <del>RT A</del> | 86/03/24 TR               |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Interior</i>              | A           | 86/03/22         | TR              | 86/04/02 AB               |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Sea View</i>              |             |                  |                 | 86/04/02 NAN              |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |                 |                           |
|                            | REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |                 |                           |

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75,OEOb) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 384392  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 28, 1986  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: MR. EDMOND A. FASANO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ITALIAN CHARITIES OF AMERICA, INC.  
83-20 QUEENS BOULEVARD  
ELMHURST NY 11373

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA  
FROM THE STATUE OF LIBERTY COMMISSION

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Fasano:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Mr. Edmond A. Fasano  
Executive Director  
Italian Charities of American, Inc.  
83-20 Queens Boulevard  
Elmhurst, NY 11373

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11



384392

# Italian Charities of America, Inc.

83-20 QUEENS BOULEVARD • ELMHURST, NEW YORK 11373 • (212) 478-3100



February 28, 1986

KB

Dear President Reagan:

Our organization is celebrating its 50th Anniversary, and as Italian Americans we have always served our Country with the highest degree of integrity and pride.

We are deeply disturbed by the sudden firing of Mr. Lee Iacocca by the interior secretary Donald P. Hodel. When Mr. Iacocca was called upon to head the fund drive for the Statue of Liberty, he accepted without hesitation the privilege of serving his Country.

The 230 million dollars Mr. Iacocca has already collected, "SPEAKS FOR ITSELF". Mr. Hodel knew that Mr. Iacocca had the respect and admiration of the American people, that is why he appointed him, AND HE WAS RIGHT Success does not come easy. It takes talent, guts, hard work and perseverance to achieve a successful goal. Mr. Iacocca proved it can be done.

Mr. President, do not allow our Government to be further ridiculed because of personal differences by men who make blatantly outrageous decisions.

We urge you to intervene and have Mr. Iacocca re-appointed to his rightful position and to lead the forth-coming 100th year Anniversary of the Statue of Liberty.

Our organization also supports the Federal Legislation introduced by Senator Alphonse D'Amato and Congressman Mario Biaggi, to preserve Ellis Island for its Historical Significancy.

WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL ESPECIALLY FOR MR. LEE IACOCCA.

Respectfully,

Edmond A. Fasano  
Executive Director

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

*ASAP*

*FG018*

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 10, 1986

*RHT-11*

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT P. MARASCO

SUBJECT: FORWARDS NEWARK MUNICIPAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
OPPOSING THE DISMISSAL OF LEE IACocca AS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS  
ISLAND COMMISSION

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| KATJA BULLOCK                           | ORG         | 86/03/10         | <i>RT</i>    | <i>A 86/03/24</i>         |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                           |
| CRISTY BACH                             | RSI         | 86/03/10         |              | C 86/03/10                |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                           |
| <i>Correspondence Hudson</i>            | <i>A</i>    | <i>86/03/18</i>  | <i>RT</i>    | <i>86/03/18</i>           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                           |
| <i>Anterior</i>                         | <i>A</i>    | <i>86/03/27</i>  |              | <i>86/03/24</i>           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>See Uthe</i>          |             |                  |              | <i>C 86/04/02</i>         |
|                                         |             |                  |              | <i>NAN</i>                |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                           |

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                       *                       *                   *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *                   *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED        *                   *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC *                       *OF SIGNER        *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *CODE = A         *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                       *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                       *OUTGOING         *
*****

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOb) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 384848

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 6, 1986

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE ROBERT P. MARASCO  
DEPUTY CITY CLERK OF NEWARK

NEWARK NJ 07102

SUBJECT: FORWARDS NEWARK MUNICIPAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
OPPOSING THE DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA AS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS  
ISLAND COMMISSION

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Marasco:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

Mr. Robert P. Marasco  
Deputy City Clerk  
City of Newark  
Newark, NJ 07102

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

384848

5  
KB  
cc: C. Bach



FRANK D'ASCENSIO  
CITY CLERK  
NEWARK, N. J. 07102

March 6, 1986

Hon. Ronald Reagan  
President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Reagan

At its special meeting of February 25, 1986, the Newark Municipal Council adopted a "RESOLUTION BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL STRONGLY CRITICIZING THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, DONALD P. HODEL, FOR REMOVING LEE IACOCCA AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON THE RESTORATION OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY AND ELLIS ISLAND, AND URGING MR. IACOCCA'S IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT." A certified copy of the resolution is enclosed.

Council Members expressed the belief that Mr. Iacocca has done more than any one American to preserve and promote this great symbol of our heritage and he has become a great symbol to the world of the accomplishments of the sons and daughters of the millions of persons who passed through Ellis Island and were welcomed by the Statue of Liberty in their quest for freedom and opportunity. It is the Council's belief that Mr. Iacocca deserves the applause of a grateful nation, rather than a capricious ouster for narrow political considerations.

The Municipal Council believes that this action by the administration has cast a cloud over the forthcoming rededication of the Statue of Liberty. By restoring him to the chairmanship of the commission he has served so well, the administration can brighten the glow of the torch in New York Harbor for millions of persons here and around the world.

Very truly yours

Robert P. Marasco  
Deputy City Clerk

MEw  
7Re(s-1) 022586  
cc: The Members of the Municipal Council  
Hon. Kenneth A. Gibson, Mayor  
Hon. Bill Bradley, U.S. Senator  
Hon. Frank Lautenberg, U.S. Senator  
Hon. Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Member of Congress

# Resolution of the City of Newark, N. J.

No. 7RE(S-1)

Date of Adoption FEB 25 1986

**TITLE**  
RESOLUTION BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL STRONGLY CRITICIZING THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, DONALD P. HODEL, FOR REMOVING LEE IACOCCA AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON THE RESTORATION OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY AND ELLIS ISLAND, AND URGING MR. IACOCCA'S IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
NEWARK, N. J.  
1986 FEB 25 PM 4:49

Approved as to Form and Legality on Basis of Facts Set Forth

Resolutions certified to

*[Signature]*  
Councilman

*[Signature]*  
Title

Presents the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Lee Iacocca is one of the most widely respected business executives in the nation, and his vision and determination rescued a major automobile manufacturer from collapse, and his autobiography has become one of the best-selling books in publishing history, and public-opinion polls show that he is one of the most popular persons in the United States today; and

WHEREAS, Lee Iacocca has served with the utmost distinction in recent years as chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission of the U.S. Department of the Interior and as chairman of the private Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc., and has raised more than \$230 million to restore this great national symbol and assure its survival and good health for a second century; and

WHEREAS, Lee Iacocca has done more than any one person to muster national support for the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, and to focus worldwide attention on these twin symbols of America's historic role as a gateway to freedom and opportunity, and he has also demonstrated that the private and public sectors can work together effectively for noble national purposes; and

WHEREAS, Lee Iacocca on February 12, 1986, was summarily dismissed from the unpaid chairmanship of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island advisory commission by Secretary of the Interior Donald P. Hodel, and this unwarranted and arbitrary action has outraged the American people and disrupted the efforts to preserve these two historic sites and protect them from commercial exploitation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, THAT the Municipal Council strongly criticizes the United States Secretary of the Interior, Donald P. Hodel, for removing Lee Iacocca as chairman of the Advisory Commission on the Restoration of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, and does urge Mr. Iacocca's immediate reinstatement to this position in which he has already performed extraordinary public service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT certified copies of this resolution be sent to President Ronald Reagan, Secretary of the Interior Donald P. Hodel, and Lee Iacocca.

Do not cut across below this line

| RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE |   |   |      |                     |            |   |   |      |                |             |   |   |      |                    |
|-----------------------------------------|---|---|------|---------------------|------------|---|---|------|----------------|-------------|---|---|------|--------------------|
| COUNCILMAN                              | Y | N | A.B. | N.V.                | COUNCILMAN | Y | N | A.B. | N.V.           | COUNCILMAN  | Y | N | A.B. | N.V.               |
| BRANCH                                  | ✓ |   |      |                     | MARTINEZ   | ✓ |   |      |                | TUCKER      | ✓ |   |      |                    |
| CARRINO                                 | ✓ |   |      |                     | PAYNE      | ✓ |   |      |                | VILLANI     | ✓ |   |      |                    |
| JAMES                                   | ✓ |   |      |                     | RICE       | ✓ |   |      |                | GRANT Pres. |   |   |      |                    |
|                                         |   |   |      | ✓ -- Indicates Vote |            |   |   |      | A.B. -- Absent |             |   |   |      | N.V. -- Not Voting |

CERTIFIED TO BY ME THIS  
27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1986

FEB 25 1986

Adopted at a meeting of the Municipal Council of the City of Newark, N. J.

*[Signature]*  
President of the Council

*[Signature]*  
City Clerk

This Resolution when adopted must remain in the custody of the City Clerk. Certified copies are available.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FG018  
RHT-11

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 11, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE RONALD C. TOCCI

SUBJECT: OPPOSES COMMERCIALIZATION OF ELLIS ISLAND  
AND OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY   | (STAFF NAME)                   | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                              |                                | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| KATJA BULLOCK                |                                | ORG         | 86/03/11         | RT A         | 86/03/24                  |
|                              | REFERRAL NOTE:                 |             |                  |              |                           |
| KAE RAIRDIN                  |                                | RSI         | 86/03/11         |              | C 86/03/11                |
|                              | REFERRAL NOTE:                 |             |                  |              |                           |
| <i>Correspondence Hudson</i> |                                | A           | 86/03/18         | RT           | 86/03/24 TR               |
|                              | REFERRAL NOTE:                 |             |                  |              |                           |
| <i>Antevon</i>               |                                | A           | 86/03/22         |              | C 86/04/02 AB             |
|                              | REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Sea View</i> |             |                  |              |                           |
|                              | REFERRAL NOTE:                 |             |                  |              |                           |

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION         | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | *CORRESPONDENCE:     | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | OF SIGNER            | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | CODE = A             | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | OUTGOING             | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 27, 1986

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
ATTN: LEA UHRE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 384913  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 6, 1986  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: THE HONORABLE RONALD C. TOCCI  
NEW YORK ASSEMBLY  
ROOM 940  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ALBANY NY 12248

SUBJECT: OPPOSES COMMERCIALIZATION OF ELLIS ISLAND  
AND OPPOSES DISMISSAL OF LEE IACOCCA

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

March 24, 1986

Dear Mr. Tocci:

Thank you for your communication to the President regarding the termination of Mr. Lee Iacocca as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Commission.

The Charter for this Commission placed the authority for the appointment and removal of Members solely into the hands of the Secretary of the Interior. Therefore, it would be inappropriate for either the President or any member of his staff to interfere with the Secretary's statutory authority. Because of your concern, we have forwarded your letter to Secretary Hodel.

As you may know, Mr. Iacocca continues to serve as Chairman of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. July 4, 1986 will be an historic day for all Americans, and Lee Iacocca has a major role in the planning of the commemorative events as well as in the future plans for Ellis Island. His commitment to the cause is very much appreciated by President Reagan.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for Presidential Personnel

The Honorable Ronald C. Tocci  
Member of the Assembly of the  
State of New York  
Albany, NY 12248

cc with incoming to INTERIOR, Lea Uhre, Rm. 6116

RHT:8echf  
RHT-11

384913

KB  
cc: Kae  
Rasdin



THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

COMMITTEES

Consumer Affairs and Protection  
Education  
Energy  
Environmental Conservation  
Labor

RONALD TOCCI  
85th Assembly District

- Room 940  
Legislative Office Building  
Albany, New York 12248  
(518) 455-4897
- 77 Quaker Ridge Road  
New Rochelle, New York 10804  
(914) 235-7900

March 6, 1986

Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

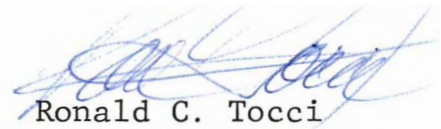
I am opposed to the commercialization of Ellis Island.

When Lee Iacocca solicited contributions for the purpose of restoring the Statue of Liberty and to preserve Ellis Island, certainly the furthest thought visilized for this restoration was commercialization in any form.

I must also express my disappointment with the cavalier attitude taken toward Lido A. Iacocco, who has accomplished what no other interested American could have - the refurbishing of the Statue of Liberty, on time!

The July 4th celebration, will be flawed unless this injustice is rectified.

Respectfully,

  
Ronald C. Tocci  
Assemblyman