

United States Claims Court

717 MADISON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
(202) 633-7267

July 17, 1984

THE CHIEF JUDGE

The Honorable Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Fred:

As you probably are aware, I have expressed an interest in an appointment to the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. While I have found my position with the Claims Court challenging and rewarding, much of what I set out to do has been accomplished over the last two years. On the other hand, as this Supreme Court Term demonstrates, the Ninth Circuit is badly in need of judges with a conservative judicial philosophy. My experience in leading the Claims Court through a very difficult time in its history, without dissention or controversy, should prove useful in establishing good working relationships with colleagues in the Ninth Circuit.

I also have personal reasons for wanting to get back to California. As you know, both my parents and Marcy's family are out in California and, if possible, we hope to be reunited with them.

I am mindful of the concerns that might be expressed, particularly about my age and experience. I would point out, however, that I have gained more litigation experience over the last two years than many lawyers see in a lifetime. Moreover, as chief judge of a national court, I have dealt closely not only with my judicial colleagues (many of whom were well entrenched in their ways) but also with the bar, the judicial conference and the multitude of agencies and organizations that provide support services for the court. I am grateful to you and to others for giving me the opportunity to serve in this capacity and I hope that I have not disappointed you. If I should be appointed to the Ninth Circuit, I promise to do my very best there so that you and the President can be proud of me.

The Honorable Fred F. Fielding
July 17, 1984
Page Two

I know how busy you are, so I have chosen this way of communicating with you, rather than by phone or visit. Of course, if you should want to talk, I am available.

Many thanks for everything.

Sincerely,



Alex Kozinski

AK/dms