



THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
MENTAL RETARDATION AND ALCOHOLISM SERVICES
93 WORTH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10013
TEL 212-431-3732

MARTIN S. BEGUN
CHAIRMAN

August 5, 1994

The Honorable Rudolph W. Giuliani
Mayor of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mayor Giuliani:

Please let this letter serve as my official resignation as Chairman of the Community Services Board of the New York City Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services.

Under Mayor Beame, during three Koch administrations, and under Mayor Dinkins, I had the honor and the pleasure of serving the Department and its 15-member governing Board. Throughout my tenure, the Board has remained well-balanced among constituents of five boroughs, consumer representatives and agency professionals. It has also been a privilege for the past several months to work for the Giuliani administration. In addition, I was fortunate to work closely with very impressive former commissioners in the Department: Dr. June Jackson Christmas, Dr. Sara Kellermann and Dr. Billy Jones. These commissioners left a positive and indelible mark on the broad spectrum of social services available to New York City's most needy population. Finally, it has been especially rewarding to work alongside the current commissioner, my friend and NYU School of Medicine colleague, Dr. Luis R. Marcos. Had it not been for the recent thoughtful and vigorous advocacy of Dr. Marcos, I firmly believe that none of the good work of his predecessors would have seen such successful completion.

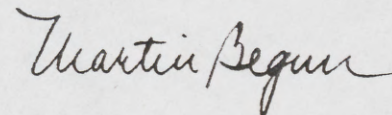
Allow me to convey for the record a few thoughts regarding this successful completion. There is perhaps no better time than now to pass on the stewardship as Chairman of the Community Services Board. Historians have suggested that I served longer than any other chairman in modern times; this alone should be a signal to give up my assignment. But there is more that compels me. Very few individuals in public service have an opportunity to see an agenda fulfilled in its entirety. And I have enjoyed this phenomenon. Specifically, in the last session of the State Legislature, several legislative milestones -- years in coming -- were finally achieved: the Reinvestment Act of 1993, the Outpatient Civil Commitment legislation of 1994, and the Mobile Crisis/Substance Abuse Alcoholism Emergency Retention Law of 1994.

Page Two
Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani

In closing, let me assert that the future of mental health services in New York City continues to revolve in large measure around the homeless mentally ill chemical abuser population. Moreover, the City now has policy mechanisms and legal structures to bring about far-reaching and beneficial results. Today, under-utilized New York State psychiatric facilities are finally being closed. Tax dollars, earmarked for mental health services, will be reinvested in community-based programs for the homeless mentally ill. There is now widespread recognition of the necessity for consolidating substance abuse with other addiction services. Indeed, Dr. Marcos and his colleagues have been able to communicate to the public and to public policymakers the fact that most of our street dwellers are multiply disabled women, men and children who require complex modalities of treatment.

The most noble political aspiration, in my opinion, is the advancement of the commonwealth through good government. Public service is a pursuit which calls on every resource of mind and character. For several years now, as Chairman of the Community Services Board, I have been blessed with a broad range of public service duties and outstanding colleagues on the Board and in the Department. My mission as a citizen remains the same: to articulate goals which help people in need, and then to chart the path toward achieving these goals. It has been a rare and distinct privilege to have served our city and its people, and I thank you for these additional months wherein we completed the legislative agenda.

Respectfully yours,



Martin S. Begun



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

August 8, 1994

Mr. Martin S. Begun
400 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Begun:

I have received your letter of resignation as a member and Chair of the Community Services Board of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services.

On behalf of the City of New York, I want to thank you for serving as the Chair of the Community Services Board. You have helped the City to confront many problems, including care for the homeless and in-patient overcrowding, and to expand services in our hospitals and schools. Under your leadership, the Community Services Board increased public awareness of the problems facing the mentally ill population and successfully lobbied for legislation to improve the quality of care.

I am confident that the Board will continue its fine work in the future, and I hope that it can look to you for support on these many important issues.

I thank you again for your years of service to the Community Services Board. I look forward to working with you in the future to help our City and to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

Rudolph W. Giuliani
Mayor

cc: Luis R. Marcos, M.D.

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August 11, 1994

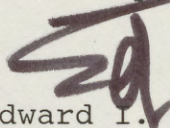
Martin S. Begun
Vice President of External Affairs
and Associate Dean
N.Y.U. School of Medicine
550 First Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Marty:

Your August 5 letter to the Mayor was a slam dunk!

All the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Ed Koch', written over the typed name.

Edward I. Koch

The City University of New York



Senior Vice Chancellor Emeritus

c/o Hunter College, Box 373, Room E1213
695 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 772-4224

September 26, 1994

Dean Martin Begun
Vice President
New York Medical School
550 First Avenue
New York, NY 10016

Dear Marty:

I thank you exceedingly for sharing with me a copy of your letter of resignation to Mayor Giuliani. I have read and re-read it. To absorb all the subtleties of it requires more than one reading. It is not just a letter. It is literature. It should be stored in the Archives of your department.

Yes, it is a most informative and also a teaching instrument. I learned more from it than I had known about what you have been working at, for these many years. I take a note of the "several legislative milestones" listed therein. What a record of achievement!

I also have taken note of your penultimate observations about the homeless. That too is highly informative.

Enough said... or almost enough. Of course you did right to alight from the careening vehicle which is the city government these days. No one knows or can tell where it will finally end.

Cheers.

As ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Julius C.C. Edelstein'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Julius C.C. Edelstein

The City University of New York



Senior Vice Chancellor Emeritus

*c/o Hunter College, Box 373, Room E1213
695 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 772-4224*

P.S. Maybe now you will be able to find
a little time for the Liberal Think
Tank.

JCCE:rg



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
CITY HALL
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

PETER F. VALLONE
SPEAKER

TELEPHONE
212-788-7210

April 19, 1994

Mr. Martin S. Begun
Associate Dean
New York University Medical School
550 First Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Begun:

I was delighted to have you join me as I celebrated my twentieth year of public service in January.

I am enclosing a small memento of that cold, snowy evening in January that was made warm and bright by you, and so many of my friends, who came out to share a very special night with me.

Thank you for the support you have shown me. Working together we can improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers.

Best regards,

Thanks so much for everything!
P. F. Vallone
Peter F. Vallone
Speaker

PFV/drw
enclosure(s)

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