REMARKS BY COMMISSIONER JAMES H. QUELLO

FOR PETE'S FAREWELL PARTY

JANUARY 9, 1997

(READ CAREFULLY PREPARED AD LIBS: NOT FROM A HIGH FALUTIN' IVY LEAGUE COLLEGE -- I'M JUST AN ORDINARY MIDWESTERNER.)

HEY COMMISSIONER, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT PETE LEAVING YOU?

I REPLIED, "IT SHOULDN'T BE THAT MUCH OF A BIG DEAL -- BUT FRANKLY, IF SHE'S GONE, I'M OUTA HERE" -- I'M NOT STAYING AT THE COMMISSION DEFENSELESS WITHOUT MY NO. 1 SUPER SMART LEGAL PIT BULL!

WITH PETE AND MO O'CONNELL, WE HAD OUR OWN SPECIAL TYPE OF CAMELOT AT MY OFFICE -- BUT I HASTEN TO ADD THAT IN A COCKTAIL BAR SOCIAL SENSE, I DON'T THINK ANYONE GOT "A LOT AT OUR PARTICULAR CAMELOT." I HOPE SOME WISE GUY OR GAL DOES NOT ASCRIBE IT TO THE INVOLUNTARY CELIBACY OF MY GOLDEN YEARS, BUT RATHER TO -- WELL, THE HELL WITH IT.

A DAY AT THE OFFICE: I WOULD COME IN IN THE MORNING AND USE A TYPICAL GREETING -- "O.K., I'M HERE, NOW VACATION TIME IS OVER -- LOOKA BUSY."

MARSHA MacBRIDE -- NEW BRIGHT KID ON THE BLOCK SAID, "I HEARD YOU COMING DOWN THE HALL, SO I STARTED SHUFFLING PAPERS." SHE IS FITTING IN EXTREMELY WELL.

NOW BACK TO THE DAYS OF PETE AND MO: PETE AND MO WOULD RUSH IN AND STATE -- BOSS, NOW SIT DOWN AND LISTEN, HERE IS WHAT IS GOING ON, ETC. TO KEEP CONTROL, I WOULD THEN COUNTER WITH MY STRONGEST AUTHORITARIAN VOICE -- YES MAAM!

THEN I WOULD CHECK IT OUT WITH MY TRUSTED ADVISOR, RUDY. "RUDY, WE HAVE TWO SUPER SMART, ASSERTIVE, AGGRESSIVE WOMEN. (YOU REALIZE THAT IS POLITICALLY CORRECT FOR TWO SUPER SMART, PUSHY BROADS.) THEY HAVE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED (POLITE FOR DIRECTED) THAT I DO THIS ----" WHAT IS YOUR INDEPENDENT JUDGMENT?

BOSS, THEY ARE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT! -- ETC. I EXCLAIMED, "WHAT, AGAIN!"

TALK ABOUT FEMALE DOMINANCE -- LOOK AT GINGER, A GREAT, WISE C.A. IN MY OFFICE -- AND "BOSS" MARY AT HOME.

INCIDENTALLY, PETE HERSELF DOES NOT BELIEVE IN WOMEN'S EQUALITY -- SHE REFUSES TO STEP DOWN.

ANYWAY, EVERYONE HERE KNOWS TOO WELL THAT THE SECRET OF WHATEVER SUCCESS I HAVE HAD WAS DUE TO MY ALWAYS SELECTING PEOPLE THAT ARE MUCH BRIGHTER THAN I AM -- I'M LUCKY -- THE SELECTION FIELD IS SO LARGE! LOOK AT ALL THE EXCEPTIONALLY DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI I HAVE SERVED UNDER -- BRIAN FONTES, KATHY ABERNATHY, KEN HOWARD, DAVE DONOVAN, BOB CORN-REVERE, SHELDON GUTTMANN AND ALL MY BRIGHT FORMER LEGAL INTERNS, SO GAINFULLY EMPLOYED -- AND NOW RUDY, JIM COLTHARP AND MARSHA MACBRIDE.

ANYWAY PETE -- HERE IS A LITTLE FRAGRANT REMEMBRANCE FROM NEIMAN MARCUS -- IF YOU HAPPEN NOT TO LIKE IT, YOU CAN TRADE IT IN FOR A SMALL CAR.

ALSO, I HEARD THAT IN CONGRESS IF YOU WANT A FRIEND, GET A DOG. SO, HERE IS YOUR OWN PRIVATE DALMATIAN FOR YOUR CONGRESSIONAL PURPOSES. AT YOUR HOME OFFICE AT FCC-802 -- YOU REALLY HAVE APPRECIATIVE FRIENDS WITHOUT THE CUTE DOGGY.

SO, LET ME PROPOSE A TOAST TO PETE BELVIN --

A SUPER SMART, ASSERTIVE, LOYAL LADY -- A GREAT FRIEND AND A POWERFUL ALLY -- AND NOW AN EXPERT COMMUNICATIONS ASSET TO SENATE COMMUNICATIONS CHAIRMAN JOHN McCAIN -- ACTUALLY GOD DID NOT OWE CHAIRMAN McCAIN OR ME THAT MUCH!

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