

11025 Sherman Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92643
October 4, 1994

Ms. Helen Nakamura Napoleon
2730 Tioga Way
Sacramento, CA 95821

Dear Helen:

Just thought I'd drop you a note and let you know what is happening with my redress case. As I had told you back in 1991, JACL wasn't much help. Last year, after receiving the denial to my appeal, I went to several NCCR meetings, was encouraged to find they were still involved with redress, and through them found attorney Gerald Sato, who agreed to take my case in Claims Court at a greatly reduced rate - he too believes the government is wrong in denying redress to so many people due to technicalities in the circumstances of their cases. (The next step after an appeal is denied is Claims Court - at this level, one needs to hire an attorney, as a lawsuit must be filed against the US government.) At the time I first spoke to Gerald, the judge had not made a decision in his cousin's case. He has since ruled in her favor, although the Department of Justice is appealing his decision (see enclosed articles). My case should be heard in the next couple of months and happily, the article dated 9/14 indicates there are quite a few others standing up and protesting the government's myopic interpretation of the Act.

I have been trying to help out at NCCR in finding attorneys to take cases either on a pro bono or low cost basis, mainly by calling people who have been denied redress regarding the status of their case and determining their interest in appealing in Claims Court. Progress has been slow since everyone (NCCR members and attorneys showing interest) is a volunteer, but at least there is somewhere to turn for those who have been denied and feel the government is wrong in not following the spirit and intent of the law.

Hope all is well with you and your family.

Sincerely,



Sharon Tanihara