President George W. Bush The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500

U.S. Senator Jon S. Corzine Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Robert G. Torricelli 113 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Menendez 405 Cannon Building Washington, DC 20515

Lee C Sonko [address hidden]

6-27-02

Sir:

I want you to know that I am strongly in favor or the 9th Circuit Court decision to prohibit the "under God" phrase in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I recall when I was in elementary school some 20 years ago, at no prompting from anyone, I always mouthed those two words under my breath, because, as my elementary school civics class taught, there was a separation between church and state in America.

I only recently found out that the phrase was added in 1954, in defiance of the "godless" communist threat. Well, **the Cold War is over**. In the current political and terrorist climate, one could easily argue that "God" is causing more problems for the U.S. than he is solving.

Thank you for your time, Lee C. Sonko