NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

WALL STREET JOURNAL, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2001

New York's Mayor Pitches Plan to Extend His Stay in Office

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter

NEW YORK—Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani confirmed what all New Yorkers have been thinking the past week: He wouldn't mind running his scarred city at least a little while longer.

A day after primary elections to find his successor, Mr. Giuliani threw an already marginalized mayoral campaign into turmoil, saying he was pitching to the three remaining candidates an unspecified plan regarding the future leadership of the city. Separately, on the CBS program "60 Minutes II," Mr. Giuliani said he was "open to the idea" of finding a way to extend his time in office past Dec. 31.

In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, Mr. Giuliani has won broad support from New Yorkers, many of whom were looking forward to his often-controversial eight-year reign coming to an end after two terms, the maximum he can serve under the law.

Now, Mr. Giuliani, a Republican, appears to be trying to parlay the accolades for his recent leadership into a quasi-mayoral position in a new administration, a straight extension of his term, or an outright challenge to the two-term limitation. According to an adviser to Mr. Giuliani, the proposal doesn't involve overturning term limits, which would require an act of the state legislature or city council. Rather, Mr. Giuliani appears to be proposing an interim accommodation that could keep him in office longer before turning over the keys to City Hall.

CITY_21MC100_011830197

NYC-WTC_000412792