

From: ethics.sm.records <records@ethics.ny.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 22, 2024 9:50 AM
To: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
Subject: **FW: FOIL Request: COELIG's 2023 Annual Report -- & its Chart of "matters incepted...in 2023"**

Ms. Sassower,

The Commission has received your November 15, 2024 request seeking:

- (1) why the last entry on the chart is #23-118, not #23-156 – representing another 38 entries;
- (2) why the above 68 numbers are missing from the chart;
- (3) the information pertaining to the missing 106 entries, *to wit*, “Reference ID”, “Agency”, “Law”, “Nature of Allegation”, “Status”, and “Closed Date”;
- (4) which of the “156 tips, complaints, referrals, and reports” were the 11 “elevated” by “15-day letters”;
- (5) why the chart does not identify which numbers are “tips”, which numbers are “complaints”, which numbers are “referrals”, and which numbers are “reports”;
- (6) what is the difference between “referrals” and “reports”.

The Commission expects to respond to your request on or before December 23, 2024.

Sincerely,

Records Access Officer

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, November 15, 2024 4:11 PM
To: ethics.sm.records <records@ethics.ny.gov>
Cc: ayer@albanylaw.edu; m@michaelcardozo.com; sjames@barketepstein.com; ngroenwegen@gmail.com; dolly@caramanlaw.com; claudialedwards2@gmail.com

Subject: FOIL Request: COELIG's 2023 Annual Report -- & its Chart of "matters incepted...in 2023"

[TO: Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government](#)

ATT: FOIL Records Access Officer Emily DeSantis

Your [2023 Annual Report](#), released on [June 24, 2024](#), states (at p. 73), as its “Investigations and Enforcement Highlights”:

“Tips, Complaints, & Reports: The agency received and processed 156 tips, complaints, referrals, and reports in 2023.”

Five pages later (at p. 78), under the heading: “2023 Review and Disposition of Investigative Matters”, it repeats:

“Investigations staff processed 156 investigative matters...in 2023. ...

In 2023, COELIG elevated 11 matters and issued notices of allegation, referred to as ‘15-day letters,’ to the affected subjects.”

However, four pages after that (at p. 82), under the heading “2023 Enforcement Activity”, these “156 tips, complaints, referrals, and reports in 2023” are NOT reflected by the chart purporting to list “all matters incepted in 2023”. Rather, the chart ends at #23-118. This signifies only 118 “matters incepted...in 2023”. Moreover, of these 118, the following 68 numbers are missing:

23-001, 23-002, 23-003, 23-004, 23-009, 23-012, 23-014, 23-017, 23-018, 23-020, 23-022, 23-023, 23-024, 23-026, 23-027, 23-028, 23-032, 23-033, 23-034, 23-035, 23-036, 23-038, 23-039, 23-042, 23-044, 23-045, 23-047, 23-050, 23-051, 23-052, 23-053, 23-054, 23-056, 23-058, 23-059, 23-063, 23-064, 23-065, 23-066, 23-068, 23-069, 23-071, 23-074, 23-075, 23-077, 23-078, 23-079, 23-080, 23-081, 23-083, 23-084, 23-089, 23-092, 23-093, 23-095, 23-096, 23-097, 23-098, 23-099, 23-102, 23-104, 23-110, 23-111, 23-112, 23-114, 23-115, 23-116, 23-117.

Pursuant to FOIL, this is to request records as to:

- (1) why the last entry on the chart is #23-118, not #23-156 – representing another 38 entries;
- (2) why the above 68 numbers are missing from the chart;
- (3) the information pertaining to the missing 106 entries, *to wit*, “Reference ID”, “Agency”, “Law”, “Nature of Allegation”, “Status”, and “Closed Date”;
- (4) which of the “156 tips, complaints, referrals, and reports” were the 11 “elevated” by “15-day letters”;
- (5) why the chart does not identify which numbers are “tips”, which numbers are “complaints”, which numbers are “referrals”, and which numbers are “reports”;
- (6) what is the difference between “referrals” and “reports”.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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