

## Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 11:38 AM  
**To:** 'susan\_arbetter@wcny.org'; pjbailey@wrgb.com; 'jbakeman@gannett.com'; 'Benjamin, Liz'; 'gblain@nydailynews.com'; 'jcaher@alm.com'; jcampbell1@gannett.com; mcusick@wmht.org; 'kdewitt@wxxi.org'; 'fud31@aol.com'; 'zack.fink@ny1news.com'; 'efmnews@aol.com'; 'mgormley@ap.org'; gutbrodt@senate.state.ny.us; 'hakim@nytimes.com'; 'whammond@nydailynews.com'; 'khughes@nysnys.com'; 'kaplan@nytimes.com'; 'rkarlin@timesunion.com'; 'fklopott@bloomberg.net'; 'ekriss@nypost.com'; 'blambdin@wnyt.com'; dlombardo@dailygazette.net; 'klnynews@aol.com'; 'jodato@timesunion.com'; Erica.Orden@wsj.com; 'Alyssa\_Plock@wcny.org'; 'tprecious@buffnews.com'; 'nick.reisman@ynn.com'; 'yancey.roy@newsday.com'; 'mryan@wmht.org'; 'cseiler@timesunion.com'; 'ashort@cityandstateny.com'; 'asichko@bizjournals.com'; 'jspector@gannett.com'; 'joelstashenko@aol.com'; 'jvielkind@timesunion.com'; 'mvirtanen@ap.org'; 'tweaver@syracuse.com'; kfischer@alm.com; metro@nytimes.com; editorial@nytimes.com; 'davidhowardking@gmail.com'; 'jennifer.golson@thomsonreuters.com'; 'jesse.wegman@thomsonreuters.com'  
**Subject:** The Unfinished NYS Budget Story on the Governor's Desk  
**Attachments:** constitutional-provisions.pdf; 3-29-13-ltr-to-gov-chief-of-staff-vlasto.pdf

### THE UNFINISHED NEW YORK STATE BUDGET STORY ON THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

Your coverage of the New York State budget makes it appear that the story ends with the Legislature's passage of budget bills.

Is this what the People should believe? And is it your view that the "behind-closed-doors" deal-making by the "three (or has it been four?) men in a room" – Cuomo, Skelos, Silver (& Klein) -- dispenses with Article VII, Sec. 4 of the State Constitution?

Attached is that constitutional provision, as likewise Article VII, Sec. 1 of the State Constitution, so that you can see that the procedure for appropriations for the Executive branch is different from the procedure for appropriations for the Legislature and Judiciary, the entirety of which goes before the Governor, subsequent to the Legislature's vote.

What coverage have you given to the budgets of these two separate government branches, merged into a single appropriations bill, S.2601/A.3001?

To assist your coverage, attached is the Center for Judicial Accountability's March 29<sup>th</sup> letter to the Governor's Chief of Staff entitled:

"The Governor's Duty to Disapprove S.2601-A/A.3001-A (Judiciary/Legislative Appropriations Bill), Pursuant to Article VII, §4 & Article IV, §7 of the New York State Constitution, Because the Legislature Violated Express Constitutional and Statutory Safeguards, as well as its Own Rules, in Passing It" (underlining in the original).

The letter is posted on CJA's website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org) – on our NEW webpage entitled "**Holding Government Accountable for its Grand Larceny of the Public Fisc**", accessible *via* the top panel "Latest News". For your convenience, here's the direct link, <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/grand-larceny-of-public-fisc.htm> .

Perhaps you will begin your investigative reporting by confirming that the letter was brought to the Governor's attention "without delay", as therein requested – and that the Governor's office never announced any photo-op, public signing of S.2601-A/A.3001-A.

As always, I am available to answer any questions you might have.

Thank you.

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