

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

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 4:04 PM  
**To:** 'gtroyano@lohud.com'; 'tbauer@lohud.com'; 'mdolan@lohud.com'; 'fscandale@lohud.com'; 'gstern@lohud.com'; 'ncutler@lohud.com'; 'svenugop@lohud.com'; 'mlungariel@lohud.com'; 'jspector@gannett.com'; 'jcampbell1@gannett.com'  
**Cc:** 'jfenster@lohud.com'; 'cyale@lohud.com'; 'adelgado@lohud.com'; 'cwilson2@lohud.com'  
**Subject:** Setting the record straight as to your rigging of Shelley Mayer's election to fill Geo.Latimer's senate seat -- and identifying NOW which 2018 primary & general election contests you will be endorsing & whether EVIDENCE of corruption will carry any weight  
**Attachments:** 8-10-17-open-ltr.pdf; 2-2-18-presentation-albany-delegation-final-corrected.pdf

**TO: GANNETT/JOURNAL NEWS --**

George Troyano, President & Publisher  
Traci Bauer, Executive Editor  
Mary Dolan, News Director  
Frank Scandale, Watchdog Strategist  
Gary Stern/Engagement Editor & Editorial Board Leader  
Nancy Cutler, Engagement Editor & Editorial Board Member  
Ombudswoman Swapna Venugopal Ramaswamy  
Mark Lungariello, Political Reporter  
Joseph Spector/Gannett - Albany Bureau Chief  
Jon Campbell/Gannett-Albany

I received no response from you – or from any other Gannett/Journal News recipients – to my below April 13<sup>th</sup> and April 18<sup>th</sup> e-mails pertaining to the special election between Democratic Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer and Republican Julie Killian to fill Latimer's 37<sup>th</sup> Senate district seat. Unless I hear from you otherwise, I will assume you do NOT deny or dispute the accuracy of the content of those e-mails and that you made no attempt to e-mail or phone me about them.

That being said, it appears that shortly after I sent my April 18<sup>th</sup> e-mail, you posted the full VIDEO of the Journal News' April 10<sup>th</sup> "conversation"/debate between the candidates – including as part of what you entitled "[Rewind: Here's our 37<sup>th</sup> state Senate District candidate conversation with Killian, Mayer](#)".

You did NOT, however, repair your "search" feature so that accurate and complete results of Journal News' coverage of the candidates could be obtained by entering their full names – or their last names alone. At present, "Shelley Mayer" produces 28 entries; "Julie Killian" produces 22 entries; "Mayer" produces 51 entries; and "Killian" produces 33 entries. None of these searches produces your April 19<sup>th</sup> editorial "*Senate District 37 vote takes place in Westchester, but impacts statewide power*".

Tellingly, your April 19<sup>th</sup> editorial, which repeatedly mentions the state budget and misleads the public to believe that policy issues that did not belong in it should have been passed with it – and that constituents would have had a "voice" had the 37<sup>th</sup> Senate seat not "sat empty during the crucial budget season" -- does NOT mention corruption, let alone as an election issue – NOR endorse either candidate. Why is that? Is it because my April 13<sup>th</sup> and April 18<sup>th</sup> e-mails furnished you with primary-source documentary EVIDENCE of Mayer's corruption, in office, beginning nearly 25 years ago as counsel to the attorney general and spanning to the present, her chairing of the Assembly Committee on Oversight, Analysis and Investigation – as to which you have purposefully deprived voters of ANY report, with knowledge that report, coupled with investigation, would not only bring Mayer down, but ALL fellow Democrats endorsing her and

who she has been “protecting”, while presumably collecting a \$12,500 “lulu” as chair of the Assembly Committee on Oversight, Analysis and Investigation – as, for instance, Governor Cuomo, Senate Minority Leader Stewart-Cousins, and Westchester County Executive Latimer. Of course, you also had the primary-source documentary EVIDENCE of Latimer’s corruption, as senator, yet that did not stop you from endorsing him last fall in his 2017 race to become county executive against Republican incumbent Rob Astorino.

What is the Journal News’ policy and criteria for editorial endorsements? Do you expect to editorially endorse candidates in this year’s statewide races for governor, attorney general, and comptroller – whose Democratic incumbents are running for re-election. How about in this year’s races for the 14 state Senate and Assembly seats within Westchester County – all but two filled by Democrats, presumably all running for re-election, as, likewise, the two Republicans.

As you know from my mountain of prior e-mails, including pertaining to my above-attached August 10, 2017 OPEN LETTER, these statewide and Westchester legislative incumbents are ALL defendants in a citizen-taxpayer action, being sued for “grand larceny of the public fisc” and other corruption with respect to the budget and its embedded judicial and district attorney salary increases – and, additionally, are the subject of corruption and ethics complaints that criminal and disciplinary authorities have been “sitting on” since 2013 – including with regard to legislative rules. The EVIDENCE, sufficient to INDICT and convict ALL of them, including under the vaunted “Public Trust Act”, is posted on CJA’s website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), accessible *via* the prominent link: “OUTING CORRUPT & COLLUSIVE INCUMBENTS & Ending their Road to Re-Election & Higher Office – WITH EVIDENCE”. The menu page it brings up includes a link for “[Incumbents Running in 2018](#)”, from which you can access webpages for both statewide incumbents and Westchester’s Senate and Assembly incumbents. For your convenience, here are some direct links:

- (1) CJA’s webpage for [Governor Cuomo](#) – a lawyer, who, alone among the statewide incumbents, is a Westchester resident;
- (2) CJA’s webpage for [Assemblyman David Buchwald](#), a lawyer and “full-time” legislator, who is my assemblyman, in addition to Governor Cuomo’s;
- (3) CJA’s webpage for [Senate Minority Leader Stewart Cousins](#), a “full-time” legislator, who is my state senator;
- (4) CJA’s webpage for [Senator Terrence Murphy](#), a “part-time” legislator and Westchester’ sole Republican senator who, in addition to being Governor Cuomo’s state senator,  
is chair of the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations – essentially the equivalent of the Assembly Committee  
on Oversight, Analysis and Investigation, which “full-time” Assemblywoman Mayer has chaired;
- (5) CJA’s webpage for [Senator Jamaal Bailey](#) – a lawyer and “full-time” legislator – and the ONLY Westchester legislator present for my testimony, in Albany,  
at the Legislature’s January 30, 2018 budget hearing

When will you be reporting on the mountain of primary-source documentary EVIDENCE, accessible and linked by these webpages, establishing that there is NO difference between Democratic and Republican incumbents, nor “full-time” or “part-time” Senate and Assembly legislators, as all are collusive in flagrantly corrupting our government – and the “swamp” must be drained of each of them. Or are you intending to make your upcoming 2018 electoral coverage a

repeat of the superficial, agenda-driven, reporting and editorializing that secured the Mayer and Latimer victories, while pretending that anti-Trumpism was driving the vote?

Please advise, immediately, so that I may know how to proceed.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
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914-421-1200

**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:34 PM  
**To:** 'mdolan@lohud.com' <[mdolan@lohud.com](mailto:mdolan@lohud.com)>  
**Cc:** 'jfenster@lohud.com' <[jfenster@lohud.com](mailto:jfenster@lohud.com)>; 'cyale@lohud.com' <[cyale@lohud.com](mailto:cyale@lohud.com)>; 'gtroyano@lohud.com' <[gtroyano@lohud.com](mailto:gtroyano@lohud.com)>; 'tbauer@lohud.com' <[tbauer@lohud.com](mailto:tbauer@lohud.com)>; 'gstern@lohud.com' <[gstern@lohud.com](mailto:gstern@lohud.com)>; 'svenugop@lohud.com' <[svenugop@lohud.com](mailto:svenugop@lohud.com)>; 'ncutler@lohud.com' <[ncutler@lohud.com](mailto:ncutler@lohud.com)>; 'adelgado@lohud.com' <[adelgado@lohud.com](mailto:adelgado@lohud.com)>; 'fscandale@lohud.com' <[fscandale@lohud.com](mailto:fscandale@lohud.com)>; 'mlungariel@lohud.com' <[mlungariel@lohud.com](mailto:mlungariel@lohud.com)>; 'cwilson2@lohud.com' <[cwilson2@lohud.com](mailto:cwilson2@lohud.com)>; 'jcampbell1@gannett.com' <[jcampbell1@gannett.com](mailto:jcampbell1@gannett.com)>; 'jspector@gannett.com' <[jspector@gannett.com](mailto:jspector@gannett.com)>  
**Subject:** Are you satisfied with Gannett/Journal News' reporting & website pertaining to the April 24th Mayer-Killian special election? And will the Editorial Board be making an endorsement, as well?

**TO: Gannett/Journal News-LoHud News Director Mary Dolan**

I have received no response from you – or from any of the Gannett/Journal News cc: recipients – to my below April 13<sup>th</sup> e-mail pertaining to the April 24<sup>th</sup> special election between Shelley Mayer and Julie Killian, which had stated:

“notwithstanding the importance of the race, it appears that the Journal News has done NO examination Ms. Mayer’s years of ‘public service’ in the attorney general’s office, as counsel to the Democratic Senate conference, as assemblywoman and, since December 2017, as chair of the Assembly Committee on Oversight, Analysis and Investigation. I have significant **first-hand knowledge** – and a mountain of **primary source EVIDENCE** to offer with respect thereto – and with respect to Ms. Killian, exposing the indefensible, posturing deceits of each” (bold in original).

Nor has your [www.lohud.com](http://www.lohud.com) website been adjusted to enable your subscribers or other website visitors to see for themselves the Journal News’ superficial reporting of the contest between Ms. Mayer and Ms. Killian and your postings of photos, videos, and letters. Indeed, you have not even made the FULL video of the Journal News’ own April 10<sup>th</sup> forum/debate between the candidates easily accessible – including by any link in Mark Lungariello’s April 13<sup>th</sup> article "[Julie Killian, Shelley Mayer supporters clash at news conference](#)", posted essentially simultaneous to my below April 13<sup>th</sup> e-mail. Nor is the full April 10<sup>th</sup> video or the full video of the April 9<sup>th</sup> forum on gun violence accessible from Jon Campbell’s subsequent April 16<sup>th</sup> article: "[Millions of dollars pour into Shelly Mayer, Julie Killian race](#)"—which conceals the simple fact, particularized by the e-mail chain beneath my below April 13<sup>th</sup> e-mail, that Killian and the Republicans needed NO MONEY to defeat Mayer. All they needed was to use their “bully pulpit” to “whistle-blow” about the EVIDENCE which my below February 8<sup>th</sup> e-mail to them identified and offered.

So as to bring a measure of transparency to how Gannett/Journal News actually discharges its “watch-dog” function of enabling its subscribers and other readers to make informed electoral judgments about the competing candidates, beginning with their anti-corruption, good-government rhetoric, and to ensure that any editorial board endorsement may be informed by relevant facts, CJA’s website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), now expands and makes more accessible our