

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 7:06 PM

To: 'susan.arbetter@charter.com'; 'grace.ashford@nytimes.com'; 'Bragg, Christopher'; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org'; 'DanClarkReports@Gmail.com'; 'kclukey@bloomberglaw.com'; 'gwen@adironackexplorer.org'; 'Michelle.DelRey@hearst.com'; 'jdeline@news10.com'; 'kdewitt@wxxi.org'; 'luis.ferre@nytimes.com'; 'zack.fink@charter.com'; 'news@cbs6albany.com'; 'mfrench@politico.com'; 'michael.gormley@newsday.com'; 'agronewold@politico.com'; 'khughes@nysnys.com'; 'RKarlin@TimesUnion.com'; 'shaneaking@statewatch.com'; 'blee@alm.com'; 'editor@cityandstateny.com'; 'David.lombardo@wcnny.org'; 'seamus.lyman@charter.com'; 'Lyons, Brendan'; 'Jmahoney@cnhi.com'; 'billmahoney@politico.com'; 'jemcki@nytimes.com'; 'rnavarro@statewatch.com'; 'mikep@statewatch.com'; 'nick.reisman@charter.com'; 'yancey.roy@newsday.com'; 'dslattery@nydailynews.com'; 'Joshua.Solomon@TimesUnion.com'; 'jspector@politico.com'; 'Maryfrancis.Stoute@charter.com'; 'xxx@buffnews.com'; 'xxxx@wmht.org'; 'JVelasquez@thecity.nyc'; 'jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com'; 'MVilleneuve@ap.org'; 'Peter.Wendler@wcnny.org'; 'Zach Williams'; 'timothy.p.williams@charter.com'; 'azimmerman@chalkbeat.org'

Subject: **PRESS ALERT: Where are the nominations to the Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government, whose operations are to begin tomorrow, July 8th?**

Attachments: 7-7-22-acknowledgment of foil-to-ag-G000375-070722.pdf

TO: Albany Legislative Correspondents Association Roster

Where are the nominations to the Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government, whose operations are to begin tomorrow, July 8th?

Below is the relevant correspondence to the 15 law school deans constituting “independent review committee” and beneath it to the “selection members” and their FOIL officers.

Meantime, the electronic docket of CJA’s lawsuit vs. JCOPE, et al, exposing the racket that has been going on is [here](#).

Elena Sassower, Director
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>

Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 6:30 PM

To: 'aabramov@buffalo.edu' <aabramov@buffalo.edu>; 'deansoffice@law.cuny.edu' <deansoffice@law.cuny.edu>; 'eduardo.capulong@law.cuny.edu' <eduardo.capulong@law.cuny.edu>; 'aouel@albanylaw.edu' <aouel@albanylaw.edu>; 'michael.cahill@brooklaw.edu' <michael.cahill@brooklaw.edu>; 'glester@law.columbia.edu' <glester@law.columbia.edu>; 'law.dean@cornell.edu' <law.dean@cornell.edu>; 'DeanMatthewDiller@law.fordham.edu' <DeanMatthewDiller@law.fordham.edu>; 'lawdean@hofstra.edu' <lawdean@hofstra.edu>; 'anthony.crowell@nyls.edu' <anthony.crowell@nyls.edu>; 'mckenzie@exchange.law.nyu.edu' <mckenzie@exchange.law.nyu.edu>; 'DeansOffice@mercury.law.nyu.edu' <DeansOffice@mercury.law.nyu.edu>; 'handerson@law.pace.edu' <handerson@law.pace.edu>; 'simonsm@stjohns.edu' <simonsm@stjohns.edu>; 'cmboise@syr.edu' <cmboise@syr.edu>; 'vaottman@syr.edu' <vaottman@syr.edu>; 'elangan@tourolaw.edu' <elangan@tourolaw.edu>; 'deansofficecardozo@yu.edu' <deansofficecardozo@yu.edu>; 'info@irc.ny.gov' <info@irc.ny.gov>

Subject: Nominations to the Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government, whose operations are to begin tomorrow, July 8, 2022

TO: The “independent review committee” of the “ethics commission reform act of 2022”

SUNY-Buffalo Law School Dean Aviva Abramovsky
CUNY-Queens College Law School Dean Sudha Setty
Albany Law School Dean Alicia Ouellette
Brooklyn Law School Dean Michael T. Cahill
Columbia University Law School Dean Gillian Lester
Cornell University Law School Dean Jens David Ohlin
Fordham Law School Dean Matthew Diller
Hofstra Law School Dean Gail Prudenti
New York Law School Dean Anthony Crowell
New York University Law School Dean Troy McKenzie
Pace University Law School Dean Horace E. Anderson, Jr.
St. John’s University Law School Dean Michael A. Simons
Syracuse University Law School Dean Craig M. Boise
Touro College Law School Elena B. Langan
Yeshiva University Cardozo Law School Dean Melanie Leslie

The below is self-explanatory. What kind of public integrity safeguard are you?

No wonder the “ethics commission reform act of 2022” expressly provides you with “representation, indemnification, and to be held harmless to the same extent as any other person employed in service of the state and entitled to such coverage under sections seventeen and nineteen of the public officers law...”

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>

Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 5:58 PM

To: 'scousins@nyenate.gov' <scousins@nyenate.gov>; 'Ortt@nyenate.gov' <Ortt@nyenate.gov>; 'Speaker@nyassembly.gov' <Speaker@nyassembly.gov>; 'BarclaW@nyassembly.gov' <BarclaW@nyassembly.gov>

Subject: Your nominations to the Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government, whose operations are to begin tomorrow, July 8, 2022

**TO: Temporary Senate President Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Senate Minority Leader Robert Ortt
Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie
Assembly Minority Leader William Barclay**

The below was sent to your FOIL officers earlier today – and now sent directly to you. Next step is the 15 law school deans comprising the “independent review committee” – and then the press. Please forward to the other “selection members” whose direct e-mail addresses you assuredly have – Governor Hochul, Attorney General James, and Comptroller DiNapoli.

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>

Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2022 10:19 AM

To: 'records.access@exec.ny.gov' <records.access@exec.ny.gov>; 'foil@nyenate.gov' <foil@nyenate.gov>; 'marillar@nyassembly.gov' <marillar@nyassembly.gov>; 'kleinf@nyassembly.gov' <kleinf@nyassembly.gov>; 'FOIL@osc.ny.gov' <FOIL@osc.ny.gov>

Subject: FOIL/records request -- Your nominations to the Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government, whose operations are to begin tomorrow, July 8, 2022

“selection members” of the “ethics commission reform act of 2022”

**Governor Kathy Hochul
Temporary Senate President Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Senate Minority Leader Robert Ortt
Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie
Assembly Minority Leader William Barclay
Attorney General Letitia James
Comptroller DiNapoli**

Pursuant to [Part QQ of Education, Labor, Housing, and Family Assistance Budget Bill #S.8006-C/A.9006-C – the “ethics commission reform act of 2022”](#), you are the “selection members” whose nominations of the 11 members of the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government are supposed to be vetted by the 15 law school deans comprising the “independent review committee”. The Governor has three nominations, the Temporary Senate President and Assembly Speaker each have two nominations, and the Senate and Assembly Minority Leaders, the Attorney General and Comptroller each have one nomination.

In pertinent part, the [procedures](#) promulgated by the “independent review committee”, which it [publicly announced on June 15th](#) and posted on its [website](#) state:

"•Prior to any nomination being sent to the IRC, the Selection Members shall publish the name(s) of the individual(s) they intend to nominate at least seven business days before making such formal nomination. This information shall, at a minimum, be prominently posted on the Selection Member’s website, provide a link by which the public may offer comments on the proposed nominee, and also be transmitted via a media advisory. At the time of publication, such information also shall be e-mailed directly to the IRC Chair.

• When making a formal nomination, each Selection Member shall provide to the IRC: the name(s) and contact information of those nominated to serve on the Commission, the background investigation findings reported to them by the State Police and OGS for each nominee, any written comments received by mail or electronically in support of or in opposition to the nomination, along with any written materials a nominee may have submitted to the Selection Members, including but not limited to a complete resume or curriculum vitae, and any written statements regarding a nominee’s qualifications from a Selection Member." (bold added).

The Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government is supposed to begin its operations tomorrow, July 8, 2022 – which is the 90th day after [Part QQ](#) became “a law”.

Have none of you yet formally nominated members to the Commission? I see nothing about your nominations on ANY of your websites, let alone “prominently posted” – and no “link by which the public may offer comments” on your “proposed nominee(s)”, whose names you were required to “publish” “at least seven days before making such formal nomination(s)”.

As for the [“independent review committee” website](#), I see no information posted about any announced nominees, or links to your websites pertaining thereto and to your media advisories.

Pursuant to FOIL (Public Officers Law Article VI), Senate Rule XIV (“Freedom of Information”), and Assembly Rule VIII (“Public Access to Records”), please furnish ALL publicly available records pertaining to:

- (1) your formal nominations – and the dates they were made;
- (2) where the nominations are “prominently posted” on your websites;
- (3) the links on your websites for public comment about your “proposed nominee(s)” – and when you “published” their names;

(4) your “media advisor(ies)” – and the list of “media” to whom you sent the “advisories”, or where they are posted on your websites.

Thank you.

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