

GUIDE FOR ALBANY COUNTY “LOCAL JOURNALISM”

INFORMING THE VOTERS:

Albany County’s D.A. Candidates Kindlon, Ambrosio, & Soares – & its 7 State Legislators, 6 Seeking Re-Election or Higher Elective Office, Etc.

The duty of the Albany County D.A. is to enforce New York’s penal laws and obey conflict of interest protocols. That is the subject of the Center for Judicial Accountability’s succession of public corruption complaints to [Albany County D.A. Soares](#), spanning back to 2013 – the most recent being [CJA’s July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint](#). It involves D.A. Soares’ [\\$223,700 D.A. salary](#), statutorily-linked to the Albany county court judge salary. Of this, [\\$92,300](#) is the product of three “false instrument”, [penal law-violating commission reports](#) that Albany County’s state legislators, all but one running for re-election or higher election, are knowledgeable of and complicit in.

[D.A. Soares is running for re-election](#) as a write-in candidate, having lost the Democratic primary to [Lee Kindlon](#), who is also running to be Albany County’s next D.A. on the Working Families line. [Ralph Ambrosio](#) is running on Republican and Conservative lines.

Below is my July 24th e-mail to D.A. Candidate Ambrosio, cc’ing D.A. Candidate Kindlon, forwarding to them the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint with a request for their responses to two simple questions by August 1st:

- (1) whether, if elected, they would repudiate the \$92,300 salary difference and advise Albany County to secure a judicial declaration voiding the three “false instrument”, penal law-violating commission reports;
- (2) whether, if elected, they would recuse themselves from the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint pertaining thereto and secure an independent prosecutor.

Neither D.A. Candidate Ambrosio nor D.A. Candidate Kindlon responded. Nor did D.A. Soares respond to the same two questions, asked of him by the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint.

Surely, however, they will be more responsive to inquiries from you – and they are ready to field them as I sent them e-mails alerting them to press inquiries.

What do they have to say about the \$223,700 Albany County D.A. salary – and about Albany County’s state legislators whose public corruption is [prioritized](#) by the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint (at pp. 2-4). Will they disclose their political, professional, and personal relationships with them – and with the other public officers complained-against and implicated by the grand jury/public corruption complaint?

And can they explain how it is possible that notwithstanding Albany County has a [population of 315,811](#) and [median household income of \\$78,829](#) and [state legislator salaries are \\$142,000, the highest in the nation](#), on top of which, as with D.A. salaries, are many thousands of dollars more in non-salary compensation benefits:

- [Assemblyman John McDonald \(AD108\)](#) is [uncontested](#) in his re-election, running on the Democratic line for which he faced [no](#) primaries;

- [Senator Jake Ashby \(SD43\)](#) is running for re-election on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line, against [Alvin Gamble](#), running on the Democratic line for which he faced no primaries for that line;
- [Assemblyman Christopher Tague \(AD102\)](#) is running for re-election on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line, against [Janet Tweed](#), running on the Democratic line, which she won in a primary, defeating [Mary Finneran](#), who is running on the Working Families line for which she faced no primaries for that line;
- [Assemblyman Phil Steck \(AD110\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which he faced no primaries for either line, against [Jeffrey Madden](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line;
- [Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara \(AD111\)](#) is running for re-election on the Democratic line, for which he faced no primaries, against [Joseph Mastroianni](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line;
- [Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy](#), running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for the seat held by [retiring Senator Neil Breslin \(SD46\)](#), faced no primaries for either line, and [Theodore Danz, Jr.](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines, faced no primaries for either of those lines;
- For the Assembly seat that Assemblywoman Fahy is vacating (AD109), [Gabriella Romero](#) is running on the Democratic line, whose primaries she won, and on the Working Families line for which she faced no primaries, and [Alicia Purdy](#) is running on both Republican and Conservative lines and faced no primaries for either.

I look forward to discussing with you the above questions and assisting your investigative journalism about Albany County's D.A. race, seven state legislative races, and judicial races from supreme court to city court – all involving “false instrument”, penal law-violating salaries for these offices. Meantime, here's [CJA's webpage for the 2024 Albany County D.A. election](#).

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
 Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
 914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 3:49 PM

To: 'ralph@ralphambrosioforda.com'
Cc: 'campaign@kindlonforalbanyda.com'

Subject: **GOOD NEWS! You Can Easily Win the Albany D.A. Race & Demonstrate Your Fitness for the Office: NOTICE & Grand Jury/Public Corruption Complaint**

Attachments: [7-18-24-daasny-notice-complaint.pdf](#);
[7-17-24-complaint-vs-soares-to-albany-ethics.pdf](#);
[7-17-24-transmittal-to-soares.pdf](#)

TO: [Would-Be Albany County D.A. Ralph Ambrosio](#)

I am director and co-founder of the non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA), which, for several decades, has documented the collusion of all three branches of our state government in the subversion and collapse of lawful, constitutional governance. New York's 62 D.A.s, whose duty it is to enforce the state's penal laws, including against law-breaking public officers, are key participants in this – and none more so than Albany County D.A. Soares, whose geographic jurisdiction over the capital means criminal jurisdiction over all four statewide-elected executive officers, all 213 state legislators, the 7 judges of the Court of Appeals, the Albany-based Appellate Division, Third Department, Albany Supreme Court, and such Albany-headquartered "public protection" entities as the State Inspector General, the former Joint Commission on Public Ethics (now Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government), and the Commission on Judicial Conduct, with an Albany office.

Only five of this year's 14 D.A. races are contested, the Albany D.A. race, among them – and it is the only one with a write-in candidacy, announced by D.A. Soares, last week, after his defeat in the June 25th Democratic Party D.A. primary to Mr. Kindlon, who also has the Working Families line.

The good news is that you, the Republican Party's candidate, can easily win – and without money – against Mr. Kindlon, as he is a shameless posturer, unworthy of the D.A. office he seeks because he has been covering up D.A. Soares' corruption in office, of which he has had the open-and-shut, *prima facie* evidence since March 23rd. That was when I sent him a [March 23rd message](#), via his law office website, entitled "You Can Easily Defeat Albany D.A. Soares" stating, in pertinent part:

"...DA Soares has flagrantly corrupted his office in matters pertaining to public corruption -- and this has been the subject of public corruption complaints I have filed to him, against him, and of FOIL requests, spanning from 2013 to the present. CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org, posts everything – accessible from the prominent center link 'Cleaning up NY's Corrupt & Unconstitutional State Governance – starting with its most important D.A race: Albany County'. I look forward to speaking with you about the mountain of primary-source, documentary evidence there posted, establishing that D.A. Soares cannot be re-elected, because he must be indicted for public corruption, including larceny involving his own D.A. salary – and that he will be convicted...."

I received no response to this message – and two months later, on May 28th, after calling his law office, sent him [a second message](#), reading in pertinent part:

"This follows up my phone call to your office (518-444-428), shortly after 11 am, which was picked up by your assistant AJ. The reason for my call was to inquire as to whether you had had received the March 23rd message I sent you, via this message system, entitled 'You Can Easily Defeat Albany D.A. Soares' – to which I had received no response. AJ stated she had no access to your message system and, therefore, could not

confirm receipt. She also stated that she could not give me an e-mail address for you, without your permission – and that the office had no e-mail she could provide. I left my name and phone number with her, with a request that you call me. Also, my e-mail address, elena@judgewatch.org -- and the website information that had been contained in my March 23rd message to you, posted on the website, as follows...

Please call me, as soon as possible, so that I can update you as to what has been happening since March 23rd on the public corruption front, centered in Albany County – and to discuss how, as a candidate and, if elected, as Albany County DA, you will address conflicts of interest, involving, your D.A. salary and public officers such as Assemblyman Phil Steck, who on May 9th publicly endorsed you. Your promise, in response, was ‘to be the Albany County DA the taxpayers can count on to never self-deal their hard-earned tax dollars’ and to ‘prosecute all crimes...without political favor.’”

I also received no response to this May 28th message, other than an immediate [automated e-mail acknowledgment](#).

A few days ago, I discovered a campaign e-mail address for Mr. Kindlon on his [D.A. campaign facebook page](#). I am, therefore, cc’ing him on this e-mail, so that he can explain his failure to communicate with me with respect to the foregoing – whose substance, pertaining to D.A. Soares, is now embodied in my above-attached most recent correspondence to D.A. Soares:

- my July 17th ethics complaint to the Albany County Ethics Commission against D.A. Soares, to which D.A. Soares was cc’d;
- my July 17th coverletter to D.A. Soares, to which the Albany Ethics Commission was cc’d;
- my July 18th letter to New York’s 62 D.A.s – D.A. Soares, among them – transmitted by my below July 18th e-mail entitled: “NOTICE & grand jury/public corruption complaint – Your D.A. salary increases, the judicial salary increases on which they are based, & the violations of NY penal laws by state legislators within your jurisdictions”.

The July 18th letter presents New York’s 62 D.A.s with two simple questions – and requests their answers by August 1st:

- (1) whether they will be repudiating their state-mandated D.A. salary increases, paid from their county budgets, because they are based on three “false instrument”, penal law-violating commission reports raising judicial salaries;
- (2) confirmation that they will be recusing themselves from CJA’s July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint pertaining thereto and securing an independent prosecutor.

Based on the July 18th letter, what would your answers be, if elected? And what, Mr. Kindlon, would your answers be?

Please let me hear from you both by August 1st so that, based on your answers, Albany county voters can be apprised as to whether another write-in campaign must be launched for a suitable D.A. candidate who will abide by his duty of enforcing New York’s penal laws, without fear or favor, and who will recuse himself when compromised by self-interest and relationships.

I am available to answer questions.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2024 8:49 PM
To: 'president@daasny.org' <president@daasny.org>; 'mcmahonda@rcda.nyc.gov' <mcmahonda@rcda.nyc.gov>; 'david.soares@albanycountyny.gov' <david.soares@albanycountyny.gov>; 'ian.jones@alleganyco.com' <ian.jones@alleganyco.com>; 'clarkda@bronxda.nyc.gov' <clarkda@bronxda.nyc.gov>; 'paul.battisti@broomecounty.us' <paul.battisti@broomecounty.us>; 'LPRieman@cattco.org' <LPRieman@cattco.org>; 'bantonacci@cayugacounty.us' <bantonacci@cayugacounty.us>; 'schmidtj@chqgov.com' <schmidtj@chqgov.com>; 'wwetmore@chemungcountyny.gov' <wwetmore@chemungcountyny.gov>; 'mferrarese@co.chenango.ny.us' <mferrarese@co.chenango.ny.us>; 'andrew.wylie@clintoncountygov.com' <andrew.wylie@clintoncountygov.com>; 'districtattorney@columbiacountyny.gov' <districtattorney@columbiacountyny.gov>; 'pperfetti@cortland-co.org' <pperfetti@cortland-co.org>; 'shawn.smith@co.delaware.ny.us' <shawn.smith@co.delaware.ny.us>; 'aparisi@co.dutchessny.gov' <aparisi@co.dutchessny.gov>; 'Michael.Keane@erie.gov' <Michael.Keane@erie.gov>; 'Kristy.Sprague@essexcountyny.gov' <Kristy.Sprague@essexcountyny.gov>; 'elizabeth.crawford@franklincountyny.gov' <elizabeth.crawford@franklincountyny.gov>; 'mpoulin@fultoncountyny.gov' <mpoulin@fultoncountyny.gov>; 'kevin.finnell@co.genesee.ny.us' <kevin.finnell@co.genesee.ny.us>; 'jstanzione@discovergreene.com' <jstanzione@discovergreene.com>; 'mpurdue@hamiltoncountyny.gov' <mpurdue@hamiltoncountyny.gov>; 'jcarpenter@herkimercounty.org' <jcarpenter@herkimercounty.org>; 'krystinam@co.jefferson.ny.us' <krystinam@co.jefferson.ny.us>; 'gonzalee@brooklynda.org' <gonzalee@brooklynda.org>; 'jefftompkins@lewiscounty.ny.gov' <jefftompkins@lewiscounty.ny.gov>; 'GMcCaffrey@co.livingston.ny.us' <GMcCaffrey@co.livingston.ny.us>; 'william.gabor@madisoncounty.ny.gov' <william.gabor@madisoncounty.ny.gov>; 'sdoorley@monroecounty.gov' <sdoorley@monroecounty.gov>; 'ldiamond@da.montgomery.ny.us' <ldiamond@da.montgomery.ny.us>; 'Anne.donnely@nassauda.org' <Anne.donnely@nassauda.org>; 'bragga@dany.nyc.gov' <bragga@dany.nyc.gov>; 'brian.seaman@niagaracounty.com' <brian.seaman@niagaracounty.com>; 'tcarville@ocgov.net' <tcarville@ocgov.net>; 'williamfitzpatrick@ongov.net' <williamfitzpatrick@ongov.net>; 'james.ritts@ontariocountyny.gov' <james.ritts@ontariocountyny.gov>; 'dhoovler@orangecountygov.com' <dhoovler@orangecountygov.com>; 'da@orleansny.com' <da@orleansny.com>; 'anthony.dimartino@oswegocounty.com' <anthony.dimartino@oswegocounty.com>; 'muehlj@otsegocounty.com' <muehlj@otsegocounty.com>; 'Robert.Tendy@putnamcountyny.gov' <Robert.Tendy@putnamcountyny.gov>; 'katz@queensda.org' <katz@queensda.org>; 'mdonnely@rensko.com' <mdonnely@rensko.com>; 'mcmahonda@rcda.nyc.gov' <mcmahonda@rcda.nyc.gov>; 'WalshT@rocklandda.org' <WalshT@rocklandda.org>;

'gpasqua@stlawco.org' <gpasqua@stlawco.org>; 'kheggen@saratogacountyny.gov' <kheggen@saratogacountyny.gov>; 'Robert.carney@schenectadycounty.com' <Robert.carney@schenectadycounty.com>; 'susan.mallery@co.schoharie.ny.us' <susan.mallery@co.schoharie.ny.us>; 'jfazzary@co.schuyler.ny.us' <jfazzary@co.schuyler.ny.us>; 'jabinabinger@co.seneca.ny.us' <jabinabinger@co.seneca.ny.us>; 'Bbaker@steubencounty.NY.gov' <Bbaker@steubencounty.NY.gov>; 'raymond.tierney@suffolkcountyny.gov' <raymond.tierney@suffolkcountyny.gov>; 'brian.conaty@co.sullivan.ny.us' <brian.conaty@co.sullivan.ny.us>; 'martink@tiogacountyny.gov' <martink@tiogacountyny.gov>; 'MVH@tompkins-co.org' <MVH@tompkins-co.org>; 'enne@co.ulster.ny.us' <enne@co.ulster.ny.us>; 'carusonej@warrencountyny.gov' <carusonej@warrencountyny.gov>; 'tjordan@washingtoncountyny.gov' <tjordan@washingtoncountyny.gov>; 'ccallanan@co.wayne.ny.us' <ccallanan@co.wayne.ny.us>; 'mrocah@westchesterda.net' <mrocah@westchesterda.net>; 'vhemming@wyomingco.net' <vhemming@wyomingco.net>; 'tcasella@yatescounty.org' <tcasella@yatescounty.org>
Cc: 'morgan.bitton@daasny.org' <morgan.bitton@daasny.org>

Subject: NOTICE & grand jury/public corruption complaint -- Your D.A. salary increases, the judicial salary increases on which they are based, & the violations of NY penal laws by state legislators within your jurisdictions

District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DAASNY)

**ATT: President/Richmond County D.A. Michael McMahon
NYS' 61 Other D.A. and Acting D.A. Members**

Above-attached are CJA's July 18, 2024 NOTICE & grand jury/public corruption complaint and underlying July 17, 2024 ethics complaint to the Albany County Ethics Commission against Albany County D.A. Soares and its accompanying transmittal letter to him.

So that I may be guided accordingly, please let me hear from each of you by no later than two weeks from today, August 1, 2024, with respect to both the NOTICE and July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint, herewith filed with you.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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