

## GUIDE FOR WESTCHESTER COUNTY “LOCAL JOURNALISM”

### INFORMING THE VOTERS:

#### Westchester County’s D.A. Candidates Cacace & Sarcone – & its 13 Re-Election-Seeking State Legislators

The duty of the Westchester 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 July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint](#) to retiring Westchester D.A. Mimi Rocah. It involves the \$232,600 Westchester D.A. salary, statutorily-linked to the salary of supreme court justices – \$95,900 of which is the product of three “false instrument”, penal law-violating commission reports that Westchester County’s 13 state legislators, all running for re-election, are knowledgeable of and complicit in.

By the below July 24<sup>th</sup> e-mail, I forwarded the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint to the two D.A. candidates vying to succeed D.A. Rocah: [Democratic D.A. Candidate Susan Cacace](#) and Republican D.A. Candidate John Sarcone, requesting their responses by August 1<sup>st</sup> to two simple questions:

- (1) whether, if elected, they would repudiate the \$95,900 salary difference and advise Westchester 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.

D.A. Candidates Cacace and Sarcone did not respond. 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 \$232,600 Westchester County D.A. salary – and about Westchester 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 [Westchester County has a population of 997,904 and median household income of \\$114,651](#) and [state legislator salaries are the highest in the nation, \\$142,000](#), on top of which, as with D.A. salaries, are many thousands of dollars more in non-salary compensation benefits:

- [Assemblywoman J. Garry Pretlow](#) (AD90) is uncontested for re-election, running on the Democratic line for which he faced no primaries for that line;
- [Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins \(SD35\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Party lines for which she faced no primaries for either line, against [Kristen Kerr](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines on which she faced no primaries for either line;

- [Senator Jamaal Bailey \(SD36\)](#) is running for re-election on the Democratic line for which he faced no primaries for that line against [Irene Estrada](#), running on the Conservative line for which she faced no primaries for that line;
- [Senator Shelley Mayer \(SD37\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which she faced no primaries for either line, against [Tricia Lindsay, Esq.](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which she faced no primaries for either line;
- [Senator Peter Harckham \(SD40\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which he faced no primaries for either line, against [Gina Arena](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which she faced no primaries for either line;
- [Senator Nathalia Fernandez \(SD34\)](#) is running for re-election on the Democratic line, for which she faced no primaries for that line, against [Edwinna Herrera](#), running on both Republican and Conservative party lines for which she faced no primaries for either line;
- [Assemblyman Steven Otis, Esq. \(AD91\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which he faced no primaries for either line, against [Katie Manger](#), running on the Republican line for which she faced no primaries for that line;
- [Assemblywoman Maryjane Shimsky, Esq. \(AD92\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which she faced no primaries for either line, against [Alessandro Crocco](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line;
- [Assemblywoman Amy Paulin \(AD88\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which she faced no primaries for either line against [Thomas Fix, Jr.](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line;
- [Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, Esq. \(AD90\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which he faced no primaries for either line, against [John Isaac](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line;
- [Assemblyman Chris Burdick \(AD93\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which he faced no primaries for either line against [William Monti](#) running on the Republican line for which he faced no primaries for that line;
- [Assemblyman Matt Slater \(AD94\)](#) is running for re-election on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line against [Zachary Couzens](#), running on the Democratic line for which he faced no primaries for that line;
- [Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg \(AD95\)](#) is running for re-election on both Democratic and Working Families lines for which she faced no primaries for either line against [Michael Capalbo](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line.

I look forward to discussing with you the above questions and assisting your investigative journalism about Westchester County's D.A. race, 13 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 Westchester County D.A. election](#).

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
[www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)  
914-421-1200  
[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 24, 2024 3:40 PM  
**To:** 'scdlaw3@aol.com' <[scdlaw3@aol.com](mailto:scdlaw3@aol.com)>; 'info@sarconeformy.com' <[info@sarconeformy.com](mailto:info@sarconeformy.com)>

**Subject: Winning Your Westchester D.A. Race & Demonstrating 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 Westchester County D.A. Susan Cacace \(D\)](#)  
           [Would Be Westchester County D.A. John Sarcone \(R\)](#)

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.

Only five of this year's 14 D.A. races are contested, the Westchester D.A. race among them.

Last week, I sent Westchester D.A. Mimi Rocah – and all 61 of New York's other D.A.s and acting D.A.s – the above three attachments by the below July 18<sup>th</sup> 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”, requesting their answers, by August 1<sup>st</sup>, to two simple questions:

- (3) 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;
- (4) 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.

What would your answers be, if elected? Please let me hear from you by August 1<sup>st</sup> so that, based on your answers, Westchester county voters can be apprised as to whether a write-in campaign must be launched for suitable D.A. candidates who will abide by their duty of enforcing New York's penal laws, without fear or favor, including by recusing themselves when compromised by self-interest and relationships.

I am available to answer questions, including as to the particulars of my communications with D.A. Rocah and predecessors D.A. Anthony Scarpino, Acting D.A. James McCarty, and D.A. Janet DiFiore.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
[www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)  
914-421-1200  
[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)

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

<[james.ritts@ontariocountyny.gov](mailto:james.ritts@ontariocountyny.gov)>; 'dhoovler@orangecountygov.com'  
<[dhoovler@orangecountygov.com](mailto:dhoovler@orangecountygov.com)>; 'da@orleansny.com' <[da@orleansny.com](mailto:da@orleansny.com)>;  
'anthony.dimartino@oswegocounty.com' <[anthony.dimartino@oswegocounty.com](mailto:anthony.dimartino@oswegocounty.com)>;  
'muehlj@otsegocounty.com' <[muehlj@otsegocounty.com](mailto:muehlj@otsegocounty.com)>; 'Robert.Tendy@putnamcountyny.gov'  
<[Robert.Tendy@putnamcountyny.gov](mailto:Robert.Tendy@putnamcountyny.gov)>; 'katz@queensda.org' <[katz@queensda.org](mailto:katz@queensda.org)>;  
'mdonnelly@renesco.com' <[mdonnelly@renesco.com](mailto:mdonnelly@renesco.com)>; 'mcmahonda@rcda.nyc.gov'  
<[mcmahonda@rcda.nyc.gov](mailto:mcmahonda@rcda.nyc.gov)>; 'WalshT@rocklandda.org' <[WalshT@rocklandda.org](mailto:WalshT@rocklandda.org)>;  
'gpasqua@stlawco.org' <[gpasqua@stlawco.org](mailto:gpasqua@stlawco.org)>; 'kheggen@saratogacountyny.gov'  
<[kheggen@saratogacountyny.gov](mailto:kheggen@saratogacountyny.gov)>; 'Robert.carney@schenectadycounty.com'  
<[Robert.carney@schenectadycounty.com](mailto:Robert.carney@schenectadycounty.com)>; 'susan.mallery@co.schoharie.ny.us'  
<[susan.mallery@co.schoharie.ny.us](mailto:susan.mallery@co.schoharie.ny.us)>; 'jfazzary@co.schuyler.ny.us' <[jfazzary@co.schuyler.ny.us](mailto:jfazzary@co.schuyler.ny.us)>;  
'jjnabinger@co.seneca.ny.us' <[jjnabinger@co.seneca.ny.us](mailto:jjnabinger@co.seneca.ny.us)>; 'Bbaker@steubencounty.NY.gov'  
<[Bbaker@steubencounty.NY.gov](mailto:Bbaker@steubencounty.NY.gov)>; 'raymond.tierney@suffolkcountyny.gov'  
<[raymond.tierney@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:raymond.tierney@suffolkcountyny.gov)>; 'brian.conaty@co.sullivanyny.us'  
<[brian.conaty@co.sullivanyny.us](mailto:brian.conaty@co.sullivanyny.us)>; 'martink@tiogacountyny.gov' <[martink@tiogacountyny.gov](mailto:martink@tiogacountyny.gov)>;  
'MVH@tompkins-co.org' <[MVH@tompkins-co.org](mailto:MVH@tompkins-co.org)>; 'enne@co.ulster.ny.us' <[enne@co.ulster.ny.us](mailto:enne@co.ulster.ny.us)>;  
'carusonej@warrencountyny.gov' <[carusonej@warrencountyny.gov](mailto:carusonej@warrencountyny.gov)>;  
'tjordan@washingtoncountyny.gov' <[tjordan@washingtoncountyny.gov](mailto:tjordan@washingtoncountyny.gov)>; 'ccallanan@co.wayne.ny.us'  
<[ccallanan@co.wayne.ny.us](mailto:ccallanan@co.wayne.ny.us)>; 'mrocah@westchesterda.net' <[mrocah@westchesterda.net](mailto:mrocah@westchesterda.net)>;  
'vhemming@wyomingco.net' <[vhemming@wyomingco.net](mailto:vhemming@wyomingco.net)>; 'tcasella@yatescounty.org'  
<[tcasella@yatescounty.org](mailto:tcasella@yatescounty.org)>  
Cc: 'morgan.bitton@daasny.org' <[morgan.bitton@daasny.org](mailto: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  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
[www.judgwatch.org](http://www.judgwatch.org)  
914-421-1200  
[elena@judgwatch.org](mailto:elena@judgwatch.org)