

From: elenaruth@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 12:10 PM
To: 'elkim@nypublicradio.org'; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org'; 'rkhalifeh@nypublicradio.org'; 'smax@nypublicradio.org'; 'acooper@nypublicradio.org'
Cc: 'sbrown@wnyc.org'; 'bbergin@wnyc.org'; 'blehrer@wnyc.org'; 'cwerth@wnyc.org'; 'dgiambusso@wnyc.org'; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org'; 'jvielkind@wnyc.org'
Subject: **OVERSIGHT REQUIRED: Corruption-abetting, election-rigging, "fake news"/fraudulent, agenda-driven journalism by your new Capitol Bureau hire, Jeongyoon Han & her colleagues Jimmy Vielkind & Jon Campbell, enabled by NY Public Radio leadership**
Attachments: [cja-feb-4-2025-testimony.pdf](#);
[cja-feb-13-testimony-with-questions.pdf](#)

TO: WNYC/NY Public Radio

As reflected by the below, I sent the above-entitled February 21st e-mail to you, twice. Both times it bounced back – the second time with this message:

* [elkim@nypublicradio.org [jcampbell@nypublicradio.org](#) [rkhalifeh@nypublicradio.org](#) [smax@nypublicradio.org](#) [acooper@nypublicradio.org](#)]: 550 Administrative prohibition - envelope blocked - <https://community.mimecast.com/docs/DOC-1369#550> [YII0EdwSMmiJseX9xkXYA.us502]

* [sbrown@wnyc.org [bbergin@wnyc.org](#) [blehrer@wnyc.org](#) [cwerth@wnyc.org](#) [dgiambusso@wnyc.org](#) [jcampbell@wnyc.org](#) [jvielkind@wnyc.org](#)]: 550 Administrative prohibition - envelope blocked - <https://community.mimecast.com/docs/DOC-1369#550> [ylugwqVJPN-SYv9-IWwAJQ.us294]

Have you blocked me? I will try again, now from my personal e-mail address.

No time must be wasted. The major scandal represented by the below, with the above-attached, opens up New York City's 2025 electoral races -- exposing the corruption of candidates running for New York City mayor (Scott Stringer, Zellnor Myrie, Jessica Ramos, Zohran Mamdani, Curtis Sliwa, and, if he runs, former Governor Cuomo), for Manhattan borough president (Brad Hoylman-Sigal, Keith Powers), incumbent Manhattan D.A. Alvin Bragg, incumbent New York City Public Advocate Jumanne Williams, and City Council incumbents such as Speaker Adrienne Adams.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org

914-421-1200

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

Sent: Saturday, February 22, 2025 9:57 AM

To: 'cwerth@wnyc.org' <cwerth@wnyc.org>; 'dgiambusso@wnyc.org' <dgiambusso@wnyc.org>; 'jcampbell@wnyc.org' <jcampbell@wnyc.org>; 'jvielkind@wnyc.org' <jvielkind@wnyc.org>; 'sbrown@wnyc.org' <sbrown@wnyc.org>; 'bbergin@wnyc.org' <bbergin@wnyc.org>; 'blehrer@wnyc.org' <blehrer@wnyc.org>; 'acooper@nypublicradio.org' <acooper@nypublicradio.org>; 'elkim@nypublicradio.org' <elkim@nypublicradio.org>; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org' <jcampbell@nypublicradio.org>; 'rkhalifeh@nypublicradio.org' <rkhalifeh@nypublicradio.org>; 'smax@nypublicradio.org' <smax@nypublicradio.org>; 'wxxi@wxxi.org' <wxxi@wxxi.org>; 'dyoung@wxxi.org' <dyoung@wxxi.org>; 'Jeongyoon Han' <jhan@wxxi.org>; 'newsroom@wxxi.org' <newsroom@wxxi.org>

Subject: OVERSIGHT REQUIRED: Corruption-abetting, election-rigging, "fake news"/fraudulent, agenda-driven journalism by your new Capitol Bureau hire, Jeongyoon Han & her colleagues Jimmy Vielkind & Jon Campbell, enabled by NY Public Radio leadership

TO: WNYC/NY Public Radio/WXXI

The below e-mail sent to you yesterday bounced back, with messages reading:

* [cwerth@wnyc.org dgiambusso@wnyc.org jcampbell@wnyc.org jvielkind@wnyc.org sbrown@wnyc.org bbergin@wnyc.org blehrer@wnyc.org]: 550 Administrative prohibition - envelope blocked - <https://community.mimecast.com/docs/DOC-1369#550> [ZOKJ7eTgNnWFe9ar_RZYaw.us568]

* [acooper@nypublicradio.org elkim@nypublicradio.org jcampbell@nypublicradio.org rkhalifeh@nypublicradio.org smax@nypublicradio.org]: 550 Administrative prohibition - envelope blocked - <https://community.mimecast.com/docs/DOC-1369#550> [NnH2NKsKNGCJ5LM]Sg2OAw.us468] Server "209.222.82.253:25" returned an error:

* [wxxi@wxxi.org dyoung@wxxi.org jhan@wxxi.org newsroom@wxxi.org]: 550 Service unavailable; Client host [mta-231b.oxsus-vadesecure.net] blocked using Barracuda Reputation; <http://www.barracudanetworks.com/reputation/?r=1&ip=15.204.3.5> (wxxi@wxxi.org:blocked,newsroom@wxxi.org:blocked,jhan@wxxi.org:blocked,dyoung@wxxi.org:blocked)

Have you blocked me? I will try again.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Friday, February 21, 2025 9:45 PM

To: 'dyoung@wxxi.org' <dyoung@wxxi.org>; 'newsroom@wxxi.org' <newsroom@wxxi.org>; 'wxxi@wxxi.org' <wxxi@wxxi.org>; 'cabolt@syr.edu' <cabolt@syr.edu>; 'hmmoorep@syr.edu' <hmmoorep@syr.edu>; 'srwillis@syr.edu' <srwillis@syr.edu>; 'jssmit05@syr.edu' <jssmit05@syr.edu>; 'sgilbert@wamc.org' <sgilbert@wamc.org>; 'srosenberry@wamc.org' <srosenberry@wamc.org>; 'ipick@wamc.org' <ipick@wamc.org>; 'ipickus@wamc.org' <ipickus@wamc.org>; 'dlucas@wamc.org' <dlucas@wamc.org>; 'news@wamc.org' <news@wamc.org>; 'roundtable@wamc.org' <roundtable@wamc.org>; 'news@wbfo.org' <news@wbfo.org>; 'Charles Gilbert' <cgilbert@wbfo.org>; 'bjaipaul-valenza@wned.org' <bjaipaul-valenza@wned.org>; 'hkirkpatrick@wned.org' <hkirkpatrick@wned.org>; 'wdrake@wrvo.org' <wdrake@wrvo.org>; 'jsmith@wrvo.org' <jsmith@wrvo.org>; 'jason@wrvo.org' <jason@wrvo.org>; 'news@wrvo.org' <news@wrvo.org>; 'tmagnarelli@wskg.org' <tmagnarelli@wskg.org>; 'news@mshg.org' <news@mshg.org>; 'david@ncpr.org' <david@ncpr.org>; 'mitch@ncpr.org' <mitch@ncpr.org>; 'monica@ncpr.org' <monica@ncpr.org>; 'news@wcpr.org' <news@wcpr.org>; 'programming@wliw.org' <programming@wliw.org>; 'leadership@wnet.org' <leadership@wnet.org>; 'programming@thirteen.org' <programming@thirteen.org>; 'news@njspotlightnews.org' <news@njspotlightnews.org>; 'ahayes@wmht.org' <ahayes@wmht.org>; 'wpedigo@wmht.org' <wpedigo@wmht.org>; 'vbelden@wmht.org' <vbelden@wmht.org>; 'SDestra@wmht.org' <SDestra@wmht.org>; 'EKline@wmht.org' <EKline@wmht.org>; 'blehrer@wnyc.org' <blehrer@wnyc.org>; 'bbergin@wnyc.org' <bbergin@wnyc.org>; 'dgiambusso@wnyc.org' <dgiambusso@wnyc.org>; 'cwerth@wnyc.org' <cwerth@wnyc.org>; 'rkhalifeh@nypublicradio.org' <rkhalifeh@nypublicradio.org>; 'elkim@nypublicradio.org' <elkim@nypublicradio.org>; 'smax@nypublicradio.org' <smax@nypublicradio.org>; 'sbrown@wnyc.org' <sbrown@wnyc.org>; 'feedback@wjffradio.org' <feedback@wjffradio.org>; 'mimi@wjffradio.org' <mimi@wjffradio.org>; 'news@wshu.org' <news@wshu.org>; 'tsheridan@wshu.org' <tsheridan@wshu.org>; 'brad@wshu.org' <brad@wshu.org>

Cc: 'acooper@nypublicradio.org' <acooper@nypublicradio.org>; 'Jeongyoon Han' <jhan@wxxi.org>; 'jvielkind@wnyc.org' <jvielkind@wnyc.org>; 'jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com' <jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com>; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org' <jcampbell@nypublicradio.org>; 'jcampbell@wnyc.org' <jcampbell@wnyc.org>

Subject: OVERSIGHT REQUIRED: Corruption-abetting, election-rigging, "fake news"/fraudulent, agenda-driven journalism by your new Capitol Bureau hire, Jeongyoon Han & her colleagues Jimmy Vielkind & Jon Campbell, enabled by NY Public Radio leadership

TO: New York Public News Network's 12 member stations

“WAER, Syracuse; WAMC, Albany; WBFO, Buffalo; WJFF (Radio Catskill), Liberty; WMHT, Albany; WNYC, New York City;

WRVO, Oswego; WSHU, ...Long Island; WSKG, Vestal; WSLU (North Country Radio), Canton; WLIW, Long Island; and WXXI Rochester.”

Ten days ago, I sent the below February 11th e-mail to New York Public Radio Senior VP for News/Editor in Chief Audrey Cooper. Entitled “OVERSIGHT REQUIRED: Your vaunted Capitol Bureau of WNYC/Gothamist & the New York Public News Network are engaging in corruption-abetting, election-

rigging, 'fake news'/fraudulent, agenda-driven journalism", it requested that she forward it to President/CEO LaFontaine E. Oliver and General Counsel Ivan Zimmerman and advise by no later than noon February 13th as to whether she would be "directing 'enterprise and investigative journalism' with respect to my above-attached February 4th testimony and the Opposition Report."

I received no response from Senior VP/Editor in Chief Cooper, or from President/CEO Oliver, or from General Counsel Zimmerman. Nor did I receive responses from complained-against reporters Jimmy Vielkind or Jon Campbell, also cc'd. As for your new Capitol Bureau hire, Jeongyoon Han, also complained-about, she [e-mailed me](#), rather promptly, and, without indicating cc's to the others, stated: "Thank you for your kind note. I'd love to look at your emails now that they've surfaced out of my spam folder and am happy to be in touch in the future." To this, [I promptly e-mailed](#) – cc'ing Senior VP/Editor in Chief Cooper and Messrs. Vielkind and Campbell – stating:

"Thank you for your e-mail, albeit my note was not 'kind'. You are young, have much to learn – and I look forward to assisting you with evidence-based journalism that WILL make a difference – and instantaneously so – in completely non-partisan fashion, for the benefit of ALL the people.

I am available, at your convenience, no matter how early or late."
(capitalization in the original).

That was the last I heard from Ms. Han, whose February 16th article "[NY comptroller warns of potential federal cuts, questions rebate checks](#)" reports on the state budget as if unaware, though she now was, that it is flagrantly unconstitutional, unlawful, and larcenous and that Comptroller DiNapoli has been – and is currently – a respondent/defendant in CJA's lawsuits chronicling same.

I now furnish that same below February 11th e-mail, with its above-attached February 11th written testimony, to you, the 12 member "newsrooms" of the New York Public News Network, for your oversight and corrective action. Will you report on my testimony for the Legislature's February 4th budget hearing on "local government officials/general government" – and investigate the lawsuit evidence it furnishes, now at the Court of Appeals, as to the unconstitutionality, unlawfulness, and larceny of the state budget, involving Comptroller DiNapoli, Attorney General James, Governor Hochul, Lieutenant Governor Delgado, Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Heastie, the Legislature's other 211 members, Chief Judge Wilson, and Chief Administrative Judge Zayas – as to which New York's 62 District Attorneys are all complicit beneficiaries?

And, related thereto, will you investigate and report on the corruption of New York's "public protection" ethics entities having disciplinary jurisdiction over all these highest public officers and their corrupting of state governance involving the state budget and pay raises – the subject of my fully-documented February 13th written testimony for the Legislature's February 13th budget hearing on "public protection". It is above-attached and, like my February 4th written testimony, I have withheld distributing it to New York's other media so as to give you the chance to "shine" with your "public news" reporting.

How about starting with the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (COELIG) – about which, posted on [your New York Public News Network website](#), is a February 18th article "[New York's ethics watchdog ruled constitutional by state's top court](#)" by an unidentified AP reporter, notwithstanding, WNYC/[Gothamist](#) published Mr. Campbell's February 18th article "[NY's top court rejects Andrew Cuomo's push to blow up state ethics board](#)". Both articles are [largely indistinguishable from the "follow-the-pack"](#)

[reporting of all other news outlets](#), many of which also quote [COELIG's statement](#) and [AG James' statement](#) about their victory. Mr. Campbell's article confines itself to a snippet of the latter:

“State Attorney General Letitia James cheered the ruling, saying it would ensure the state has a ‘strong, independent ethics watchdog’”.

This is fraud by AG James – and Mr. Campbell knows this, as likewise Mr. Vielkind, Ms. Han, and NY Public Radio leadership Cooper, Oliver, and Zimmerman, unless NONE of them bothered to read my [December 16, 2024 amicus curie brief to the Court of Appeals to prevent fraud](#), furnished by the e-mail chain beneath my February 11th e-mail. Its annexed and hyperlinked exhibits, further accessible from [CJA's dedicated webpage for Cuomo v. COELIG at the Court of Appeals](#), include the fully-documented complaints I filed with COELIG, from its DAY ONE, July 8, 2022, and my devastating analyses of its 2022 and 2023 annual reports, with FOIL requests. Indeed, from the *amicus curiae* brief and its [motion for leave to file it](#) they would know that not only is COELIG utterly corrupt, but the [Court of Appeals February 18th opinions](#), majority and dissent, are judicial frauds. Indeed, the “flags” are prominent, as, for instance, the VERY FIRST SENTENCE of the majority opinion's analysis, at page 10, “Duly enacted legislation is entitled to a strong presumption of constitutionality (*see White v. Cuomo*, 38 NY3d 209, 216 [2022]...)” – not excepted to by the dissent – implying, but not stating, that the “ethics commission reform act of 2022” was “Duly enacted”.

How about verifying that the “ethics commission reform act of 2022” was NOT “Duly enacted” based on the EVIDENCE that the *amicus curiae* brief furnishes, starting with the sixth and seventh causes of action of the [June 6, 2022 verified petition in CJA v. JCOPE, et al.](#) (¶¶178-90) and [CJA's June 28, 2022 CPLR §2214 Notice of Papers to be Furnished to the Court](#), substantiating CJA's entitlement to summary judgment, [now before the Court of Appeals on an appeal of right](#).

By the way, most germane to the *CJA v. JCOPE, et al.* sixth cause of action for a declaration that the “ethics commission reform act of 2022” was enacted unconstitutionally, unlawfully, *via* the budget, and by fraud is my [February 7, 2025 FOIL request pertaining to the FY2025-26 state budget](#). Addressed to the FOIL officers of Governor Hochul, her Division of the Budget, the Senate, the Assembly, and the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission, it seeks records reflecting:

- “(1) how Governor Hochul's five **proposed** ‘Article VII Bills’ each became **actual** bills, allegedly submitted by her ‘pursuant to article seven of the Constitution’;
- (2) why these actual bills are not posted on her Division of the Budget's website; and
- (3) findings of fact and conclusions of law made with respect to CJA's March 18, 2020 letter to Governor Cuomo”.

Do let me hear from you about all this – and as soon as possible. Governor Hochul's 30-day amendments to her FY2025-26 budget bills are imminent.

You can call me anytime, no matter how early or late, and over the weekend. I am available to answer your questions and to assist you, to the fullest, in discharging your first amendment journalist responsibilities on which informed voting and our democracy rest in this 2025 electoral year.

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: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:17 PM

To: 'acooper@nypublicradio.org' <acooper@nypublicradio.org>

Cc: 'jvielkind@wnyc.org' <jvielkind@wnyc.org>; 'jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com' <jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com>; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org' <jcampbell@nypublicradio.org>; 'jcampbell@wnyc.org' <jcampbell@wnyc.org>; 'jhan@wxxi.org' <jhan@wxxi.org>

Subject: OVERSIGHT REQUIRED: Your vaunted Capitol Bureau of WNYC/Gothamist & the New York Public News Network are engaging in corruption-abetting, election-rigging, "fake news"/fraudulent, agenda-driven journalism

TO: [New York Public Radio Editor-in-Chief/Senior Vice President Audrey Cooper](#)

[Your January 6, 2025 linked-in message](#) announcing that [WNYC had hired Jimmy Vielkind](#) to expand its Capitol bureau through a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and as part of the New York Public News Network, states: "I think we have the most badass bureau in the state with Jimmy joining the indefatigable [Jon Campbell](#) and [Jeongyoon Han](#). This is just the beginning!"

Actually, the three-person staff of your Capitol bureau must be fired for their flagrant cover-up of open-and-shut, *prima facie* evidence of the corrupting of constitutional, lawful governance by New York's highest public officers – as established by my below e-mails to all three: [my February 6th e-mail to Mr. Vielkind](#), [my February 7th e-mail to Ms. Han](#), and [my February 10th e-mail to Mr. Campbell, which additionally cc's Mr. Vielkind and Ms. Han](#) – all with the same above-attachment.

While this behavior by Messrs. Vielkind and Campbell is consistent with their behavior, throughout the past 14 years, since my first interactions with them, in 2011, [here](#) and [here](#), it was disappointing to see such conduct from newbie, Ms. Han, with whom I had no prior contact. Indeed, truly remarkable is that while Ms. Han was not responding to my February 7th e-mail requesting her response by noon yesterday, she was apparently writing the article that was published yesterday at 5:40 pm, "[Lawmakers protest seven-figure compensation package for SUNY Chancellor](#)" (WRVO); ([WBFO](#)); ([WAER](#)). Apart from being an unoriginal, superficial reprise of coverage from other outlets ([2/5/25-Gannett](#); [2/6/25-Albany Times Union](#); [2/6/25-Albany News Channel 10](#)), apparent from her article is that either she did NOT examine my above-attached [testimony](#), specifying, on its second page, "the 'elephant in the room' HUGE salaries of the SUNY Chancellor and State Education Department Commissioner, *et al.*, arising from abuses of Executive Law §169.3, without oversight by the executive and legislative branches" – the substantiation for which is at pp. 34-40 of CJA's February 3, 2025 Opposition Report to the November 14, 2024 Report on the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation that my testimony annexed – or else she chose to disregard it.

Likewise, Ms. Han either did NOT examine the [2004](#), [2006](#), and [2008](#) Brennan Center reports about New York's most-dysfunctional-in-the-nation state legislature that my e-mail furnished her, or else she chose

to disregard what it described about sham committees engaging in no oversight and operating as pass-throughs for bills that are the product of deals, not legislative due process. Certainly, her article does not remotely suggest that legislators, by their many committees, have been delinquent in their oversight of SUNY and CUNY salaries, spanning years. To the contrary, she allows two senators to posture – one being Senator Skoufis, who, since 2019, has chaired the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations and who certainly knew, in 2023, when he introduced his bill pertaining to SUNY and CUNY salaries, how to get it passed, if he truly wanted to. That he made NO effort is evident from [the Senate history of the bill, S.6113](#), showing Senator Skoufis as the bill’s sole sponsor and its referral to the Senate Finance Committee, of which he was and is a member.

Had Ms. Han called me, as my February 7th e-mail invited her to do, I would have given her original, primary-source evidence for an impactful, corruption-eradicating story, including pertaining to Senator Skoufis and his chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, as, for example, [my January 10, 2019 e-mail](#) and my [March 4, 2019 e-mail](#).

Please forward this e-mail to [President and CEO LaFontaine E. Oliver](#) and [General Counsel Ivan Zimmerman](#) and advise by no later than noon Thursday, February 13th, as to whether you will be directing “enterprise and investigative journalism” with respect to my above-attached February 4th testimony and the Opposition Report.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 7:17 PM
To: 'acooper@nypublicradio.org' <acooper@nypublicradio.org>
Cc: 'jvielkind@wnyc.org' <jvielkind@wnyc.org>; 'jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com' <jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com>; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org' <jcampbell@nypublicradio.org>; 'jcampbell@wnyc.org' <jcampbell@wnyc.org>; 'jhan@wxxi.org' <jhan@wxxi.org>

Subject: OVERSIGHT REQUIRED: Your vaunted Capitol Bureau of WNYC/Gothamist & the New York Public News Network are engaging in corruption-abetting, election-rigging, "fake news"/fraudulent, agenda-driven journalism

TO: [New York Public Radio Editor-in-Chief/Senior Vice President Audrey Cooper](#)

[Your January 6, 2025 linked-in message](#) announcing that [WNYC had hired Jimmy Vielkind](#) to expand its Capitol bureau through a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and as part of the New York Public News Network, states: “I think we have the most badass bureau in the state with Jimmy joining the indefatigable [Jon Campbell](#) and [Jeongyoon Han](#). This is just the beginning!”

Actually, the three-person staff of your Capitol bureau must be fired for their flagrant cover-up of open-and-shut, *prima facie* evidence of the corrupting of constitutional, lawful governance by New York's highest public officers – as established by my below e-mails to all three: [my February 6th e-mail to Mr. Vielkind](#), [my February 7th e-mail to Ms. Han](#), and [my February 10th e-mail to Mr. Campbell, which additionally cc's Mr. Vielkind and Ms. Han](#) – all with the same above-attachment.

While this behavior by Messrs. Vielkind and Campbell is consistent with their behavior, throughout the past 14 years, since my first interactions with them, in 2011, [here](#) and [here](#), it was disappointing to see such conduct from newbie, Ms. Han, with whom I had no prior contact. Indeed, truly remarkable is that while Ms. Han was not responding to my February 7th e-mail requesting her response by noon yesterday, she was apparently writing the article that was published yesterday at 5:40 pm, "[Lawmakers protest seven-figure compensation package for SUNY Chancellor](#)" (WRVO); ([WBFO](#)); ([WAER](#)). Apart from being an unoriginal, superficial reprise of coverage from other outlets ([2/5/25-Gannett](#); [2/6/25-Albany Times Union](#); [2/6/25-Albany News Channel 10](#)), apparent from her article is that either she did NOT examine my above-attached [testimony](#), specifying, on its second page, "the 'elephant in the room' HUGE salaries of the SUNY Chancellor and State Education Department Commissioner, *et al.*, arising from abuses of Executive Law §169.3, without oversight by the executive and legislative branches" – the substantiation for which is at pp. 34-40 of CJA's February 3, 2025 Opposition Report to the November 14, 2024 Report on the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation that my testimony annexed – or else she chose to disregard it.

Likewise, Ms. Han either did NOT examine the [2004](#), [2006](#), and [2008](#) Brennan Center reports about New York's most-dysfunctional-in-the-nation state legislature that my e-mail furnished her, or else she chose to disregard what it described about sham committees engaging in no oversight and operating as pass-throughs for bills that are the product of deals, not legislative due process. Certainly, her article does not remotely suggest that legislators, by their many committees, have been delinquent in their oversight of SUNY and CUNY salaries, spanning years. To the contrary, she allows two senators to posture – one being Senator Skoufis, who, since 2019, has chaired the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations and who certainly knew, in 2023, when he introduced his bill pertaining to SUNY and CUNY salaries, how to get it passed, if he truly wanted to. That he made NO effort is evident from [the Senate history of the bill, S.6113](#), showing Senator Skoufis as the bill's sole sponsor and its referral to the Senate Finance Committee, of which he was and is a member.

Had Ms. Han called me, as my February 7th e-mail invited her to do, I would have given her original, primary-source evidence for an impactful, corruption-eradicating story, including pertaining to Senator Skoufis and his chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, as, for example, [my January 10, 2019 e-mail](#) and my [March 4, 2019 e-mail](#).

Please forward this e-mail to [President and CEO LaFontaine E. Oliver](#) and [General Counsel Ivan Zimmerman](#) and advise by no later than noon Thursday, February 13th, as to whether you will be directing "enterprise and investigative journalism" with respect to my above-attached February 4th testimony and the Opposition Report.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org

914-421-1200

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 7:01 PM
To: 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org' <jcampbell@nypublicradio.org>; 'jcampbell@wnyc.org' <jcampbell@wnyc.org>
Cc: 'jvielkind@wnyc.org' <jvielkind@wnyc.org>; 'jhan@wxxi.org' <jhan@wxxi.org>

Subject: Your reporting on the state budget, its embedded appropriations for legislators & other state officers -- & the corruption, in office, of AG James, DA Bragg, etc.

TO: [Jon Campbell/New York Capitol reporter - New York Public Radio/Gothamist](#)

As [Jimmy Vielkind and Jeongyoon Han are your colleagues at the Albany capitol bureau of NY Public Radio/WNYC/Gothamist](#), below are my welcoming e-mails to them, attaching my above written testimony for the Legislature's February 4th budget hearing on "local government officials/general government".

I have received no response from Mr. Vielkind and Ms. Han and now offer the same two-page written testimony to you. The [testimony, annexing CJA's February 3, 2025 Opposition Report to the November 14, 2024 Report of the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation](#), is an explosive follow-up to your January 23rd [Gothamist](#) article "['Double dipping' NY lawmakers 'retire' to collect a pension and salary at the same time](#)", including because, as your article points out, one of those double dippers is J. Gary Pretlow, who "now chairs the Assembly's powerful Ways and Means Committee", in which capacity he also gets a \$34,000 stipend added to his \$142,000 salary.

On February 3, 2017, I testified, in person, before Assemblyman Pretlow about the unconstitutionality and larceny of the state budget and its embedded salary increases and, thereafter, testified, in his presence, at the November 30, 2018 hearing of the Committee on Legislative and Executive Compensation ([VIDEO](#), at 25mins/45secs). Here's my [February 7, 2017 e-mail to Assemblyman Pretlow](#), with its enclosed [February 6, 2017 letter to Assembly Speaker Heastie](#), to which he was cc'd, and my two separate December 6, 2018 e-mails to him, [here](#) and [here](#), enclosing my [December 6, 2018 letter to Assembly Speaker Heastie](#), to which Assemblyman Pretlow was also cc'd.

By the way, my most recent e-mail to now Ways and Means Committee Chair Pretlow was on [February 7th](#) entitled "Why is CJA's written testimony for the Legislature's Feb 4, 2025 budget hearing on 'local gov't officials/general government' NOT posted – & has it been furnished to ALL committee members?" I have received no response from Chair Pretlow or from any of the e-mail's other recipients and cc's – Finance Committee Chair Krueger, Ways and Means Committee Ranking Members Ra, Finance Committee Ranking Member O'Mara, and Legislative Leaders Heastie, Stewart-Cousins, Ortt and Barclay. Nor has my February 4th testimony been posted on the Assembly and Senate webpages for the hearing.

As time is of the essence, please let me hear from you by noon tomorrow, February 11th, as to whether you will be reporting on the foregoing and the below further angles that I suggested to Ms. Han and Mr. Vielkind pertaining to AG James, DA Bragg, the Brennan Center reports from 2004, 2006, and 2008, the lawsuits at the Court of Appeals, etc.

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: Friday, February 7, 2025 6:06 PM
To: 'jhan@wxxi.org' <jhan@wxxi.org>

Subject: A gift to welcome you to your new job, as a Capitol News Bureau reporter for the NY Public News Network -- Explosive evidence, complete unreported, about the state budget, A.G. James, & D.A. Bragg

TO: [Jeongyoon Han/Capitol News Bureau Reporter – New York Public News Network](#)

Welcome to your new job.

I am director and co-founder of the [Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. \(CJA\)](#), a non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, based in White Plains.

CJA has a wealth of **unreported** primary-source, documentary evidence, bearing directly on stories you have been writing about, such as your yesterday's article "[U.S. Attorney General vows to investigate two of New York's top lawyers](#)" pertaining to President Trump and A.G. James and D.A. Bragg, and your prior article about the Brennan Center's release of its report, also yesterday, "[Report: State campaign finance match program combats megadonor influence](#)", including your final sentence: "The deadline to finalize the annual budget is April 1."

This **unreported** primary-source, documentary evidence builds on Brennan Center reports, from [2004](#), [2006](#), and [2008](#), describing New York's Legislature as the most dysfunctional in the entire nation, but not addressing the budget. It is reflected by my above-attached written testimony for the Legislature's February 4th budget hearing on "local government officials/general government", at which the [Brennan Center testified](#), and is about the budget and AG James. Yesterday morning, by the below e-mail, I sent it to your Capitol News Bureau/New York Public News Network colleague, Jimmy Vielkind, as a gift on the occasion of his new position at WNYC/Gothamist and the New York Public News Network, without response from him.

I now offer you the same gift, by this e-mail, which I am sending only to you, without cc's, with the expectation that after you review my written testimony, you will call me, so that I can answer your questions and fill you in on what's been going on, **unreported by the press, for decades**, enabling AG James and DA Bragg to be elected to, and remain in, the positions they hold. Call me, at your convenience, no matter how early or late, over the weekend, but no later than by Monday noon, as time is of the essence.

By the way, you are not listed on the [Legislative Correspondents Association roster](#), your articles and bio do not furnish any contact information for you, and only by calling WXXI, first 585-258-0253 and then 585-258-0200, was I able to obtain an e-mail for you. How then is the public able to contact you with stories for coverage?

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: Thursday, February 6, 2025 9:40 AM
To: 'jvielkind@wnyc.org' <jvielkind@wnyc.org>; 'jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com' <jimmy.vielkind@gmail.com>

Subject: A gift to you, on the occasion of your new position at WNYC/Gothamist & the New York Public News Network, funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting

TO: Jimmy Vielkind/Capitol Bureau-WNYC/Gothamist – New York Public News Network

How surprising to see that you have been hired by WNYC/Gothamist to a position “funded by a grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting” – news that I learned about only yesterday, first from your [posted bio on WRVO](#), then from your January 6, 2025 substack article “[A new job for the new year](#)”, which then led me to WNYC’s January 6, 2025 press announcement: “[Jimmy Vielkind joins WNYC/Gothamist to Expand Albany and Statewide Coverage Ahead of 2026 Governor's Race](#)”, with its subtitle: “*New position, funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, is part of the New York Public News Network, a collaboration of 13 public radio newsrooms across the state*”.

That obviously explains why my below January 4, 2025 e-mail to the roster of Legislative Correspondents Association reporters, which was then still listing you as at the [Wall Street Journal](#), bounced back, twice, as being undeliverable to you.

As a gift to you, on the occasion of your being hired “as part of a Capitol bureau expansion that will provide statehouse reporting to 13 public media organizations across the state”, funded by federal taxpayers, above-attached is the written testimony I submitted two days ago to the Legislature for its February 4th budget hearing on “local government officials/general government”, highlighting CJA’s two lawsuits, now at the Court of Appeals, against Governor Hochul, the Legislature, Attorney General James, and Comptroller DiNapoli, suing them for corruption involving New York’s “OFF THE CONSTITUTIONAL RAILS”, larcenous state budget and pay raises, each defended by litigation fraud of Attorney General James and “thrown” by fraudulent decisions. I have not yet furnished it to the LCA roster or any other journalists.

Will you report on these two politically-explosive lawsuits, each brought, expressly, “on behalf of the People of the State of New York & the Public Interest”? And will you report on the two specific larcenies my testimony identifies in the FY2025-26 state budget:

- (1) \$34.6M or so for judicial pay raises, arising from the statutorily-violative, fraudulent, and unconstitutional December 4, 2023 Report of the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation; and
- (2) an unknown amount for pay raises for Executive Law §169 state officers, arising from the statutorily-violative, fraudulent, and unconstitutional November 14, 2024 Report of that same commission?

As you are *already* fully familiar with *virtually all* that my testimony summarizes, other than pertaining to the November 14, 2024 Report, whose details are set forth by [CJA’s February 3, 2025 Opposition Report](#) annexed to my testimony, please e-mail me by 3 p.m. tomorrow, so that I may be guided accordingly.

Also, as I assume you and your WNYC/New York Public News Network colleagues will be reporting, in the near future, on the Court of Appeals’ upcoming decision in *Cuomo v. Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government* (COELIG), please also let me know if you will be reporting on my below January 4th e-mail about [CJA’s December 16, 2024 motion](#) therein for leave to file an *amicus curiae* brief to prevent fraud.

I look forward to speaking with you directly about the foregoing – and to assisting you to the fullest with your “enterprise and investigative journalism”. Please call me no matter how late tonight or early tomorrow morning.

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: Saturday, January 4, 2025 1:40 PM
To: 'jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com' <jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com>

Subject: HEADS UP! Behind the Scenes, at the Court of Appeals, in Cuomo v. COELIG, Scheduled for Oral Argument this Tues, Jan 7th

The below appears not to have been delivered to you, for reasons I do not understand.

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Saturday, January 4, 2025 8:52 AM
To: 'blee@alm.com' <blee@alm.com>; 'susan.arbetter@charter.com' <susan.arbetter@charter.com>; 'grace.ashford@nytimes.com' <grace.ashford@nytimes.com>; 'jbeeferman@politico.com' <jbeeferman@politico.com>; 'editor@nysfocus.com' <editor@nysfocus.com>; 'cbragg@nysfocus.com' <cbragg@nysfocus.com>; 'molly.burke@hearst.com' <molly.burke@hearst.com>; 'jcampbell@nypublicradio.org' <jcampbell@nypublicradio.org>; 'Dan.Clark@timesunion.com' <Dan.Clark@timesunion.com>; 'Keshia.clukey@newsday.com' <Keshia.clukey@newsday.com>; 'tconnolly514@gmail.com' <tconnolly514@gmail.com>; 'gwen@adirondackexplorer.org' <gwen@adirondackexplorer.org>; 'jdeline@news10.com' <jdeline@news10.com>; 'SDestra@wmht.com' <SDestra@wmht.com>; 'SDestra@wmht.org' <SDestra@wmht.org>; 'bianca@nysfocus.com' <bianca@nysfocus.com>; 'mfrench@politico.com' <mfrench@politico.com>; 'agault@wdt.net' <agault@wdt.net>; 'rgavin@buffnews.com' <rgavin@buffnews.com>; 'vgolden@nypost.com' <vgolden@nypost.com>; 'michael.gormley@newsday.com' <michael.gormley@newsday.com>; 'lynn.halliburton@statewatch.com' <lynn.halliburton@statewatch.com>; 'kevin@statewatch.com' <kevin@statewatch.com>; 'Kyle Hughes' <khughes@nysnys.com>; 'aizaguirre@ap.org' <aizaguirre@ap.org>; 'Ajefferson@cityandstateny.com' <Ajefferson@cityandstateny.com>; 'shaneking@statewatch.com' <shaneking@statewatch.com>; 'EKline@wmht.org' <EKline@wmht.org>; 'editor@cityandstateny.com' <editor@cityandstateny.com>; 'rlewis@cityandstateny.com' <rlewis@cityandstateny.com>; 'Kate.Lisa@charter.com' <Kate.Lisa@charter.com>; 'David.lombardo@wcny.org' <David.lombardo@wcny.org>; 'seamus.lyman@charter.com' <seamus.lyman@charter.com>; 'BLyons@TimesUnion.com' <BLyons@TimesUnion.com>; 'billmahoney@politico.com' <billmahoney@politico.com>; 'matthew.mirro@statewatch.com' <matthew.mirro@statewatch.com>; 'ben.oreskes@nytimes.com' <ben.oreskes@nytimes.com>; 'bphillip@nysenate.gov' <bphillip@nysenate.gov>; 'nreisman@politico.com' <nreisman@politico.com>; 'julia@nysfocus.com' <julia@nysfocus.com>; 'jay.root@nytimes.com' <jay.root@nytimes.com>; 'yancey.roy@newsday.com' <yancey.roy@newsday.com>; 'Maryfrancis.Stoute@charter.com' <Maryfrancis.Stoute@charter.com>; 'jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com' <jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com>; 'Peter.Wendler@wcny.org' <Peter.Wendler@wcny.org>; 'zwilliams@bloombergindustry.com' <zwilliams@bloombergindustry.com>; 'timothy.p.williams@charter.com' <timothy.p.williams@charter.com>

Subject: HEADS UP! Behind the Scenes, at the Court of Appeals, in Cuomo v. COELIG, Scheduled for Oral Argument this Tues, Jan 7th

TO: [Albany Legislative Correspondents Association Roster of Reporters](#)

[At 2 p.m. this Tuesday, Jan. 7th, the Court of Appeals is hearing oral argument](#) on the constitutionality of the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (COELIG), successfully challenged by former Governor Cuomo in his lawsuit against it, in Albany Supreme Court and at the Appellate Division, Third Department.

The non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization [Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. \(CJA\)](#) has a great deal of direct, first-hand experience with COELIG and the facts and circumstances giving rise to it, as well as with what took place, in the *Cuomo v. COELIG* lawsuit, at the Appellate Division, Third Department.

On December 16th, CJA filed with the Court of Appeals a devastating [motion for leave to file an amicus curiae brief to prevent fraud on the Court](#) by COELIG, by Cuomo, and by the *amici* “good government” organizations/NYC Bar Association and for “appropriate action” against them, *to wit*, sanctions and disciplinary, if not criminal, referrals. The motion demonstrates that their briefs to the Court, identically to their briefs to the Appellate Division, are materially fraudulent, that the Appellate Division decision is a fraud, and that COELIG is not only unconstitutional, *by its enactment* through the budget and by fraud, but, *as applied*, being a “herculean hoax”, including its so-called “independent review committee” of 15 law school deans.

Cuomo and the “good government”/NYC Bar Association *amici* did NOT oppose the December 16th motion, at all – and COELIG’s only opposition, on the December 30th return date, was a single-sentence purporting that the requested “appropriate action” has “no basis...and should be denied”. Yesterday, [CJA filed a reply](#) as devastating as its December 16th motion.

For your convenience, everything is posted on [CJA’s webpage for Cuomo v. COELIG at the Court of Appeals](#).

I am available to answer your questions. Feel free to call me, no matter how early or late.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
cell: 646-220-7987
elena@judgewatch.org