

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewidth.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 9:40 AM
To: 'jvielkind@wnyc.org'; '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**

Attachments: [cja-feb-4-2025-testimony.pdf](#)

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