

Center for Judicial Accountability

From: Center for Judicial Accountability <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2015 11:27 PM
To: sheilabirnbaum@quinnemanuel.com; nyscompensation@gmail.com;
barry.cozier@leclairryan.com; gajohnson@mec.cuny.edu
Subject: Supplemental Submission
Attachments: 12-2-15-supplemental-statement.pdf

In compliance with this Commission's deadline of December 2nd for written submissions, attached is CJA's supplemental statement. The webpage on which it is posted with substantiating evidence is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/2015/testimony.htm>

Thank you.

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability [mailto:elena@judgewatch.org]
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2015 4:25 PM
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Subject: Informing the Public about the Commission's Nov. 30 Public Hearing on Judicial Compensation & its Opportunity to be Heard

Dear Chairwoman Birnbaum,

Today's New York Post runs an article entitled "Pay hikes eyed for NY judges, lawmakers", whose opening sentence reads: "A state panel is quietly looking at increasing pay for judges and state lawmakers." (underlining added). Here's the link: <http://nypost.com/2015/11/18/pay-hikes-eyed-for-ny-judges-lawmakers/>.

Perhaps the Commission can explain to the article's author, New York Post reporter Kirstan Conley, why a full two weeks after the Commission scheduled a November 30th public hearing in Manhattan on judicial compensation, it has yet to send out a press release about it and the opportunity that the public has to testify and/or make written submissions about salaries and benefits for judges, whose costs it pays for. Certainly, there is not a single press release posted on the Commission's website: <http://nyscommissiononcompensation.org/index.shtml>.

As for the article's statement that the Commission "published just one public-hearing notice, on Halloween, four days before its first hearing on Nov. 3" that is, of course, erroneous. The Commission never published a public-hearing notice for a November 3rd hearing. Rather, New York Law Journal reporter Joel Stashenko received a communication from someone, based upon which he mistakenly reported that the Commission was going to be holding a November 3rd hearing. In fact, it was the Commission's first organizational meeting.

Please immediately confer with the Commissioners so that press releases about the Commission's November 30th public hearing – and the opportunity the public has to testify and/or to furnish written comment – go out forthwith.

Needless to say, the only reason for the Commission's proceeding "quietly" – as it has – is its knowledge that the taxpaying public would never tolerate pay raises for corrupt and incompetent judges – such as we have and cannot rid