

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 3:42 PM
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Subject: **EMERGENCY ACTION REQUIRED, consistent with ethical, professional & civic responsibilities: Lawsuit to VOID the "ethics commission reform act of 2022" and for TRO -- CJA, et al. v. JCOPE, et al. (Albany Co. #904235-22)**

Attachments: [6-12-22-ltr-to-independent-review-committee.pdf](#)

TO: [New York State Bar Association Officers, Executive Committee Members & Members of the Committee on the New York State Constitution](#)

This is to request the New York State Bar Association's intervention, *amicus curiae*, and other assistance, including a lawyer to represent the presently unrepresented corporate petitioner/plaintiff Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) in its *pro bono*, public interest lawsuit to VOID the "ethics commission reform act of 2022", a regressive statute enacted, unconstitutionally, *via* the state budget, to "protect" complained-against public officers from accountability by stripping complainants and the public of rights enforceable by mandamus. This Friday, June 17th, at 2 p.m., I, as the individual petitioner/plaintiff will be arguing for a TRO before Albany County Supreme Court Justice Peter Lynch. **TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.**

The verified petition/complaint, the OSC, and my moving affidavit in support of a preliminary injunction/TRO are accessible *via* NYSCEF, [here](#).

I respectfully request that each of you “eyeball” the case – as once you do, you will know, for a certainty, that, consistent with ethical, professional, and civic responsibilities, the State Bar must take IMMEDIATE ACTION. At minimum this must be – and I here request – endorsing my above June 12th letter to New York’s 15 law school deans comprising the “independent review committee” of the “ethics commission reform act of 2022”.

Below is the e-mail I sent yesterday to the 15 law school deans, with the above-attached June 12th letter, here also [linked](#), cc’ing Justice Lynch, the respondents/defendants, and the [New York Law Journal](#).

As I do not have e-mail addresses for everyone, I ask State Bar President Sherry Levin Wallach to ensure that this e-mail is forwarded to all State Bar officers, Executive Committee members, and members of the Committee on the New York State Constitution, including those disqualified for interest, who – pursuant to ethical rules – are mandated to step aside from any determination herein, and, absent their doing so, to make disclosure to their colleagues who then can address the situation appropriately.

I am available to answer questions – and would welcome the opportunity to do so.

Thank you.

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

Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 9:50 AM

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Subject: Lawsuit to VOID the "ethics commission reform act of 2022", TRO to stay the statute from taking effect on July 8th -- & your ethical, professional, & civic responsibilities with respect thereto -- CJA, et al. v. JCOPE, et al. (Albany Co. #904235-22)

TO: The "independent review committee" of the "ethics commission reform act of 2022"

SUNY-Buffalo Law School Dean Aviva Abramovsky
CUNY-Queens College Law School Interim Dean Eduardo R.C. Capulong
Incoming Dean Sudha Setty (July 1, 2022)
Albany Law School Dean Alicia Ouellette
Brooklyn Law School Dean Michael T. Cahill
Columbia University Law School Dean Gillian Lester
Cornell University Law School Dean Jens David Ohlin
Fordham Law School Dean Matthew Diller
Hofstra Law School Dean Gail Prudenti
New York Law School Dean Anthony Crowell
New York University Law School Dean Troy McKenzie
Pace University Law School Dean Horace E. Anderson, Jr.
St. John's University Law School Dean Michael A. Simons
Syracuse University Law School Dean Craig M. Boise
Touro College Law School Elena B. Langan
Yeshiva University Cardozo Law School Dean Melanie Leslie

Following up my yesterday's e-mailing to you of the above attached, [here](#) & [here](#), inadvertently omitting SUNY-Buffalo Law School Dean Abramovsky, I am sending it again to you this morning – Monday, June 13th – to further ensure that it is not overlooked, again sending it to the other cc's, from which I yesterday also inadvertently omitted Albany County Supreme Court Justice Lynch.

Below is my June 9th e-mail giving notice to respondents/defendants of the Friday, June 17th oral argument before Justice Lynch on the TRO.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, individual petitioner/plaintiff *pro se*
Director-Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>

Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 11:35 AM

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Cc: 'shetman@nycourts.gov' <shetman@nycourts.gov>

Subject: June 17, 2022 oral argument on TRO -- CJA, et al. v. JCOPE, et al. (#904235-22/Albany County)

TO: **New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE) –**

ATT: Sanford Berland/Executive Director
Emily Logue/Director of Investigations & Enforcement
Chair Jose Nieves
Commissioners: Gary Lavine, Sharon Gerstman,
Marvin Jacob, David McNamara

Legislative Ethics Commission (LEC) – ATT: Lisa Reid/Executive Director

New York State Inspector General (NYS-IG) – ATT: Lucy Lang/NYS-IG

Governor Kathy Hochul – ATT: [FOIL officer](#)

Temporary Senate President Andrea Stewart-Cousins & Senate –

ATT: Jellisa Joseph/Counsel to Secretary of the Senate

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie & Assembly – ATT: Brian Haak/Counsel

Attorney General Letitia James – ATT: [AG-press](#); [Westchester Bureau Chief Andy Aujla](#)

Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli – ATT: Mike Kogut/Associate Counsel

This follows my phone and e-mail communications with you and/or your offices on Tuesday, Wednesday, and today concerning the lawsuit against you, *Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc., et al. v. New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics, et al.*, filed in Albany County (#904235-22).

Next Friday, June 17th, at 2 p.m., oral argument will be had, in Albany County Supreme Court at 16 Eagle Street, before Justice Peter Lynch, on petitioners/plaintiffs' request for a TRO to stay the "ethics commission reform act of 2022" – Part QQ of Education, Labor, Housing, and Family Assistance Budget Bill #S.8006-C/A.9006-C – from taking effect on July 8, 2022 and to enjoin JCOPE from closing, pending final determination of the lawsuit's June 6, 2022 verified petition/complaint and its accompanying order to show cause. At issue is the sixth cause of action (¶¶78-85) that Part QQ was enacted unconstitutionally, unlawfully, and by fraud.

On June 17th, I will serve you with hard copies of the papers. In the meantime, you will not be hampered in the slightest in preparing, **fully**, for the oral argument, as all the papers are available electronically, *via* NYSCEF (New York State Courts Electronic Filing). The direct link to the electronic docket of the case is

[here](#). You can also access the verified petition/complaint, the order to show cause, and my accompanying affidavit from CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org – and the direct link is [here](#). Indeed, accessing the case *via* NYSCEF and CJA's website will enable you to access the scores, if not hundreds, of substantiating links petitioners/plaintiffs' papers contain, not accessible from the hard copies.

So that I might be guided accordingly in the number of copies to reproduce – a not inconsiderable expense – please advise if you will waive service of the hard copies, as superfluous.

Justice Lynch's principal law clerk, Stehle Hetman-Mika, is herewith cc'd, as discussed with her.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, individual petitioner/plaintiff *pro se*
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