

SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 ORAL TESTIMONY
In Opposition to Confirmation of Anthony Crowell, Esq.
to the New York City Planning Commission

Please deem my testimony as under oath and subject to the penalties of perjury.

My name is Elena Ruth Sassower. I am director and co-founder of the nonpartisan, nonprofit citizens' organization Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. Our website is www.judgewatch.org – and from its top panel “Latest News” you can find the link to my [written testimony](#) and the evidence substantiating it.

I appear here today before you in opposition to confirmation of Anthony Crowell as a member of the New York City Planning Commission.

Mr. Crowell, who served for 12 years as special counsel and then counselor to Mayor Bloomberg and then went on to become dean of New York Law School, has successively used positions of public trust to aid and abet the corruption of ethics entities and, with them, the evisceration of constitutional lawful governance by all three of New York's governmental branches involving the state budget and pay raises. He has done this in furtherance of conflicts of interest arising from his personal, professional, and political relationships:

- [In 2015, as a member, if not *de facto* chair, of the review commission of the Joint Commission on Public Ethics – JCOPE – and the Legislative Ethics Commission;](#)
- [Last year, as a member of the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board on which he served from April 2013 to November 2021;](#)
- [Presently, as chair of the so-called “independent review committee” established by the so-called “ethics commission reform act of 2022” that is supposed to vet and has the power to disapprove unfit nominations to the new state ethics commission that has replaced JCOPE.](#)

Based on the evidence furnished by my written testimony, Mr. Crowell cannot be confirmed by you as he flagrantly does not meet the standard fixed by the Charter for appointment to the New York City Planning Commission ([Chapter 8, §192\(a\)](#)) – “independence, integrity and civic commitment”. He is a corrupter, unfit for any office of public trust.

I am available to answer questions to assist you in discharging your Charter-mandated duties.

[I have furnished Mr. Crowell with my written testimony](#) expressly so that he might have the due process opportunity to respond. You must require him to do so.