

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 3:11 PM
To: 'foil@nysenate.gov'
Cc: 'scousins@nysenate.gov'; 'grelick@nysenate.gov'; 'susangrelick@yahoo.com'; 'flanagan@nysenate.gov'; 'cmills@nysenate.gov'; 'lkrueger@nysenate.gov'; 'usher@nysenate.gov'; 'lanza@nysenate.gov'; 'jturoski@nysenate.gov'; 'seward@nysenate.gov'; 'davie@nysenate.gov'
Subject: FOIL/records request: The Senate Finance Committee's ranking member -- & the stipend payable for the "significantly more work" and "additional duties" the position entails
Attachments: 2-18-20-ltr-to-gov .pdf; 2-12-20-questions-stewart-cousins-heastie-revised.pdf; 2-12-20-questions-for-marks-updated-2.pdf

TO: Senate Records Access Officer/Secretary of the Senate Alejandra Paulino

Pursuant to Senate Rule XIV ("Freedom of Information"), this is to request:

(1) records establishing the date on which Senator James Seward became disabled, due to illness – and/or notified the Senate that, by reason of illness, he was unable to discharge his duties as the Senate Finance Committee's ranking member;

(2) records of consultation between Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins and Senate Minority Leader Flanagan, Esq., as to how to proceed;

(3) records as to the date on which a successor or an "acting" ranking member for the Senate Finance Committee was appointed, presumably by Senate Minority Leader Flanagan, Esq.;

(4) records reflecting appropriate financial arrangements with respect to the \$20,500 annual stipend payable to the ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee (Legislative Law, §5-a) for the "significantly more work" and "additional duties" he/she is expected to perform (December 10, 2018 report of the Committee on Legislative and Executive Compensation), *to wit*, (a) termination of future stipend payments to the disabled Senator Seward; and (b) initiation of stipend payments to the appointed successor/"acting" ranking member;

(5) records reflecting whether the appointed successor/"acting" ranking member was apprised of the Center for Judicial Accountability's written communications to Ranking Member Seward pertaining to the FY2020-21 executive budget – specifically including the above three attachments, submitted for the record of the Legislature's February 12, 2020 "public protection" budget hearing by the below February 19, 2020 e-mail, and CJA's subsequent March 3, 2020 and March 18, 2020 letters to Governor Cuomo, to which Ranking Member Seward was a recipient. CJA's webpage for the 2020 legislative session – from which is accessible the full correspondence pertaining to the FY2020-21 executive budget sent to Ranking Member Seward for appropriate action -- is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2020-legislative/2020-session-menu.htm>.

Inasmuch as you have ignored – without response – virtually all of CJA's many FOIL requests, going back to our November 29, 2019 FOIL request pertaining to the Legislature's proposed budget – a copy of this FOIL request is being simultaneously e-mailed to Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Flanagan, Esq., and Senate

Finance Committee Chair Liz Krueger for their responses, apart from records – and to Senator Andrew Lanza, Esq., who – based on VIDEOS of Senate Finance Committee meetings on March 18, March 31, and two on April 2, 2002: <https://www.nysenate.gov/committees/finance> – appears to have been appointed as the Committee’s ranking member or “acting” ranking member. It is additionally being sent to Senator Seward.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020 1:30 PM
To: 'lkrueger@nysenate.gov' <lkrueger@nysenate.gov>; 'usher@nysenate.gov' <usher@nysenate.gov>; 'seward@nysenate.gov' <seward@nysenate.gov>; 'davie@nysenate.gov' <davie@nysenate.gov>; 'wamchair@nyassembly.gov' <wamchair@nyassembly.gov>; 'WeinstH@nyassembly.gov' <WeinstH@nyassembly.gov>; 'beavers@nyassembly.gov' <beavers@nyassembly.gov>; 'rae@nyassembly.gov' <rae@nyassembly.gov>; 'derocht@nyassembly.gov' <derocht@nyassembly.gov>; 'lanza@nysenate.gov' <lanza@nysenate.gov>
Cc: 'foil@nysenate.gov' <foil@nysenate.gov>; 'marillar@nyassembly.gov' <marillar@nyassembly.gov>

Subject: MISSING from the Senate & Assembly webpages for the Feb 12, 2020 "public protection" budget hearing

**TO: Senate Finance Committee Chair Krueger & Ranking Member Seward/(Acting Ranking Member Lanza)
Assembly Ways & Means Committee Chair Weinstein & Ranking Member Ra**

The Center for Judicial Accountability’s above three attachments, timely submitted for the record of the Legislature’s February 12, 2020 “public protection” budget hearing, by the below February 19, 2020 e-mail, are NOT posted on the Senate’s webpage for the hearing: <https://www.nysenate.gov/calendar/public-hearings/february-12-2020/joint-legislative-public-hearing-2020-2021-executive> or the Assembly’s webpage for the hearing: https://nyassembly.gov/testimony/?ph_id=1106.

Is this inadvertent? Please advise and rectify.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:45 PM
To: lkrueger@nysenate.gov; usher@nysenate.gov; seward@nysenate.gov; davie@nysenate.gov; 'Helene Weinstein' <wamchair@nyassembly.gov>; WeinstH@nyassembly.gov; ancowitzr@nyassembly.gov; beavers@nyassembly.gov; rae@nyassembly.gov; derocht@nyassembly.gov

Subject: CJA's submissions for the record of the Legislature's Feb 12, 2020 "public protection" budget hearing

TO: Senate Finance Committee Chair Krueger & Ranking Member Seward
Assembly Ways & Means Committee Chair Weinstein & Ranking Member Ra

Please deem the Center for Judicial Accountability's above three attachments pertaining to the conduct of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches with respect to the state budget as submitted for the record of the Legislature's February 12, 2020 "public protection" budget hearing.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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