

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2022 3:25 PM
To: 'records@ethics.ny.gov'
Cc: 'investigations@ethics.ny.gov'; 'peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov'

Subject: **STATUS -- CJA's July 26, 2022 FOIL request: CELG's written procedures for receipt, docketing, acknowledgment, preliminary review, and investigation of complaints**

Attachments: [8-2-22-acknowledgment.pdf](#)

TO: Records Access Officer/Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government

In response to my below July 26th FOIL request, I received from you, [by e-mail](#), the above-attached and here linked [August 2nd letter](#), stating:

“...it is anticipated that the Commission will be able to respond to your request, providing or denying access, in whole or in part, within forty-five (45) business days, or by Wednesday, September 28, 2022. We will notify you in writing if the Commission requires additional time to be responsive to your request.”

Please advise as to the status of my July 26th FOIL request, as I have received nothing from you since that August 2nd letter.

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: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:13 PM
To: 'records@ethics.ny.gov' <records@ethics.ny.gov>
Cc: 'investigations@ethics.ny.gov' <investigations@ethics.ny.gov>; 'peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov' <peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov>

Subject: FOIL request: CELG's written procedures for receipt, docketing, acknowledgment, preliminary review, and investigation of complaints

TO: Records Access Officer/Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government

Pursuant to FOIL (Public Officers Law Article VI) – and as requested by the below -- this is to request CELG's written procedures for receipt, docketing, acknowledgment, preliminary review, and investigation of complaints.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:01 PM
To: 'investigations@ethics.ny.gov' <investigations@ethics.ny.gov>
Cc: 'peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov' <peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov>

Subject: CJA's Day #1 Complaints to CELG -- & FOIL request

TO: Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government (CELG)

Notwithstanding new Executive Law §94.10(e) states: “The commission shall notify the complainant, if any, that the commission has received their complaint”, I have received no written notification from CELG of my above-attached & here linked [July 8, 2022 complaint](#) entitled “TESTING the ‘ethics commission reform act” Commission on its DAY 1...”

Did you send me a notification and, if so, what numbers have you assigned to it – presumably eight numbers as the complaint is, **expressly**, a:

“Re-filing [of] the seven complaints [CJA] previously filed with JCOPE, plus a new eighth complaint against Attorney General Letitia James for litigation fraud in *CJA, et al. v. JCOPE, et al.* (Albany Co. #904235-22) – arising from the same conflict of interest Public Officers Law §74 violations as were the subject of CJA’s March 5, 2021 complaint, unaddressed by JCOPE”.

As CELG had NO operational e-mail for receipt of complaints until the afternoon of Monday, July 11th – and, as reflected by my below July 11th e-mail, Investigator Peter Smith orally acknowledged his receipt of the complaint that morning, upon my sending it to his own operational e-mail – I would assume that the eight complaints have been assigned numbers 1-8. Indeed, Mr. Smith stated to me that CJA’s complaint was CELG’s first.

Since CELG, unlike JCOPE, is subject to FOIL, this is to request CELG’s written procedures for receipt, docketing, acknowledgment, preliminary review, and investigation of complaints. At present, pursuant to new Executive Law §94.1(e), these procedures are presumably the same procedures as JCOPE’s had been.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 4:09 PM
To: investigations@ethics.ny.gov
Cc: peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov

Subject: TESTING, this time the IT ! -- Day #1 Complaint to CELG

TO: Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government (CELG)

Checking to see if your techies have succeeded in resolving the problem with the e-mail address for complaints.

Above-attached is my July 8th "Day #1 complaint", finally received by you, this morning, *via* Investigator Smith's e-mail.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower

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

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 9:24 AM

To: 'peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov' <peter.smith@ethics.ny.gov>

Subject: Once more! -- AGAIN: Repeatedly sent: Day #1 Complaint to CELG

Here again. Thank you.

From: elenaruth@aol.com <elenaruth@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 9:21 AM

To: 'investigations@ethics.ny.gov' <investigations@ethics.ny.gov>

Subject: AGAIN: Repeatedly sent: Day #1 Complaint to CELG

Yet again.

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

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 9:16 AM

To: 'investigations@ethics.ny.gov' <investigations@ethics.ny.gov>

Subject: Repeatedly sent: Day #1 Complaint to CELG

TO: Commission on Ethics & Lobbying in Government (CELG)

Following up my phone call at 9:00 am (518-408-3976), answered by Investigator Peter Smith, confirming your correct e-mail address for complaints – and its operability – I am resending, after two attempts shortly before midnight on Friday, July 8th, and several times the next day – only partially reflected by the below – my July 8, 2022 complaint.

Thank you.

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

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

Sent: Saturday, July 9, 2022 10:05 PM

To: 'investigations@ethics.ny.gov' <investigations@ethics.ny.gov>; 'investigation@ethics.ny.gov' <investigation@ethics.ny.gov>

Cc: 'ethics.investigations@ethics.ny.gov' <ethics.investigations@ethics.ny.gov>; 'ethics.investigation@ethics.ny.gov' <ethics.investigation@ethics.ny.gov>

Subject: Day #1 Complaint to CELG

The below has bounced back from both addresses, so I'm trying again, with some variations.

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Saturday, July 9, 2022 9:55 PM
To: 'ethics.investigation@ethics.ny.gov' <ethics.investigation@ethics.ny.gov>
Cc: 'investigations@ethics.ny.gov' <investigations@ethics.ny.gov>

Subject: Day #1 Complaint to CELG

Did the below reach you?

I got a bounce-back from the investigations@ethics.ny.gov – posted on your website, which I had additionally used.

The above makes slight non-substantive changes & adds record references to the below, initially sent.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, July 8, 2022 11:53 PM
To: 'ethics.investigation@ethics.ny' <ethics.investigation@ethics.ny>

Subject: Day #1 Complaint to CELG

Attached is my sworn complaint, as discussed earlier today with Investigator Peter Smith.

Thank you.

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