

## Center for Judicial Accountability

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 20, 2014 10:19 PM  
**To:** 'bbrean@whec.com'  
**Subject:** Achieving a NYS Budgeting Process that is open, understandable, and enables New Yorkers to appropriately influence how their tax dollars are spent

Dear Mr. Brean,

Bravo on your upcoming report "New York State Exposed" about New York's general fund and budget.

However, particularly in an election year, your report must be an expose of Assemblyman Bob Oaks, the Ranking Member of the Assembly's powerful Ways and Means Committee, whose answer to your question about the budgeting process you featured in your preview:

"Well the system works. I wish it was set up a bit differently. It would be nicer if it was a bit of a more open process and one that people could understand a bit more clearly."  
<http://www.whec.com/news/stories/S3289979.shtml>

Your viewers – the voters who elected Assemblyman Oaks among them – need to know that it is thanks to Ranking Member Oaks that the system does NOT work. Indeed, the corruption of last year's budgeting process, directly involving Ranking Member Oaks, is the subject of fully-documented corruption complaints that our nonpartisan, nonprofit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA), filed with the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption and a panoply of state and federal investigative bodies. These complaints are all posted on our website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), accessible from our top panel "Latest News" by a hyperlink entitled "Holding Government Accountable for its Grand Larceny of the Public Fisc & Other Corruption". Here's the direct link: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/grand-larceny-of-public-fisc.htm>.

As these corruption complaints all rest on our April 15, 2013 complaint to U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara, identifying (at p. 4) Ranking Member Oaks by name, here's the direct link to our webpage of that complaint: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/corruption-complaint-to-us-attorney-bharara2.htm>, containing all the referred-to substantiating evidence. Most vivid for your TV viewers is the VIDEO of my testimony before Ranking Member Oaks on February 6, 2013 at the Legislature's joint budget hearing on "public protection". Such furnishes a glimpse of what the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption and all other investigative authorities have been sitting on, protecting Ranking Member Oaks and a "who's who" of this state's highest public officers – the highest being Governor Cuomo. From this you will have the scandalous answer to the question that your preview indicates you will be answering for viewers: "What influence do you have, if any, on how [taxpayer money] is spent?"

The April 15, 2013 corruption complaint is relevant to the budget for fiscal year 2014-2015 because what is there chronicled with respect to the Judiciary budget and ultimately the Legislative budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 is now repeating, aided and abetted by Ranking Member Oaks. Indeed, I can attest to his role in perpetuating opaque Judiciary and Legislative budgets that are fraudulent, unconstitutional, and demonstrable slush-funds as I have been unsuccessfully trying to get a meeting with him for the past seven weeks based on correspondence that any public officer committed to ensuring a system that "works" and an "open process" would embrace. This latest correspondence pertaining to the Judiciary and Legislative budgets for fiscal year 2014-2015 is all posted on our "NYS Budget Reform" menu page, accessible *via* our homepage, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org). Upon your request, I'd be pleased to supply you with the e-mail transmitting this correspondence to Ranking Member Oaks and his staff, as likewise to share with you my diary entries for the number of phone messages I have left for them.

You may be sure that if your “New York State Exposed” follows evidence, not politicians’ guileful claims, you will achieve for the People of New York the kind of budgeting process that is open, understandable, and in which they can appropriately influence how their tax dollars are spent.

I look forward to speaking with you, as soon as possible, on this politically-explosive, prize-winning expose.

Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

[www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)

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