

## Center for Judicial Accountability

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability <elena@judgewidth.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 09, 2015 4:47 PM  
**To:** 'llopez@businessinsider.com'  
**Subject:** NEWS TIP -- JOHN WHITEHEAD WAS RIGHT ABOUT THE AG, JCOPE, etc.! -- Your today's story "Before he died, a former head of Goldman Sachs warned the governor about corruption in New York"

**RE: Your story, "Before he died, a former head of Goldman Sachs warned the governor about corruption in New York" ([Business Insider](#), February 9, 2015)**

The reason why Governor Cuomo did not respond to John Whitehead's letter is the SAME reason he – and Legislative Leaders – have not appointed the statutorily-required review commission to evaluate JCOPE, which they were required to do more than eight months ago. Tellingly, none of New York's public officers who could have easily forced the Governor and Legislative Leaders to do so by a mandamus action, have taken such SIMPLE corrective step. These public officers are the Attorney General, the Albany County District Attorney, and New York's U.S. Attorneys.

Below is the NEWS TIP on the subject that I widely-circulated to the press beginning on December 21, 2014 about our December 11, 2014 JCOPE complaint, without ANY response from ANY press, let alone investigative reporting. Hopefully, you'll now take the LEAD on this MAJOR NEWS STORY! The direct link to our webpage posting the December 11, 2014 JCOPE complaint – and subsequent correspondence, including to President Obama, is here: <http://www.judgewidth.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/holding-to-account/exposing-JCOPE.htm>.

I am available to assist you, to answer questions, and to be interviewed. I would also greatly appreciate if you would furnish me with a copy of Mr. Whitehead's letter – or, alternatively, if you would forward this e-mail to Mr. Whitehead's family – or other parties – that could.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
914-421-1200  
[elena@judgewidth.org](mailto:elena@judgewidth.org)

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### [Why So Quiet, Preet? The Non-Existent Review Commission for JCOPE & the Legislative Ethics Commission](#)

The 2011 law that created the Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE) requires the Governor and Legislative Leaders to appoint an eight-member review commission to evaluate JCOPE's operations – and that of the Legislative Ethics Commission – by "No later than June 1, 2014".

No review commission has been appointed by the Governor and Legislative Leaders – and JCOPE has not uttered a peep about their dereliction. Why? Is it because the Governor, Legislative Leaders, and JCOPE all know that any legitimate review commission would be required to “blow the whistle” on JCOPE and expose that it has been corruptly protecting the Governor, Legislative Leaders, and other high-ranking public officers within JCOPE’s jurisdiction?

This is the subject of an explosive December 11, 2014 conflict-of-interest ethics complaint against JCOPE, the Governor, and Legislative Leaders, filed by our non-partisan, non-profit citizens’ organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) – and furnished to investigative/prosecutorial authorities with the power and duty to take the Governor and Legislative Leaders to court to compel them to appoint the review commission that the law requires. Among these investigative/prosecutorial authorities, U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara, who, having subpoenaed JCOPE in April for all complaints filed with it, has had more than ample time to verify the serious and substantial nature of complaints against the Governor, Legislative Leaders, and other high-ranking public officers that JCOPE has been “sitting on”. Why so quiet, Preet?

CJA’s website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), posts the December 11, 2014 ethics complaint and the transmittal letter to investigative/prosecutorial authorities, accessible *via* the prominent homepage link: “Exposing the Fraud of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption”. This brings up a menu with a link entitled “Going Where the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption did NOT:...JCOPE”. Here’s that webpage directly: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/holding-to-account/exposing-JCOPE.htm>

I am available to be interviewed and to answer your questions.

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