

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 10:56 PM
To: 'jpatrick@dailygazette.net'
Cc: 'mmahoney@dailygazette.net'; 'sdonnelly@dailygazette.net'
Subject: Proposal: Go Interactive & ask Daily Gazette readers what they think -- and what they expect from their incumbent legislators and candidates seeking their votes
Attachments: 8-10-17-open-ltr.pdf

Dear Ms. Patrick –

Thank you for your phone call this afternoon. You have before you a MAJOR story that takes minimal time and resources for a small publication, such as yours. As stated by my below March 8th e-mail to you – which apparently you did not read:

“Please be sure to watch the referred-to VIDEOS of my testimony at the Legislature’s budget hearings – as they will IMMEDIATELY make obvious what a MAJOR story you have....and how EASY it is to verify and develop by your reporters’ questions to our elected public officers.”

For your convenience, here are the links to CJA’s webpages posting the VIDEOS – which you promised me you would watch. If Messrs. Mahoney and Donnelly watched the VIDEOS – and you did not indicate to me that they had – they can confirm that the total viewing time is an hour.

- (1) **February 6, 2013 budget hearing on “public protection”** (before Senator DeFrancisco-chair of the Senate Finance Committee): <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/feb-6-2013-testimony-evidence.htm>
- (2) **January 30, 2017 budget hearing on “local government officials/general government”** (before Senator Marchione-chair of the Senate Committee on Local Government): <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>
- (3) **January 31, 2017 budget hearing on “public protection”**: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>
- (4) **January 30, 2018 budget hearing on “public protection”**: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/jan-30-2018-hearing.htm>
- (5) **February 5, 2018 budget hearing on “local government officials/general government”**: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/feb-5-2018-hearing.htm>

I would be shocked if, after viewing even a single VIDEO of my testimony, you believed that Daily Gazette readers would not be greatly concerned about what I was saying – and would not want to know whether it was true and what their elected Senate and Assembly members had done to verify it. I propose that you test this by posting the above webpage links for the VIDEOS and EVIDENCE on the Daily Gazette website and asking your readers.

To do this would require little time or money. Likewise for a reporter to interview each of the Senate and Assembly members within the Daily Gazette’s geographic coverage area for comment. Do they deny or dispute the accuracy of my testimony? If so, at which hearing and in what respect? And for those claiming to know nothing about it, they can watch the VIDEOS posted on the Daily Gazette website and get back to you.

I commend the Daily Gazette for having a webpage of “Area Legislators”: <https://dailygazette.com/legislators>. I have listed them below, hyperlinking to their Senate and Assembly webpages – and furnishing other pertinent information:

[Senator Neil Breslin](#) (44th Senate District) -- a lawyer, sitting on such relevant committees as the Senate Judiciary Committee; the Senate Finance Committee; and the Senate Rules Committee;

[Senator Kathleen Marchione](#) (43rd Senate District) – chairs the relevant Senate Committee on Local Government and sits on such other relevant committees as Senate Finance;

[Senator Elizabeth Little](#) (45th Senate District) – sits on such relevant committees as the Senate Finance Committee; the Senate Rules Committee; and the Senate Committee on Crime, Crime Victims & Correction

[Senator James Seward](#) (51st Senate District) – sits on such relevant committees as the Senate Finance Committee and Senate Rules Committee

[Senator James Tedisco](#) (49th Senate District) – sits on such relevant committees as the Senate Codes Committee and the Senate Committee on Crime, Crime Victims & Correction

[Assemblyman Phil Steck](#) (110th Assembly District) -- a lawyer, sitting on such relevant committees as the Assembly Judiciary Committee

[Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara](#) (111th Assembly District)

[Assemblyman John McDonald](#) (108th Assembly District) -- sits on such relevant committee as the Assembly Ways and Means Committee

[Assemblyman Marc Butler](#) (118th Assembly District) -- sits on such relevant committee as the Assembly Rules Committee

This “Area Legislators” listing has not been updated to reflect that the Assembly seats that had been occupied by Peter Lopez ([102nd Assembly District](#)) and Steve McLaughlin ([107th Assembly District](#)) are now vacant and will be filled by voters at the special election set for April 24th. Wouldn’t Daily Gazette readers benefit from the opportunity to meaningfully judge the candidates competing for those seats by their views of my testimony? What would each have done, as an Assembly member, hearing my testimony live – or learning of it thereafter. Do you think a single Daily Gazette reader would vote for a candidate who thought it was okay to ignore my testimony, without verifying its truth? Would you vote for such a candidate? How about Messrs. Mahoney and Donnelly?

I think the above can be developed in so many exciting ways – and so powerfully strengthen citizen participation and government accountability and responsiveness. I look forward to discussing it with you, after your hour’s viewing of the VIDEOS. Indeed, if you want to start with the VIDEO of my shortest testimony, start with the last, on February 5, 2018. It is only six minutes, but packs quite a wallop, in its specificity of hundreds of millions of dollars in the judiciary/legislative budget bill for fiscal year 2018-2019 that are fraudulent and a larceny of taxpayer dollars and must be investigated.

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: Thursday, March 8, 2018 11:14 PM
To: 'jpatrick@dailygazette.net' <jpatrick@dailygazette.net>
Cc: 'mmahoney@dailygazette.net' <mmahoney@dailygazette.net>; 'sdonnelly@dailygazette.net' <sdonnelly@dailygazette.net>
Subject: FW: STATUS: Asking "Tough Questions" of CUOMO -- & of NY's other incumbent public officers -- NOW so as to make the 2018 ELECTIONS competitive!

TO: Judy Patrick, Editor/Daily Gazette

Thank you for your afternoon call, responding to the phone message I had left for you this morning.

Below is my self-explanatory March 2nd e-mail to Messrs. Mahoney & Donnelly – to which I received no phone or e-mail response from either. I also received no phone or e-mail response to the further phone message I left on Mr. Donnelly's line (518-395-3131) yesterday morning.

The below retransmitted to Messrs. Mahoney and Donnelly my January 4th proposal. I separately retransmitted my January 8th and January 11th proposals to them, also on March 2nd – and will send these on to you, as well.

Please be sure to watch the referred-to VIDEOS of my testimony at the Legislature's budget hearings – as they will IMMEDIATELY make obvious what a MAJOR story you have....and how EASY it is to verify and develop by your reporters' questions to our elected public officers.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower
914-421-1200

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, March 2, 2018 10:32 AM
To: 'mmahoney@dailygazette.net' <mmahoney@dailygazette.net>; 'sdonnelly@dailygazette.net' <sdonnelly@dailygazette.net>
Subject: STATUS: Asking "Tough Questions" of CUOMO -- & of NY's other incumbent public officers -- NOW so as to make the 2018 ELECTIONS competitive!

TO: Mark Mahoney, Opinion Editor/Daily Gazette
Scott Donnelly, Content Editor/Daily Gazette

This follows the voice mail message I left a short time ago, on Mr. Mahoney's line (518-395-3085) – inquiring about the status of my below January 4, 2018 proposal – as to which, on January 8, 2018 and January 11, 2018, I sent additional and reinforcing proposals, ALL based on Mr. Mahoney's December 11, 2017 editorial "[Cuomo must hold news conferences with reporters: Governor needs to be available to answer tough questions](#)". For your convenience, I will forward you the January 8, 2018 and January 11, 2018 e-mails, as well.

As I have no record of response from either of you to these three e-mails, kindly advise whether you responded – and if not, why not, particularly in light of Sara Foss' contemporaneous column "2018 Governor's race shaping up to be major dud. Can anyone beat Cuomo?": <https://dailygazette.com/article/2018/01/09/foss-2018-governor-s-race-shaping-up-to-be-major-dud>, that appeared on January 9, 2018.

As Editor Judy Patrick will be stepping down at the end of the month, I would like to speak with her about my proposals before she leaves – and, especially as she is a contributor to the WAMC Media Project:

<http://wamc.org/programs/media-project> – to which I yesterday initiated contact with co-hosts Alan Chartock and Rex Smith.

Finally, and to update you as to the multitude of questions deserving of being asked – and not just of Cuomo – that will utterly transform this year’s electoral races, here’s the link to CJA’s webpage for the “2018 Legislative Session” – from which you can access the VIDEOS of my DEVASTATING testimony before the Legislature at its January 30, 2018 and February 5, 2018 budget hearings – and the EVIDENCE in substantiation -- <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/menu-2018-legislative-session.htm>.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]

Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2018 2:43 PM

To: 'mmahoney@dailygazette.net' <mmahoney@dailygazette.net>

Cc: 'sdonnelly@dailygazette.net' sdonnelly@dailygazette.net

Subject: FW: Asking "Tough Questions" of CUOMO -- & of NY's other incumbent public officers -- NOW so as to make the 2018 ELECTIONS competitive!

TO: Mark Mahoney, Opinion Editor/Daily Gazette
Scott Donnelly, Content Editor/Daily Gazette

Following up my phone conversations with each of you earlier today – occasioned by your December 11, 2017 editorial: "[Cuomo must hold news conferences with reporters: Governor needs to be available to answer tough questions](#)" – this is to reiterate that, even at news conferences, the PRESS does NOT ask Governor Cuomo the truly “tough questions”. Nor does it ask truly “tough questions” of other incumbent public officers. Indeed, if it did, Governor Cuomo – and all those who were on the stage yesterday at his “state of the state” address, excepting Lt. Governor Hochul – would long ago have been indicted for corruption. So, too, the incumbent Senate and Assembly members who are within the geographic domain of the Daily Gazette, as, for instance, Senator Kathleen Marchione, chair of the Senate Committee on Local Government, before whom I testified at the Legislature’s January 30, 2017 budget hearing on “Local Government Officials/General Government”.

Here’s the link to CJA’s webpage with the VIDEO of my testimony before Senator Marchione:

<http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>. Why shouldn’t Daily Gazette reporters ask her some “tough questions” about it – as, for example, what she did to verify the truth of what I was saying. This would be especially beneficial as my testimony pivotally described CJA’s citizen-taxpayer action, in which Governor Cuomo and all those on stage with him yesterday, excepting Lt. Governor Hochul, are being sued for corruption involving the state budget – the genesis of which is the statutorily-violative, fraudulent, and unconstitutional state commission reports that since March 2012, have stolen from New York taxpayers \$300 million in unlawful judicial and district attorney salary increases.

Governor Cuomo is the first named defendant in the citizen-taxpayer action. However, the press has never asked him or any of the other defendants about it, either generally or, specifically about its ten causes of action, or about what the lawsuit record EVIDENTIARILY establishes, namely, plaintiffs’ entitlement to SUMMARY JUDGMENT on each of its ten causes of action, about which I testified before Senator Marchione.

Each of the ten causes of action is a GOLD-MINE for questioning – including its 9th causes of action, challenging the constitutionality of three-men-in-a-room budget deal-making and the 5th cause of action, challenging the constitutionality of the Legislature’s closed-door party-conferences that substitute for open committee meetings -- as to which, with respect to ALL ten, defendants, represented by defendant Attorney General Schneiderman, had NO LEGITIMATE DEFENSE. The full record of the lawsuit – and the misconduct/corruption complaints against Acting Supreme Court Justice Hartman and defendant Attorney General Schneiderman for symbiotically corrupting the judicial process to “throw” the case – are posted on CJA’s website, www.judgewatch.org. The direct link to the menu page – which I showed you -- is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/menu-budget-reform.htm>.

This is an election year – the voters’ opportunity to “drain the swamp”. They cannot do this, unless the press asks the incumbents the “tough questions” about their records – and reports back to the voters. The citizen-taxpayer action is all about the record of the incumbents, corrupting government. Its “game-changing” electoral significance, making competitive EVERY electoral race involving an incumbent, is particularized by my attached August 10, 2017 OPEN LETTER about Senator Latimer’s record, in office. His election, last November, as Westchester county executive is the direct result of the press’ refusal to ask him a single question, “tough” or otherwise, about the OPEN LETTER, or to even report that there was such OPEN LETTER. The webpage for the OPEN LETTER, on which all substantiating PROOF is accessible, is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/8-10-17-open-ltr.htm>.

I am available to assist you, to the max, in TAKING THE LEAD in “tough question[ing]” – and making this electoral year the “swamp-draining” opportunity it rightfully is, from the Governor on down.

Thank you.

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