

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 1:29 PM
To: 'editor@newsday.com'; 'deborah.henley@newsday.com'; 'richard.rosen@newsday.com'; 'benjamin.weller@newsday.com'; 'martin.gottlieb@newsday.com'; 'rita.ciolli@newsday.com'; 'eli.reyes@newsday.com'
Cc: 'mark.chiusano@amny.com'; 'michael.dobie@newsday.com'; 'lane.filler@newsday.com'; 'randi.marshall@newsday.com'; 'matthew.davies@newsday.com'; 'amanda.fiscina@newsday.com'; 'samuel.guzik@newsday.com'; 'sandra.peddie@newsday.com'; 'sandra.peddie@stonybrook.edu'; 'david.schwartz@newsday.com'; 'rick.brand@newsday.com'; 'ted.phillips@newsday.com'; 'victoria.ramirez@newsday.com'; 'yancey.roy@newsday.com'; 'michael.gormley@newsday.com'
Subject: Correcting "CORRECTION REQUIRED: Ending the 'entrenched political system that has bred cronyism and corruption over decades' is EASY! Here's the PROOF --"
Attachments: 8-10-17-open-ltr.pdf; 9-5-17-suffolk-da-candidates.pdf

TO: NEWSDAY

Deborah Henley, Editor-in-Chief
Richard Rosen, Managing Editor
Benjamin Weller, Associate Managing Editor of Political Coverage
Martin Gottlieb, Assistant Managing Editor—Investigations
Rita Ciolli, Esq., Editorial Board Editor
Ed Reyes, Editorial Board Deputy Editor

The e-mail I sent to you yesterday, shortly after 5 pm, entitled "[CORRECTION REQUIRED: Ending the 'entrenched political system that has bred cronyism and corruption over decades' is EASY! Here's the PROOF --](#)", requires its own corrections. I have, therefore, revised it – and the revised e-mail is below. Here, first, is a highlighting of the changes:

First, I have corrected the misspelling of Ms. Peddie's name, appearing in various places.

Second, I have removed the clause "unlike the U.S. Attorneys' indictments and upcoming trials of Long Island public officials: <https://projects.newsday.com/long-island/politics-corruption-long-island/>", as it creates an inference that the current federal prosecutions cannot change the corrupt *status quo*. That is too broad. What I had intended to say is that much as Preet Bharara's indictments of Skelos and Silver were trivial in comparison to the EVIDENCE he had to charge them with -- EVIDENCE I myself furnished him from April 15, 2013 onward and which additionally mandated that he indict Cuomo, Lippman, Schneiderman, DiNapoli and a huge swathe of legislators for their fraud and larceny of taxpayer money pertaining to the judicial pay raises and slush-fund judiciary and legislative budgets – prosecutions that would have ended the "culture of corruption", overnight and in one fell swoop -- so, too, the other federal prosecutions may be "decoy prosecutions", giving an illusion that the U.S. Attorneys are on the job, fighting public corruption, when, in fact, they are not prosecuting the more significant aspects and players, of which they have EVIDENCE.

Certainly, Nassau District Attorney Rice – and her fellow co-chairs of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption, its members, advisors, and staff – should have all been indicted for fraud and corruption, years ago. And I furnished the EVIDENCE to Bharara – including as to the Commission's REFUSAL to examine how district attorneys handle public corruption complaints, beginning with their conflict-of-interest protocols for such complaints. On that subject, here's my November 13, 2013 letter to Commission member-Albany District Attorney Soares, also sent to Rice and the Commission – completely ignored: <http://www.judgewatch.org/judicial-compensation/da-complaint/11-13-13-ltr-da->

[soares.pdf](#). And, of course, the Commission's December 2, 2013 "preliminary report" lauded the district attorneys. This – and other frauds of the Commission – are particularized by CJA's April 23, 2014 order to show cause, with verified complaint, to intervene in *NYS Senate & Assembly... v. Rice*, (NY Co. #160941-2013) -- the declaratory judgment action that Skelos and Silver brought against the Commission. CJA's webpage for it is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/holding-to-account/4-23-14-osc-with-notice-to-produce.htm>.

Third: I have added that Albany D.A. Soares has been "sitting on" the corruption complaints I filed with him pertaining to the judicial/district attorney pay raises and state budget, from July 19, 2013 onward – as to which the Commission had knowledge, arising from the complaints I had filed with it and from my testimony before it on September 17, 2013: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/people-evidence/sassower-elena.htm>.

Fourth: I have added that *Newsday's* "Pathway to Power" refers to Suffolk County District Attorney Sini as having been elected on a "banner of reform" – which it tempers by the observation that he is a product of "machine politics" – a "cross-endorsement deal".

Fifth: I am adding recipients to this e-mail: Yancey Roy and Michael Gormley, the two reporters *Newsday* pays to be its Albany Bureau and furnish information that is both accurate and meaningful about state politics and as relates to Long Island and its Senate and Assembly delegation. My last communication with them, by an August 6, 2017 e-mail, was entitled "Putting an End to 'Fake News'..": <http://www.judgewatch.org/press-nys/2017/8-6-17-email-seiler-fake-news.pdf> – and I received no response from either of them. As the content of the August 6, 2017 e-mail pertains to EVERYTHING that is before you now, *Newsday* editors should ask Messrs. Roy and Gormley what, if anything, they deny or dispute about it – and, additionally, whether -- if they were not previously aware of my testimony at this year's budget hearings, on January 30, 2018 and February 5, 2018: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/menu-2018-legislative-session.htm>, they will be including any report of it in their articles about the budget over these next few weeks, let alone verification of its truth.

Thank you.

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

March 11, 2018 e-mail, as revised:

CORRECTION REQUIRED: Ending the "entrenched political system that has bred cronyism and corruption over decades" is EASY! Here's the PROOF --

TO: NEWSDAY

Deborah Henley, Editor-in-Chief
Richard Rosen, Managing Editor
Benjamin Weller, Associate Managing Editor of Political Coverage
Martin Gottlieb, Assistant Managing Editor—Investigations
Rita Ciolli, Esq., Editorial Board Editor
Ed Reyes, Editorial Board Deputy Editor

RE: CORRECTION REQUIRED: Ending the "entrenched political system that has bred cronyism and corruption over decades" is EASY! Here's the PROOF --

This is to bring to your attention that on February 23rd, I made a far-reaching, electorally-significant story proposal to reporter Sandra Peddie – and that, ever since, she has ignored ALL my e-mail and phone messages, inquiring as to its status – including as to whether she furnished the proposal to you, her news editors and the editorial board.

The proposal was my response to Newsday's investigative expose "*Pathway to Power: Gary Melius' rise through Long Island's cozy political system*", to which Ms. Peddie was a chief investigative reporter. As I'm sure you know, both the expose and its accompanying video ask "how easy is it to reform an entrenched political system that has bred cronyism and corruption over decades?"; "how possible is it to fundamentally change a system so rooted and rewarding to its powerful players?" — and answers "how difficult it may be to change"; "how hard it may be to exact lasting change". This same dispiriting answer, if not worse, is suggested by Ms. Peddie's February 22nd article "*High-profile year of political corruption*", cited by the expose as "RECOMMENDED READING".

My proposal challenged this answer. In the words of my February 23rd e-mail to Ms. Peddie, reiterating what I had discussed with her in our phone conversation earlier that day:

“...there is NOTHING difficult about ENDING the political corruption that plagues Long Island – and the rest of the state. It simply requires ENABLING voters to understand WHO is responsible for the corruption – so that, come ELECTION TIME, they can ‘drain the swamp’ and ‘throw the bums out’.

I identified that “The job of keeping New York State free of corruption is the job of a functioning Legislature – operating through its 72 committee, engaging in oversight responsibilities” – and that Newsday could easily EMPOWER Long Island voters with relevant information as to the on-the-job performance of their own Long Island Senate and Assembly delegation, in this regard and others.

Below is my final e-mail to Ms. Peddie – sent on March 9th – additionally highlighting that my proposal was in keeping with Newsday's January 8th editorial, "*Honestly, it's time for a change*", recognizing the responsibility of “state lawmakers”, all up for re-election in 2018, and its March 3rd editorial "*Break up the game among Long Island political insiders*", recognizing “the importance of maintaining the integrity of a system of checks and balances”. Beneath the March 9th e-mail are the prior e-mails I sent Ms. Peddie on March 1st and on February 27th. My February 23rd e-mail to her, with the original proposal, is not part of that chain. I retransmitted it to her by a separate March 9th e-mail – and I will forward this to you, as well.

Based on your review of the primary-source EVIDENCE substantiating my separately transmitted February 23rd proposal, ALL readily-accessible from the furnished links, it will not take long for you to conclude that Ms. Peddie – among the most seasoned and award-winning of Newsday's investigative reporters, pivotally featured in "*The Cost of Corruption*" video that accompanies your today's two articles "*Mangano-Venditto corruption trial kicks off Monday*": <https://www.newsday.com/long-island/crime/mangano-venditto-corruption-trial-1.17240059> and "*Ed Mangano's two terms marked by crises*": <https://www.newsday.com/long-island/politics/edward-mangano-nassau-1.17227236?pts=930512#autoplay=true> – knew she had a MAJOR story that would END the corrupt *status quo*, in short order. Indeed, during our February 23rd phone conversation, I showed her the EVIDENCE, *via* CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org, laying out so much of the story, “on a silver platter”, *to wit*, the verified pleadings and record of CJA's two citizen-taxpayer actions, suing the Senate and Assembly for corruption and “grand larceny of the public fisc” with respect the legislative, judiciary, and executive budgets – the origin of which are the statutorily-violative, fraudulent, and unconstitutional judicial and district attorney salary increases that, since April 2012, have cost New York taxpayers at least \$300 million, with another \$60-70 million embedded in the budget for fiscal year 2018-2019.

ALL Long Island's Senate and Assembly members are defendants – with Temporary Senate President Flanagan a named defendant in the second citizen taxpayer action, just as former Temporary Senate President Skelos had been a named defendant in the first. I told Ms. Peddie that questioning them about the citizen-taxpayer actions would END their re-election prospects, as likewise the election prospects of the other named elected defendants: Assembly Speaker

Heastie, Governor Cuomo, Attorney General Schneiderman, and Comptroller DiNapoli – as none would be able to remotely justify what is therein set forth, with EVIDENCE. Ms. Peddie would have seen this, for herself – and that the EVIDENCE mandates criminal indictments of all these public officers, especially under “New York’s strong anti-corruption law” (March 3rd editorial). Indeed, from the links that my February 23rd e-mail furnished, she could readily see that U.S. Attorney Bharara’s 2015 indictments of former Temporary Senate President Skelos and Assembly Speaker Silver and the trials and convictions he obtained thereon – about which Newsday and other media have made such a big deal, clamoring for retrial – were “for peanuts” and, in essence, decoy prosecutions that would keep intact the *status quo*. The proof? Nothing changed, upon their indictments and convictions – unlike what would have happened had they been indicted, as they should have been, based on the fully-documented corruption complaints pertaining to the judicial pay raises and the slush-fund legislative and judiciary budgets that I filed with U.S. Attorney Bharara from April 15, 2013 onwards – from which the corrupt *status quo* would long ago have been brought down – with iron-clad convictions of Skelos, Silver, and their many public officer co-conspirators, these being, in the first instance, Cuomo, Schneiderman, and DiNapoli – and, thereafter, among so many others, the sham Commission to Investigate Public Corruption, whose three co-chairs included then Nassau County District Attorney Kathleen Rice and whose most important district attorney member, having the state capital within his jurisdiction, was Albany County District Attorney P. David Soares, “sitting on” the corruption complaints I filed with him, from July 19, 2013 onward, pertaining to the judicial/district attorney pay raises and state budget, with full knowledge of the Commission, to which I filed corruption complaints and testified on September 17, 2013: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/people-evidence/sassower-elena.htm>.

I look forward to discussing it all with you – including the above attached two letters that put Suffolk County District Attorney Tim Sini on notice of the EVIDENCE and his duties with respect thereto while yet a candidate for the important office to which, two months later – and in the absence of reporting thereon by Newsday -- Suffolk County voters would elect him, based on propaganda that he was a “reformer” who would root out public corruption. In that connection – and because “*Pathway to Power*” refers to Sini’s election on a “banner of reform”, tempering it by noting that he is a product of “machine politics” -- his election victory having been won by a “cross-endorsement deal” -- here’s CJA’s webpage for the 2017 race for Suffolk district attorney on which is prominently posted my October 18, 2017 e-mail to Newsday: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/long-island/suffolk-da.htm>, and CJA’s webpage for Assemblyman Al Graf’s 2017 race for the Islip district court on which is prominently posted my October 19, 2017 e-mail to Newsday: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/long-island/ending-the-road-graf.htm>.

Suffice to say, had Newsday, at that time, investigated, and reported on, the same EVIDENCE that is before you now, the whole electoral and political scene on Long Island and throughout the state would be vastly different. So, too, what has been unfolding, in Albany, with respect to the legislative, judiciary, and executive budgets for fiscal year 2018-2019 – as to which my February 23rd e-mail furnished Ms. Peddie with the pertinent link to the webpage for my explosive testimony at the January 30th and February 5th legislative budget hearings: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/menu-2018-legislative-session.htm>.

I am ready, willing, and able to assist you, to the max, in VERIFYING EVERYTHING – and to show Newsday where so many other “bodies are buried”. When may I expect your calls?

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: Friday, March 9, 2018 1:49 PM
To: 'sandra.peddie@newsday.com' <sandra.peddie@newsday.com>

Subject: Addendum -- ONE LAST TIME: What's the status? -- Empowering L.I. Voters with Info about the On-the-Job Performance of their Senate & Assembly Delegation

I would also add to the below list of 9 legislative committees and 1 joint legislative commission that have been deliberately AWOL as to their oversight responsibilities – 2 more committees: the Senate Committee on Local Government and the Assembly Committee on Local Governments, as well as a further joint commission: the Senate and Assembly Commission on State-Local Relations.

Elena Sassower

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

Sent: Friday, March 9, 2018 1:31 PM

To: 'sandra.peddie@newsday.com' <sandra.peddie@newsday.com>

Subject: ONE LAST TIME: What's the status? -- Empowering L.I. Voters with Info about the On-the-Job Performance of their Senate & Assembly Delegation

TO: Sandra Peddie/Newsday

Why have I received no response from you to my below March 1st e-mail, or to my February 27th e-mail, or to my February 23rd e-mail – or to the voice mail messages I left for you about them, on February 28th, March 2nd, and March 7th?

Are you rejecting my proposals that Newsday empower Long Island voters with information about the on-the-job performance of their state Senate and Assembly delegation, all of whose members are up for re-election and all defendants in a citizen-taxpayer action, suing them for their sham legislative committees which REFUSE to oversee the integrity of government operations within their jurisdictions. Are you not familiar with Newsday's January 8th editorial "*Honestly, it's time for a change*" <http://www.judgewatch.org/press-nys/2018/articles-jan/1-6-18-newsday-editorial.pdf> – correctly identifying that the responsibility for corruption lies with "state lawmakers", all up for re-election in 2018.

Have you shared my story proposals with your editors – and with Newsday's editorial board, whose March 3th editorial: "*Break up the game among Long Island political insiders*" <https://www.newsday.com/opinion/editorial/gary-melius-oheka-castle-long-island-politics-1.17047730>, while referring to the "the importance of maintaining the integrity of a system of checks and balances" – the purpose of which is to prevent corruption – does not identify that Senate and Assembly legislative committees have the paramount role in overseeing that "system" – let alone reveal that the legislative committees are not only NOT discharging that oversight role, but, rather -- as chronicled by CJA's citizen-taxpayer actions – have REFUSED to do so, with knowledge of the corruption that their oversight would reveal.

Consistent with Newsday's January 8th editorial and its warning of electoral consequences to state lawmakers who "ignore the demands of honest government", shouldn't Newsday's March 3rd editorial have called upon each and every member of Long Island's Senate and Assembly delegation to VOLUNTARILY come forward and publicly identify when the legislative committees on which they sit – and for which they are responsible – last engaged in oversight hearings of, for example:

- (1) district attorneys – and their purported monitors, *to wit*, judges and court-controlled attorney grievance committees;
- (2) judges -- and their monitor, the Commission on Judicial Conduct;
- (3) the practice of cross-endorsements and the operations of the political parties...
- (4) the state attorney general.

Certainly, too, the March 3rd editorial could have announced that Newsday reporters would be setting up interviews with every member of Long Island's Albany delegation so as to enable Long Island voters to hold each of their elected

state legislators accountable for the failure and refusal of the legislative committees to discharge their oversight duties and take appropriate corrective steps. These committees are, first and foremost:

- (1) the Senate Codes Committee;
- (2) the Senate Judiciary Committee;
- (3) the Senate Election Law Committee;
- (4) the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations;
- (5) the Assembly Codes Committee;
- (6) the Assembly Judiciary Committee;
- (7) the Assembly Election Law Committee;
- (8) the Assembly Committee on Governmental Operations;
- (9) the Assembly Committee on Oversight, Analysis, and Investigations; and
- (1) the Senate and Assembly Commission on Government Administration.

Isn't this what Newsday readers, who responded to Newsday's March 6th solicitation for their "take" on "*Long Island's culture of power brokers*": <https://projects.newsday.com/opinion/long-island-power-your-take/#!/09b88ff5cf83d5296c3db310dcac93ed>, would have expected?

Before contacting your editors and Newsday's editorial board, directly – I will call you one last time. Please give me the courtesy of your response.

So that my original February 23rd e-mail will be conveniently before you, I will retransmit it to you. My February 27th e-mail is below.

Thank you.

Elena Sasower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
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914-421-1200

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 1, 2018 8:09 AM
To: 'sandra.peddie@newsday.com' <sandra.peddie@newsday.com>
Subject: **What's the status? -- Empowering L.I. Voters with Info about the On-the-Job Performance of their Senate & Assembly Delegation**

Dear Sandra,

While waiting to hear from you regarding my proposal that Newsday empower its readers by articles about the on-the-job performance of Long Island's Senate and Assembly delegation -- as to which I left you a voice mail message yesterday morning -- I constructed a webpage with links for each of them, highlighting the legislative committees on which they sit that are particularly pertinent to the issues: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/long-island/long-island-state-legislators.htm>

Flanagan, as Temporary Senate President is – by reason thereof -- a member of all Senate committees, all of whose members and chairs he appoints.

Please call me, as soon as possible – as I'd like to give you the LEAD on FOIL responses I just received pertaining to the Legislative budget.

Thank you.

Elena
914-421-1200

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 9:36 AM
To: 'sandra.peddie@newsday.com' <sandra.peddie@newsday.com>
Subject: Follow-up: Empowering L.I. Voters with Info about the On-the-Job Performance of their Senate & Assembly Delegation

Dear Sandra,

Following up my February 23, 2018 e-mail, identifying that cleaning up the corruption that plagues Long Island and the rest of the state is NOT difficult. The trail leads directly to Albany and the corruption of the Legislature. I have proposed that Newsday examine the on-the-job performance of the Long Island Senate and Assembly delegation, ALL of whose incumbents are up for re-election in November, with the three Assembly seats that had been held by Al Graf, Chad Lupinacci, and Tom McKeivitt to be filled by the special election scheduled for April 24th.

What time would be convenient to discuss my February 23, 2018 e-mail? Will you call me – or shall I call you?

Meantime, below is my December 22, 2017 e-mail to Assembly Judiciary Committee Ranking Member Anthony Polumbo, with its above two attachments – to which I received no response from him or anyone on his behalf. Don't you think this would be concerning to his Suffolk County constituents? How difficult would it be for you – or some other Newsday reporter – to telephone Polumbo and find out why and secure from him the answers my e-mail asks?

There is more, much more of such e-mail correspondence involving Long Island Senate and Assembly delegation – all of it electorally-explosive.

Thank you.

Elena
914-421-1200

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 12:00 PM
To: 'palumboa@nyassembly.gov' <palumboa@nyassembly.gov>
Cc: 'noncara@nyassembly.gov' <noncara@nyassembly.gov>
Subject: Rectifying the Assembly Judiciary Committee's rigged December 1, 2017 hearing on the Judiciary budget by YOUR LEADERSHIP: Request for Meeting, Etc.

TO: Assemblyman Anthony Polumbo/Ranking Member – Assembly Judiciary Committee

This follows my phone conversation with your legislative aide, Angela Noncarrow, on Wednesday and today. I find it most troubling that no member of the Assembly Judiciary Committee's republican minority – including yourself, as the ranking member – was at the Committee's December 1st hearing on the Judiciary's enacted budget for fiscal year 2017-2018. Why was that?

The hearing was rigged – and my below December 8th statement for the record, which includes the above two attachments, furnishes particulars. The statement is beneath the December 8th e-mail I sent to Assemblywomen Simon and Seawright, who were the only Assembly Judiciary Committee members present at the December 1st hearing, other than Chair Dinowitz and my own Assemblyman Buchwald. All are members of the Committee's democratic majority.

As you, like Assemblywomen Simon and Seawright, are relatively new to the Legislature, I would appreciate your response to the question that my below e-mail posed to them:

“whether – before this communication – your Assembly and Senate colleagues ever informed you of CJA’s citizen-taxpayer action concerning the Judiciary budget, etc. – and my testimony about it at the Legislature’s January 30, 2017 and January 31, 2017 budget hearings, whose VIDEOS – as likewise the VIDEO of my testimony at the Legislature’s February 6, 2013 budget hearing -- are here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>.”

I am available to meet with you, as soon as possible, about the same issues I identified to Chair Dinowitz by my below October 27th e-mail to him –

“all such issues encompassed by the citizen-taxpayer action and within the express jurisdiction of the Assembly Judiciary Committee:

- (1) the corruption of the New York State Judiciary – and its slush-fund budget;
- (2) the corruption of the New York State Attorney General – and his Department of Law budget;
- (3) the corruption of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct – and the inadequacy of its budget;
- (4) the corruption of the New York State court-controlled attorney disciplinary system – and the inadequacy of its budgets;
- (5) the corruption of the New York State district attorneys, whose salaries are tied to judicial salaries;
- (6) the statutorily-violative, fraudulent and unconstitutional judicial pay raises – and district attorney pay raises based thereon – resulting from the August 29, 2011 report of the Commission on Judicial Compensation and the December 24, 2015 report of the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation – whose cost to the taxpayers has been concealed, but is believed to be approximately \$300 million since April 1, 2012.”

Needless to say, I would be pleased if you would invite Chair Dinowitz – and other Assembly Judiciary Committee members – to such meeting under your auspices. Likewise, your Senate Judiciary Committee counterparts. The Legislature is in dire need of that kind of sensible, responsible leadership – and such would be consistent with your bio as “the leader we need to begin cleaning up the political corruption running rampant in Albany”: <http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Anthony-H-Palumbo/bio/>.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2017 4:52 PM
To: 'simonj@nyassembly.gov' <simonj@nyassembly.gov>; 'seawright@nyassembly.gov' <seawright@nyassembly.gov>
Cc: 'pasquantonios@nyassembly.gov' <pasquantonios@nyassembly.gov>; 'tannena@nyassembly.gov' <tannena@nyassembly.gov>
Subject: The Assembly Judiciary Committee's rigged December 1, 2017 Hearing on the Judiciary Budget

TO: Assembly Judiciary Committee Members Jo Anne Simon & Rebecca Seawright

This follows up my phone calls to your district office staff a short time ago. Below is background to the Assembly Judiciary Committee's December 1st hearing on the Judiciary budget, at which you each participated – which I have submitted as my statement for the record of that hearing

Kindly advise as to whether – before this communication – your Assembly and Senate colleagues ever informed you of CJA's citizen-taxpayer action concerning the Judiciary budget, etc. – and my testimony about it at the Legislature's January 30, 2017 and January 31, 2017 budget hearings, whose VIDEOS – as likewise the VIDEO of my testimony at the Legislature's February 6, 2013 budget hearing -- are here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2017 3:51 PM
To: 'BirzonJ@nyassembly.gov' <[BirzonJ@nyassembly.gov](mailto:birzonj@nyassembly.gov)>
Cc: 'dinowij@nyassembly.gov' <dinowij@nyassembly.gov>; 'BuchwaldD@nyassembly.gov' <[BuchwaldD@nyassembly.gov](mailto:buchwald@nyassembly.gov)>; 'fitzpatrickb@nyassembly.gov' <fitzpatrickb@nyassembly.gov>; 'roithmayra@nyassembly.gov' <roithmayra@nyassembly.gov>; 'orlandoj@nyassembly.gov' <orlandoj@nyassembly.gov>
Subject: **Statement for the Record of the Assembly Judiciary Committee's Rigged December 1, 2017 Hearing on the Judiciary Budget**

As today is the deadline for furnishing written submissions for the record of the Assembly Judiciary Committee's December 1, 2017 hearing on the Judiciary's enacted budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 – a hearing about which neither Chairman Dinowitz nor Assemblyman Buchwald saw fit to alert me – below are my October 27th and October 16th e-mails to Chair Dinowitz and, below them, my October 16th e-mail to Assemblyman Buchwald, to which Chair Dinowitz was an indicated recipient and which included the above two particularizing attachments. All three e-mails – to which I received no response from Chair Dinowitz or Assemblyman Buchwald -- pertain to the citizen-taxpayer action I brought on behalf of the People of the State of New York and the public interest, laying out the unconstitutionality, statutory violations, and fraud of the Judiciary's budget, including for fiscal year 2017-2018. The record of the citizen-taxpayer action, from which everything is verifiable, readily, is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/menu-budget-reform.htm>.

Based on my preliminary examination of the Judiciary's proposed budget for fiscal year 2018-2019, released on December 1, 2017, it repeats the SAME constitutional violations, statutory violations, and fraud as the citizen-taxpayer action establishes.

Please deem this e-mail, with its below e-mail chain and above two attachments as my submission for the record of the Assembly Judiciary Committee's December 1, 2017 hearing – and distribute and preserve accordingly.

Thank you.

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

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

Sent: Friday, October 27, 2017 12:20 PM

To: 'fitzpatrickb@nyassembly.gov' <fitzpatrickb@nyassembly.gov>; 'dinowij@nyassembly.gov' <dinowij@nyassembly.gov>

Subject: Request for a meeting to discuss the Assembly Judiciary Committee's discharge of its oversight responsibilities, whose ABSENCE underlies the citizen-taxpayer action about which I testified at the Legislature's January 30, 2017 budget hearing

TO: Brendan Fitzpatrick/Communications Director to Assembly Judiciary Committee Chair Jeffrey Dinowitz

Following up our phone conversation earlier this morning – and the voice mail message I left for Legislative Director William Schwartz -- this is to reiterate my request for a meeting with Assembly Judiciary Committee Chair Dinowitz, as soon as possible, pertaining to the citizen-taxpayer action: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/menu-budget-reform.htm>, to which my below October 16th e-mail and two-above attachments alerted him.

Among the specific issues I wish to discuss – all encompassed by the citizen-taxpayer action and within the express jurisdiction of the Assembly Judiciary Committee:

- (1) the corruption of the New York State Judiciary – and its slush-fund budget;
- (2) the corruption of the New York State Attorney General – and his Department of Law budget;
- (3) the corruption of the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct – and the inadequacy of its budget;
- (4) the corruption of the New York State court-controlled attorney disciplinary system – and the inadequacy of its budgets;
- (5) the corruption of the New York State district attorneys, whose salaries are tied to judicial salaries;
- (6) the statutory-violative, fraudulent and unconstitutional judicial pay raises -- and district attorney pay raises based thereon -- resulting from the August 29, 2011 report of the Commission on Judicial Compensation and the December 24, 2015 report of the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation – whose cost to the taxpayers has been concealed, but is believed to be approximately \$300 million since April 1, 2012.

Former Assembly Judiciary Committee Chair Helene Weinstein is fully knowledgeable of the foregoing corruption, but REFUSED to discharge ANY oversight throughout her 23-year tenure as chair – including by holding ANY hearings to take testimony from the public. Indeed, this is reflected by my testimony at the Legislature's January 30, 2017 budget hearing, whose VIDEO is posted on CJA's website, here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>. Although Chair Weinstein was NOT present when I testified on January 30, 2017 – nor the next day, at the January 31, 2017 budget hearing -- she was present when I testified at the Legislature's February 6, 2013 budget hearing. Chair Dinowitz should be sure to view the VIDEO of my February 6, 2013 testimony so that he can see the EVIDENTIARY PROOF I handed up in substantiation – and find out, from the now Ways and Means Committee Chair Weinstein, its whereabouts. Likewise, the whereabouts of the mountain of other EVIDENTIARY PROOF I furnished Assemblywoman Weinstein, as Judiciary Committee chair, since 1994.

I look forward to assisting Chair Dinowitz to the fullest in discharging the important duties of his Assembly Judiciary Committee chairmanship. As evidenced by the citizen-taxpayer action, the present situation, on so many fronts, is utterly unconstitutional.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 5:08 PM
To: 'fitzpatrickb@nyassembly.gov' <fitzpatrickb@nyassembly.gov>; 'dinowij@nyassembly.gov' <dinowij@nyassembly.gov>
Subject: Tomorrow's Closed-Door Democratic Assembly Conference Meeting -- & Assemblyman Buchwald's duty to furnish a long-overdue legal opinion on CJA's citizen-taxpayer action

TO: Brendan Fitzpatrick/Communications Director to Assembly Judiciary Committee Chair Jeffrey Dinowitz

As discussed, so very briefly. Is newly-appointed Assembly Judiciary Committee Chair Dinowitz aware of CJA's unfolding citizen-taxpayer action – and what's been going on with the judicial and district attorney pay raises? Here's the link: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/menu-budget-reform.htm>.

I am available to assist Chairman Dinowitz do his duty to set things right.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 4:51 PM
To: 'orlandoj@nyassembly.gov' <orlandoj@nyassembly.gov>
Cc: 'roithmayra@nyassembly.gov' <roithmayra@nyassembly.gov>; 'BuchwaldD@nyassembly.gov' <BuchwaldD@nyassembly.gov>; 'wolffs@nyassembly.gov' <wolffs@nyassembly.gov>; 'LavineC@nyassembly.gov' <LavineC@nyassembly.gov>; 'pellegrinoc@nyassembly.gov' <pellegrinoc@nyassembly.gov>; 'clemency@nysenate.gov' <clemency@nysenate.gov>; 'lemon@nysenate.gov' <lemon@nysenate.gov>; 'brooks@nysenate.gov' <brooks@nysenate.gov>; 'herm57@aol.com' <herm57@aol.com>
Subject: Tomorrow's Closed-Door Democratic Assembly Conference Meeting -- & Assemblyman Buchwald's duty to furnish a long-overdue legal opinion on CJA's citizen-taxpayer action

TO: Joseph Orlando, Community Liaison/Assemblyman David Buchwald
cc: Alex Roithmayr, Chief of Staff

Following our brief phone conversation a short time ago, below is my e-mail chain regarding the Oyster Bay Town Supervisor race – whose first e-mail to Democratic Candidate Marc Herman, on October 12, 2017, identifies my August 31, 2017 meeting with Assemblyman Buchwald, and states, as follows, with respect to the citizen-taxpayer action:

“As for non-lawyer and newbie Assemblywoman Christine Pellegrino, who has also endorsed you, she is a member of the Assembly Committee on Governmental Operations – on which my own Assemblyman David Buchwald sits. Why not ask Assemblywoman Pellegrino to request Assemblyman Buchwald's legal opinion. Not only is he a Harvard Law School graduate, with a further degree from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, but his long-standing knowledge of the situation is identical to

that of Senator Latimer, chronicled by my August 10, 2017 OPEN LETTER. In fact, I gave Assemblyman Buchwald a copy of the August 10, 2017 OPEN LETTER, *in hand*, when I met with him, in his district office, on August 31, 2017, further providing him with 'hard copies' of the key litigation records in the citizen-taxpayer action, so that he could belatedly 'blow the whistle' on what's been going on."

As I assume Assemblywoman Pellegrino will be at tomorrow's meeting in Albany of the Assembly's Democratic Conference, planning, behind-closed-doors, the legislative agenda for 2018 – doubtless, with an eye to the 2018 elections when ALL Assembly members are up for re-election – Assemblyman Buchwald should use the opportunity to furnish her with his legal opinion. Likewise, to furnish it to Assemblyman Charles Lavine, who sits with him on the Assembly Judiciary Committee – and to whose Director of Operations, Scott Wolff, I spoke with at length on Friday, October 13th, detailing my below October 12th e-mail to Candidate Herman, which he told me he would print out for Assemblyman Lavine from CJA's webpage pertaining to the Oyster Bay Town Supervisor race: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/long-island/ending-the-road-saladino.htm>.

More to follow – including as to Assembly Speaker Heastie's indefensible appointment of Assembly Judiciary Committee Chair Helene Weinstein as chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. Has he not read the pleadings in CJA's citizen-taxpayer action, particularizing her flagrant corruption? Senator Buchwald needs to speak up on the subject – and loudly.

Suffice to note that when I testified at the Legislature's February 6, 2013 "public protection" budget hearing, handing up open-and-shut, *prima facie* proof, to substantiate its duty to VOID the judicial salary increases, Assembly Judiciary Committee Chair Weinstein was sitting just seats away from former Assemblyman, now interim Oyster Bay Town Supervisor, Joseph Saladino: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/feb-6-2013-testimony-evidence.htm>.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 3:05 PM
To: 'clemency@nysenate.gov' <clemency@nysenate.gov>
Cc: 'lemon@nysenate.gov' <lemon@nysenate.gov>; 'brooks@nysenate.gov' <brooks@nysenate.gov>; 'herm57@aol.com' herm57@aol.com
Subject: **Above Partisanship: Championing Honest, Fiscally-Responsible, Accountable Government, such as we do NOT remotely have on the state level -- & so-chronicled by CJA's March 29, 2017 supplemental complaint in its citizen-taxpayer action**

TO: Kevin Clemency, Chief of Staff/Senator John Brooks
cc: Chelsea Lemon/Legislative Director

Thank you for your call back this morning, to the message I left for you on Friday, October 13th, and the extensive amount of time you generously gave to our conversation. Below is my October 12th e-mail to Democratic Oyster Bay Town Supervisor Candidate Marc Herman. Its two attachments are above. Senator Brooks' endorsement of Dr. Herman and his running mates, posted on their campaign websites, reads:

“The past few years have seen the Town of Oyster Bay’s finances crumble, taxes rise and leaders arrested. We need a new day in Oyster Bay; one where taxpayers can have faith in the integrity and ability of those elected to represent them. I am proud to support Marc Herman for Supervisor; Eva Pearson, Bob Freier and James Versocki for Council; and Dean Hart for Town Clerk. It is time to put the past behind us and deliver a new future based on real leadership, open and transparent government, and putting the people -- not special interests -- first.”, <http://hermanforsupervisor.com/>.

So that Senator Brook’s will have an opportunity to demonstrate, by his actions, his commitment to his words, please bring this e-mail to his prompt attention so that he can assist Dr. Herman and his running mates, in a fashion that will show voters why he, himself, is worthy of their vote, next year when, presumably, he will be running for re-election.

Since you stated that Senator Brooks does not have counsel, but relies on Senate Democratic Conference counsel, I respectfully request that he obtain its legal opinion as to the significance of the unfolding citizen-taxpayer action about which I testified before Senator Brooks at the Legislature’s January 30, 2017 budget hearing on “local government officials/general government”. Indeed, inasmuch as the Senate Democratic Conference’s Deputy Leader is Senator Michael Gianaris, a Harvard law school graduate, who also chairs the State Democratic Senate Campaign Committee: <http://newyorksenatedems.com/leadership/>, I respectfully request that Senator Brooks obtain a legal opinion from Senator Gianaris, beginning with his assessment of plaintiffs’ entitlement to summary judgment on the March 29, 2017 supplemental complaint, <http://www.judgewatch.org/lawsuit-2016-budget/3-29-17-osc/3-29-17-supplemental-complaint-corrected.pdf> – a “hard copy” of which I gave Senator Gianaris, *in hand*, and discussed with him at the conclusion of the Citizens Union “civic conversation” on May 3, 2017 in Manhattan entitled “A Day in the Life of NY Legislators”, also furnishing and discussing with him CJA’s February 6, 2017 and February 23, 2017 letters, the latter being an ethics complaint to the Senate Ethics and Internal Governance Committee, of which Senator Gianaris is ranking member – to which I received no response from him, just as I received no response from him to a March 4, 2017 e-mail. Such is recited in the March 29, 2017 supplemental complaint (at ¶¶217-228), as is my testimony before the Legislature at its January 30 and 31, 2017 budget hearings (at ¶¶193-201; 207-215). Likewise recited are Senator Gianaris’ March 15, 2017 remarks on the Senate floor, presumably in Senator Brook’s presence, in connection with the Senate’s “one house” budget resolution (¶¶245-247). I discussed all of this with Senator Gianaris on May 3, 2017 – and have not heard from him since. This, despite repeated phone calls to Senator Gianaris, requesting to speak with him about the March 29, 2017 supplemental complaint, including at a meeting. These phone calls have also alerted him to the fact that I have been unable to secure meetings:

(1) with Senate Democratic Conference Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, a non-lawyer who is MY senator – and whose need for “adult supervision” by him, as her “second-in-command”, I first alerted him to in or about March 2016;

(2) with Senator Brad Hoylman, the Democratic ranking member of BOTH the Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations AND the Senate Judiciary Committee; and

(3) with Senator Liz Krueger, the Democrat's ranking member on the Senate Finance Committee, who – like Senator Brooks – is a non-lawyer and was present for my testimony on January 30, 2017. Indeed, Senators Brooks and Krueger were the ONLY Democratic Senator present for my January 30, 2017 testimony.

As I understand that Senator Brooks is a “full time” legislator, earning no outside income – as, I believe, Senators Gianaris, Hoylman, and Krueger – I would hope he would give this e-mail his priority attention, including with respect to arranging for appropriate “oversight” hearings by the Senate Committee on Local Government, of which he is ranking member – and whose chair, Republican Senator Kathleen Marchione, a non-lawyer, was sitting beside him during my January 30, 2017 testimony.

More to follow.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 5:09 PM
To: 'herm57@aol.com' <herm57@aol.com>
Subject: Thank you for your kind acknowledgment -- WINNING in Oyster Bay & Beyond: Honest, Fiscally-Responsible, Accountable Government

Below is my e-mail, correcting the few typos I subsequently noticed.

Kindly forward to your Oyster Bay running-mates – and to everyone you see fit, including Supervisor Saladino – and the press.

Again, my thanks.

Elena

From: Marc Herman [<mailto:Herm57@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Subject: Re: WINNING in Oyster Bay & Beyond: Honest, Fiscally-Responsible, Accountable Government

Thank you

On Oct 12, 2017, at 4:31 PM, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org> wrote:

Dear Dr. Herman,

Thank you for your call this morning – and for your patriotic run for Oyster Bay Town Supervisor, putting aside your respected professional career, in the private sector, out of concern for the corruption in local government. Thank you, too, for your nearly two decades of volunteer service on the Syosset School District Board, as Trustee, Vice President and then President. According to your campaign website, <http://hermanforsupervisor.com/about/>, it was there that you “honed [your] administrative and

governmental skills while overseeing a budget very similar in size to the Town of Oyster Bay's...[dealing] with some of the same issues that face [Oyster Bay]: union contract negotiations and pay scales,...budgeting/debt management”.

As discussed, corruption, pay scales, and state and county budget issues were of NO concern, whatever, to your opponent -- interim Oyster Bay Town Supervisor Joseph Saladino – when he was an assemblyman – and this is evidenced by the webpage about his candidacy for Oyster Bay Town Supervisor that I created on CJA’s website, www.judgewatch.org, accessible via the prominent homepage link “OUTING CORRUPT AND COLLUSIVE INCUMBENTS & Ending their Road to Re-Election and Higher Officer in 2017, 2018, and Beyond – WITH EVIDENCE”. The direct link to the webpage is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/long-island/ending-the-road-saladino.htm>.

As discussed, Assemblyman Saladino was a member of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and the Assembly Committee on Governmental Employees and, in both capacities, I interacted with him – most directly when I testified before him at the Legislature’s February 6, 2013 budget hearing. I was so gratified that you had already viewed the VIDEO of that testimony, prominently posted on the webpage. As you identified that you have a running-mate who is an attorney – presumably James Versocki, a former assistant attorney general – please delegate to him the responsibility of examining CJA’s October 27, 2011 opposition report – and the verified complaint in the declaratory judgment action based thereon – about which I testified – and which I handed up at February 6, 2013 budget hearing. The webpage provides a link to them. It is additionally here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/feb-6-2013-testimony-evidence.htm>.

You asked me what Assemblyman Saladino’s response was to my testimony. That is a question you should publicly ask him. I received no response from him, including to subsequent correspondence addressed to him or sent to him.

Assemblyman Saladino’s NONFEASANCE replicated what is recounted by my August 10, 2017 OPEN LETTER pertaining to Senator George Latimer, who is running for Westchester County Executive, which I strongly urge you to read, as likewise my September 5, 2017 letter pertaining to the Suffolk County District Attorney race, sent to Senator Phil Boyle, formerly running for Suffolk County sheriff and now for a Supreme Court judgeship. They are attached and also posted on the webpage, with links to their substantiating proof. I also strongly urge you to view the VIDEOS of my testimony at the Legislature’s January 30, 2017 and January 31, 2017 budget hearings, which I have also posted on the webpage and which are additionally here: <http://judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>. Both the letters and VIDEOS summarize the significance of the unfolding citizen-taxpayer action involving the state budget to which now former Assemblyman Saladino is a defendant, as are ALL other Assembly and Senate members and Governor Cuomo, Attorney General Schneiderman, and Comptroller DiNapoli. Mr. Versocki can certainly verify the truth of my statement that the litigation record establishes plaintiffs’ entitlement to summary judgment, *as a matter of law*, as to all 10 causes of action – and warrants that a substantial swath of the defendants, if not all, be indicted for “grand larceny of the public fisc” and other corruption, disabling our state government.

I would hope that Mr. Versocki will perform such valuable function for you and for your fellow reform-minded, corruption-fighting Oyster Bay running-mates. However, you can also ask 7-term Assemblyman Charles Lavine, a lawyer, who has endorsed you – and who sits on such pertinent Assembly committees as Judiciary, Codes, and Ethics and Guidance – to give you and them a legal opinion about the ten causes of action and the lawsuit record. And why not ask 1st term Senator John Brooks, a non-lawyer, who has also endorsed you, what he did, upon hearing me testify, on January 30, 2017, as a member of the Senate Committee on Local Government, sitting next to its chair – especially as he was subsequently made its ranking member. Did he think – as Assemblyman Saladino apparently had, four years earlier –

that my testimony should simply fall into a “black hole” and required no responsive action? As for non-lawyer and newbie Assemblywoman Christine Pellegrino, who has also endorsed you, she is a member of the Assembly Committee on Governmental Operations – on which my own Assemblyman David Buchwald sits. Why not ask Assemblywoman Pellegrino to request Assemblyman Buchwald’s legal opinion. Not only is he a Harvard Law School graduate, with a further degree from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, but his long-standing knowledge of the situation is identical to that of Senator Latimer, chronicled by my August 10, 2017 OPEN LETTER. In fact, I gave Assemblyman Buchwald a copy of the August 10, 2017 OPEN LETTER, *in hand*, when I met with him, in his district office, on August 31, 2017, further providing him with “hard copies” of the key litigation records in the citizen-taxpayer action, so that he could belatedly “blow the whistle” on what’s been going on.

Suffice to say, and as the unfolding citizen-taxpayer action and VIDEOS chronicle, the corruption you and your Oyster Bay running-mates decry is NOT confined to Republicans. Democrats are just as collusive in thwarting the NON-PARTISAN, GOOD-GOVERNMENT values that propel your candidacy – and which, by your “whistle-blowing”, you can realize, for the benefit of ALL the People, in your race for Oyster Bay Town Supervisor – and in other electoral races in Oyster Bay, in Nassau County, on Long Island – and throughout New York State:

“Transparency: I would fight for complete transparency of all financial matters”;

“Fixing the Finances: For decades the Town has used our tax dollars as their personal piggy bank”;

“Ethical & Honest Government: I promise to treat all residents, and their tax dollars, with respect and honesty”;

“High Taxes: On Long Island this is always a chief concern. I will fight to make sure your tax dollars are wisely spent.”

I am available to assist you and your running-mates, to the max – and ask that you forward this e-mail to them, as soon as possible. I invite you and them to call me, anytime, including at night and on weekends.

Yours, for honest, fiscally-responsible, accountable government.

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