

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 3:35 PM
To: 'cbaker@syracuse.com'
Cc: 'glavine@bhlawpllc.com'; 'ckeller3@twcnv.rr.com'; 'timkennedy@syracuse.com'; 'mmorelli@syracuse.com'; 'citynews@syracuse.com'; 'features@syracuse.com'; 'ddowty@syracuse.com'; 'Chris Alan Bolt'; 'Scott R Willis'; 'John S Smith'; 'Ashley@MySouthSideStand.com'; 'Gregory James Munno'; 'Jonathan Neal Glass'; 'mdavis@syr.edu'; 'gdreeher@maxwell.syr.edu'; 'news@wrvo.org'; 'jason@wrvo.org'; 'kjbybee@maxwell.syr.edu'; 'ladolak@law.syr.edu'; 'rsgutter@syr.edu'; 'rkanand@law.syr.edu'; 'bach@measuresforjustice.org'; 'Yusuf Abdul-Qadir'; 'Lanessa Chaplin'; 'Kevin Atwater'; 'spc@peacecouncil.net'
Subject: Question for Syracuse.com's Oct 21st Onondaga D.A. Candidates Debate -- & for other local journalism
Attachments: 8-21-19-nylj-ltr.pdf

TO: Chris Baker/Syracuse.com

Your October 16th article "[Syracuse.com to hold live debate with 3 candidates for District Attorney](#)" concludes with the sentence:

"If you have questions you'd like to ask of the candidates, or topics you'd like to see discussed, please send an email to reporter Chris Baker at cbaker@syracuse.com."

To ensure that Syracuse.com does not overlook my proposed question for the D.A. candidates, presented by my below October 18th e-mail, to which you and others at Syracuse.com were cc'd, it is, as follows:

"Is it true that the pay raises that D.A. Fitzpatrick and his Court of Claims-judge wife have been getting since April 1, 2012 – amounting to over half a million dollars to date – are the product of fraud and other illegality which Fitzpatrick covered up as chair of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption by violating conflict of interest rules?"

I'm sure staff at Syracuse.com can easily calculate the precise dollar amounts of the fraudulent salary raises that D.A. Fitzpatrick and Judge Fitzpatrick have raked in over the past 7-1/2 years from the figures of their escalating salaries posted on CJA's webpage of EVIDENCE, here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2019/fitzpatrick.htm>.

Additionally, and as reflected by CJA's webpage of EVIDENCE, you should be grilling D.A. Candidate Lavine, a member of the Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE) since its inception, about why JCOPE – in violation of the statute creating it -- has been "sitting on" CJA's June 27, 2013 conflict-of-interest/ethics complaint pertaining to the fraudulent judicial-DA salary increases – a complaint to which I referred in testifying before Fitzpatrick at the Commission's September 17, 2013 hearing, furnishing a copy, as well.

As always, I would be pleased to assist Syracuse.com in framing meaningful questions addressed to public corruption issues. By the way, the Onondaga County District Attorney's Office, under D.A. Fitzpatrick, <https://da.ongov.net/>, has NO "public integrity unit", is that correct? Why? And how are complaints involving public corruption handled? How many does D.A. Fitzpatrick receive on an annual basis – and what are his

policies, procedures, and protocols for handling public corruption complaints in which he has financial interests and interests arising from political, professional, and personal relationships?

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, October 18, 2019 1:34 PM
To: 'Yusuf Abdul-Qadir' <yabdulqadir@nyclu.org>
Cc: 'Lanessa Chaplin' <lchaplin@nyclu.org>; 'Kevin Atwater' <katwater@nyclu.org>; 'ckeller3@twcny.rr.com' <ckeller3@twcny.rr.com>; 'glavine@bhlawpllc.com' <glavine@bhlawpllc.com>; 'cbaker@syracuse.com' <cbaker@syracuse.com>; 'citynews@syracuse.com' <citynews@syracuse.com>; 'features@syracuse.com' <features@syracuse.com>; 'timkennedy@syracuse.com' <timkennedy@syracuse.com>; 'mmorelli@syracuse.com' <mmorelli@syracuse.com>; 'ddowty@syracuse.com' <ddowty@syracuse.com>; 'spc@peacecouncil.net' <spc@peacecouncil.net>; 'Chris Alan Bolt' <cabolt@syr.edu>; 'Scott R Willis' <srwillis@syr.edu>; 'John S Smith' <jssmit05@syr.edu>; 'Ashley@MySouthSideStand.com' <Ashley@MySouthSideStand.com>; 'Gregory James Munno' <gmunno@syr.edu>; 'Jonathan Neal Glass' <jnglass@syr.edu>; 'mdavis@syr.edu' <mdavis@syr.edu>; 'gdreeher@maxwell.syr.edu' <gdreeher@maxwell.syr.edu>
Subject: Moving beyond the rigged October 10th D.A. candidates forum -- to the upcoming Oct 21st D.A. candidates debate

Dear Mr. Abdul-Qadir –

Having failed to give me the courtesy of a response to my October 10th e-mail to you and to my October 13th e-mail to you, I was burdened to write my October 17th e-mail to the Syracuse Peace Council. You have replied to my cc.

The purpose of the October 10th forum, sponsored by more than a dozen organizations, was to inform voters about the Onondaga County D.A. candidates. To assist you in doing that, I sent you my October 10th e-mail, which you stated you did not see until AFTER the 6 pm D.A. candidates forum because you had an “all staff meeting from 10 am until 5 pm”. Are you saying that both Central NYCLU’s counsel Lanessa Chaplan, Esq. – to whom I sent the e-mail at 10:05 am, simultaneous with sending it to you – and Central NYCLU’s administrative assistant Kevin Atwater – to whom I forwarded the e-mail at 12:09 pm, upon speaking with him by phone – did not attend the “all staff meeting” and did not bring it to your attention? Was there no discussion of it – and of that evening’s D.A. candidates forum which you would moderate?

The issues presented by my October 10th e-mail that should have been – and should be now – of grave concern to the Central NYCLU and to each of the other sponsors of the October 10th forum – are two-fold:

(1) the “open-and-shut EVIDENCE” of public corruption by incumbent District Attorney Fitzpatrick, causing vast, irreparable, and ongoing injury to the People of the State of New York and Onondaga County – culminating in a far-reaching, corruption-busting citizen-taxpayer action, now at the Court of Appeals; and