

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 8:21 PM
To: 'Clukey, Keshia'
Subject: Thank you, Keshia, for your kindness in responding -- RE: ALERT: NYS Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission is INACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
Attachments: 9-3-19-foil-public-campaign-finance.pdf; 8-21-19-nylj-ltr.pdf

I also don't typically get involved in campaign financing issues. However, the Public Campaign Financing and Election Commission is part of a whole constellation of unlawfulness and unconstitutionality involving the state budget – and since you work for Bloomberg Law, I urge you to take a look at the monumental *CJA v. Cuomo* citizen-taxpayer action, now before the New York Court of Appeal – *en route* to the U.S. Supreme Court/federal courts, challenging what has been going on. The record is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2nd/record-ct-of-appeals.htm>.

This is a MAJOR, MAJOR story – and I would greatly appreciate if, after you've read my published New York Law Journal letter and perused the lawsuit record, you would forward this e-mail on to your journalist colleagues – including freelancers – looking for something not only substantive, but politically-explosive and capable of making far-reaching, non-partisan, good-government reforms.

Again, I thank you for responding. It is quite exemplary – and you are the ONLY reporter to do so.

Best,

Elena

From: Clukey, Keshia <kclukey@bloomberglaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 4, 2019 10:31 AM
To: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Subject: RE: ALERT: NYS Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission is INACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

Hi Elena,

Thank you so much for reaching out. I don't typically cover campaign financing, but I will read these and get back to you if I need anything further or if I write any future stories on the topic.

Sincerely,

Keshia

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2019 10:20 AM
To: jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com; Clukey, Keshia <kclukey@bloomberglaw.com>
Subject: ALERT: NYS Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission is INACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

ALERT: NYS Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission is INACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

How is the public supposed to contact the NYS Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission? Where is its website? What is its phone number, e-mail address, office address? Is there NO registration for its public hearings? – the first of which is less than a week away, and virtually unreported by the press.

Are witnesses going to be testifying on a “first-come, first-serve” basis – and how much time will each get? Will the public hearings be live-streamed, pursuant to the Open Meetings Law, and from what website will they be accessible? Will recordings be available – and will submitted written statements be posted?

To enable you to SOUND AN ALARM about the obvious rigging of the Commission’s public hearings to favor advocates of public campaign financing, whose inside track was highlighted by the New York Post’s editorial “Why judges will end up writing New York’s new campaign laws” (Sept. 2, 2019/Sept. 3), attached is the Center for Judicial Accountability’s FOIL/open meetings law request, sent early yesterday morning to the Governor, Senate, and Assembly, to obtain pertinent information about the Commission’s operations.

Meantime – as I have received no response from you to my below August 21st e-mail entitled “Is NY’s new Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission constitutional?”, I am resending it to you, now attaching the New York Law Journal’s August 21st print publication of my letter “*A Call for Scholarship, Civic Engagement & Amicus Curiae Before the NYCOA*”.

As always, I am available to assist you, to the max, in fulfilling your duty to inform and empower the public.

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: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 10:54 AM
To: 'jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com' <jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com>; 'kclukey@bloomberglaw.com' <kclukey@bloomberglaw.com>
Subject: Is NY’s new Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission constitutional?

Is New York’s new Public Campaign Financing & Election Commission constitutional?

Or doesn’t it matter? How about getting expert opinion from New York’s 13 law schools, multitudinous bar associations, universities, colleges, think-tanks, and institutes?

To help get the ball rolling, here’s the link to CJA’s letter to the editor that the New York Law Journal published yesterday afternoon on its website, <https://www.law.com/newyorklawjournal/2019/08/20/a-call-for-scholarship-civic-engagement-amicus-curiae-before-the-nycoa/>, responding to a perspective column entitled “*It’s Legally Perilous to Have a Commission Responsible for Election Laws*”.

By the way, CJA’s website, www.judgewatch.org, not only posts the [full record of CJA v. Cuomo](#), but it aggregates records of the six other lawsuits, currently unfolding in state and federal courts, challenging the constitutionality of the delegation of legislative powers to commissions/committees. These six lawsuits are listed at pages 2-3 of CJA’s August 9, 2019 letter to the Court of Appeals, as part of a “NOTICE” to Attorney General Letitia James of her duty to provide the Court with an “appropriate status report” about them. Additionally, [CJA’s webpage for the August 9th letter](#) posts links to webpages created for each of the six lawsuits, with their records.

Suffice to note that among the six, [Delgado v. New York State](#), has now joined [CJA v. Cuomo at the Court of Appeals](#) – a notice of DIRECT appeal to the Court of Appeals having been filed by its plaintiffs on August 9th, solely on the issue of constitutionality.

I am available to assist you – and to be interviewed.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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