

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Saturday, July 11, 2020 9:19 AM
To: 'buffalopundit@gmail.com'
Subject: ALERT & STORY PROPOSAL: Erie County's 2020 elections for district attorney, for 13 state senate & assembly seats & for its 27th congressional seat -- A Tale of Two Complaints
Attachments: 6-12-20-complaint-erie-da-flynn.pdf; erie-signature.pdf; 6-12-20-erie-co-public-integrity-unit.jpg

ALERT & STORY PROPOSAL:

Erie County's 2020 elections for district attorney, for 13 state senate & assembly seats & for its 27th congressional seat -- A Tale of Two Complaints

Erie County District Attorney John Flynn, who faced *no* primary challenger in June, is not only running, *unopposed*, for re-election in November, but is poised to pick up the ballot lines of ALL eight of New York's recognized political parties – Democratic, Republican, Independence, Conservative, Working Families, Green, Libertarian, & Serve America Movement-SAM.

Shouldn't The Public and your BuffaloPundit blog be investigating and reporting on this travesty: a sham election, sham political parties, and an incumbent district attorney cynically capitalizing on voters' reasonable belief that each party line is a "seal of approval", reinforcing his fitness. And what about identifying the Erie County culprits responsible for this abomination: Erie County's 13 state senate and assembly members, almost all seeking re-election or higher office, who, for years – and for their own self-gain – have wilfully failed to take steps to ensure legislative oversight of what's been going on in Erie County and elsewhere in the state as to elections, district attorneys – and virtually everything else.

Isn't it odd that in a county of over 900,000 people, amply supplied with lawyers practicing criminal law, where the average salary of a Buffalo lawyer ranges between \$63,835 and \$92,293, there is not a crush of candidates for a job with a \$210,900 salary, plus another \$30,000 or so in non-salary benefits.

What kind of "outreach" did the eight parties do? Did they announce the district attorney "job opening" among their party members, soliciting candidates and suggestions. Did they contact the Erie County Bar Association's criminal law committee and Buffalo Law School for help in locating quality candidates who might have some affinity to their party platforms.

And how, if at all, did the parties examine D.A. Flynn's record in office? Was there any recognition by them that the job of district attorney entails not only enforcing the penal law, but ensuring that the county's public officers are doing their job – a function the D.A. discharges through the grand jury, whose pivotal role in safeguarding against "wilful misconduct in office of public officers" is enshrined in the New York State Constitution (Article I, §6) and expanded upon in the Criminal Procedure Law (§190.05; §§190.55(1), (2c), §190.85).

Did they examine how D.A. Flynn's so-called Public Integrity Unit operates? Wouldn't this have been an obvious starting point for the newest of NY's recognized parties, the SAM Party, with its platform of "Transparency. Accountability. Competition" and mission to "Fix the Culture of Corruption", whose website not only identifies D.A. Flynn as among its 38 endorsed candidates, but reveals him to be its ONLY endorsed D.A. candidate. How did that endorsement happen? And did the SAM Party – or the Working Families Party, whose website also identifies its "proud" endorsement of D.A. Flynn – ask him such basic questions about his Public Integrity Unit as: