

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, October 22, 2020 11:25 AM
To: 'lissa.e.harris@gmail.com'
Cc: 'Phillip Pantuso'; 'community@therivernewsroom.com'; 'tips@therivernewsroom.com'
Subject: Funding for "Local Journalism" -- & your own journalism -- Follow-Up to "Death of a Newspaper" (The River, March 1, 2020)
Attachments: 6-5-20-complaint-delaware-da-hubbard-corrected.pdf; delaware-signature.pdf; delaware-7-24-20-da-foil.pdf

TO: Lissa Harris –

Thank you for your commitment to "local journalism" and for your magnificent article "[Death of a Newspaper](#)" ([The River](#), March 1, 2020), which I discovered last month – and immediately posted on the website of our non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA), www.judgewatch.org. The webpage on which it is posted, prominently, entitled [2020 Election Outreach to the Press](#) is one I began building in July, to display the results of my outreach to "local journalism" in each of New York's 62 counties – outreach guided by Penny Abernathy's "Expanding News Desert" research, to which your article refers, at its outset – and which I had discovered in January, I believe from the then just-published article "[Media Mecca or News Desert?: Covering local news in New York City](#)" ([Columbia Journalism Review](#), January 7, 2020, Sara Rafsky).

As the context of my outreach to New York's "local journalism" was and is a story worth a HUGE amount of money, such could amply fund the kind of "local journalism" essential to our democracy and which, as my outreach PROVES, does NOT exist, anywhere in New York State, including by journalism entities philanthropically-established to ameliorate and responsibly address the "news desert" problem and those publicly supported.

I would like to discuss with you proposals to realize this funding source for "local journalism" and, most immediately, to furnish you with the financial means to lead the effort by your own superlative, independent journalism. Until then, below with its live links and above three attachments, is my September 18th e-mail to the "local journalism" of Delaware County – the county served by the [Catskill Mountain News](#) until its death. The e-mail is, or course, accessible from the above webpage of [2020 Election Outreach to the Press](#) – there posted with the scores of e-mails I sent to the "local journalism" of New York's 61 other counties, in addition to statewide and regional journalists and media and the entities viewed as answering the "news desert" problem.

Kindly call me, at your earliest convenience – including in the evening hours and over the weekend.

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, September 18, 2020 2:49 PM
To: 'fscheller@thedailystar.com' <fscheller@thedailystar.com>; 'dcazzolla@thedailystar.com' <dcazzolla@thedailystar.com>; 'rcairns@thedailystar.com' <rcairns@thedailystar.com>; 'gklein@thedailystar.com'

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Cc: 'seward@nysenate.gov' <seward@nysenate.gov>; 'metzger@nysenate.gov' <metzger@nysenate.gov>; 'akshar@nysenate.gov' <akshar@nysenate.gov>; 'millerb@nyassembly.gov' <millerb@nyassembly.gov>; 'taguec@nyassembly.gov' <taguec@nyassembly.gov>; 'CrouchC@nyassembly.gov' <CrouchC@nyassembly.gov>; 'john.hubbard@co.delaware.ny.us' <john.hubbard@co.delaware.ny.us>

Subject: Delaware County Elections 2020 -- Informing Voters with EVIDENCE: public corruption/grand jury complaint vs Delaware County's 6 state legislators -- 4 seeking re-election -- which re-election-seeking Delaware County D.A. Hubbard is "sitting on"

**TO: The Daily Star
Mountain Eagle/Schoharie News
Catskills Today
New York Patch
WNBF News Radio
WJFF Radio**

Delaware County's six state legislators – four running for re-election – are the subjects of a **fully-documented** public corruption/grand jury complaint, filed with Delaware County District Attorney Hubbard, himself running for re-election, who has been "sitting on" it. The complaint involves the "force of law" commission/committee scheme that gave all seven of them pay raises – and a legislature not operating at a remotely constitutional level.

The June 5, 2020 complaint, by the Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA), is above-attached – and below are the e-mails transmitting it and the above-attached July 24, 2020 FOIL request to D.A. Hubbard. CJA's substantiating evidentiary webpage for the complaint is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2020-legislative/grand-juries.htm>.

As stated by the complaint, Delaware County voters are entitled to know that their state legislators cannot be re-elected because they must be indicted for larceny and other corruption on EVIDENCE so DISPOSITIVE as to assure their convictions. So, too, retiring Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Seward and Assemblyman Crouch, who will be pocketing *salary-based* pensions that are also larcenous.

To facilitate your inquiries of the complained-against state legislators and D.A. Hubbard, I am cc'ing them on this e-mail. What, if anything, do they deny or dispute. Let them start where the complaint starts: my July 16, 2019 e-mail to Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Seward and the Legislature's 14 other stipend-receiving leaders requesting that they forward the e-mail to the 198 other state legislators, with its attached July 15, 2019 written NOTICE and substantiating analysis establishing that the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative and Executive Compensation – raising their legislative salaries from \$79,500 to \$110,000 – is "a **fraud** on the People of the State of New York – and a **larceny** of their tax dollars', violating a succession of penal laws, and that their duty was to void it, to return the pay-raise monies they had already received, and to initiate criminal prosecutions of the Committee's four members and abetting attorneys." The analysis is 46 pages, excluding exhibits. Will they furnish you with their findings of fact and conclusions of law? If not, I'm sure ordinary Delaware County citizens would be able to help you with what is obvious. Just accompany your story with links to the complaint and the evidentiary webpage so that they can see for themselves the open-and-shut, *prima facie* EVIDENCE that D.A. Hubbard has been withholding

Dear District Attorney Hubbard,

Please supersede the corruption/grand jury complaint I sent you by the below e-mail, with the attached, making essentially clarifying, non-substantive changes. I will now mail you the original of this signed superseding complaint. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, June 5, 2020 2:03 PM
To: 'john.hubbard@co.delaware.ny.us' <john.hubbard@co.delaware.ny.us>

Subject: CORRUPTION COMPLAINT in support of grand jury inquiry, pursuant to Article I, §6 of the NYS Constitution, of Delaware County state legislators for "wilful misconduct in office", including fraud & larceny with respect to their OWN legislative salaries...

Dear District Attorney Hubbard,

Following up our phone conversation earlier today – for which I thank you – attached is the Center for Judicial Accountability's above-entitled corruption complaint of today's date. I will mail you the signed original. CJA's webpage from which the evidence substantiating the complaint – and the complaint – are accessible, is here:

<http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2020-legislative/grand-juries.htm>. My testimony before the legislature, to which I referred when we spoke, was on January 30, 2017 – and, following our conversation, I inserted a footnote into the complaint about it, fn. 4. The direct link to the MUST-SEE VIDEO is here:

<http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/1-30-17-budget-hearing.htm>

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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