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Sent: Monday, March 7, 2022 9:29 AM
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Subject: CORRECTION & EDITORIAL OVERSIGHT REQUIRED: "The Object of Their Ire..."
(NY Magazine cover story: Feb. 28-Mar. 13, 2022) -- TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

TO: REBECCA TRAISTER/New York Magazine

I am director and co-founder of the Westchester-based non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, [Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. \(CJA\)](#).

Your adulatory, election-influencing profile of Attorney General James "[The Object of Their Ire: Letitia James has angered Andrew Cuomo. She's investigating Donald Trump. Can she beat the two meanest men in politics?](#)" – featured as [New York Magazine's cover story for its Feb. 28 – Mar. 13, 2022 issue](#) – presents a false narrative of James and "the very notion of what an attorney general should be", even adopting her self-serving spin about Governor Cuomo's private boat ride with her, in August 2019, "reminding her of the value of loyalty".

Apparently, neither James' "startling candor", to which you refer, nor the other sources on whom you relied, alerted you that two weeks before that boat ride I had sent James, Cuomo, Hochul, and NY's 213 state legislators, *via* their 15 stipend-receiving leaders, a July 15, 2019 NOTICE and analysis as to the statutory violations, fraud and unconstitutionality of their "force of law" committee-based pay raises, and that then-pending before the NY Court of Appeals were two lawsuits relating thereto in which they were directly interested. Nor, it seems, did they alert you to the corruption complaints against James and involving Cuomo, *et al.* that throughout 2020 and 2021 I filed with NY's criminal and ethics authorities. These establish that when James ran for attorney general, in 2018, she could have EASILY won, without Cuomo's support, if she truly was – as you purport her to be – a fearless, independent, strong black woman, driven by the pursuit of justice. Instead, in tandem with the Working Families Party and its "progressive" candidates – Zephyr Teachout, Cynthia Nixon, and Jumaane Williams, among them – she covered up the flagrant corruption of constitutional governance by Cuomo and NY's other highest public officers, involving the fraudulent pay raises and NY's larcenous state budget, of which I had furnished her the EVIDENCE, *in hand*, on July 16, 2018, precisely so that she could win election by virtue of her courage, using the bully-pulpit of her candidacy to "blow the whistle", no money needed. Together with Teachout, to whom, on July 16, 2018, I also gave, *in hand*, the SAME EVIDENCE, for that same purpose, James chose the path of collusion, ignoring all my subsequent e-mails to her, Teachout, and the other candidates. On January 1, 2019, DAY ONE for newly-elected AG James, she became the beneficiary of the fraudulent pay raises, herself, and thereafter actively aided and abetted Cuomo, *et al.*, by litigation fraud to defeat lawsuit challenges to which she had NO legitimate defense. These included lawsuits challenging the corrupt "force of law" commission scheme intended to knock the Working Families Party and other third parties from the ballot.

Quite simply, and in diametric contrast to your cover story about James' honesty, integrity, and fearlessness, AG James is corrupt, has flagrantly corrupted the constitutional function and duties of the office of attorney general, and, despite her bluster – which you have propagated as truth – has covered

up for Cuomo, even while bringing him down, because his corruption is hers, as, likewise, a “who’s who” of NY’s public officers and others, all of whom, like herself, must be indicted – and will be convicted.

For starters, here’s my [February 11, 2021 conflict-of-interest/misconduct complaint against AG James](#) – whose substantiating EVIDENTIARY WEBPAGE is [here](#). Originally, the complaint was filed with [the 2nd Dept. Attorney Grievance Committee \(Brooklyn\)](#), but it then passed to [the 1st Dept. Attorney Grievance Committee \(Manhattan\)](#), where it remains, with my combined February 11, 2021 complaint against Solicitor General Underwood.

As will be IMMEDIATELY obvious to you, **this one complaint upends the 2022 statewide, state legislative, and district attorney races**, quite apart from the other related complaints it encompasses, such as my [June 4, 2020 grand jury/public corruption complaint to Albany County District Attorney Soares](#).

By the way, last year, following [New York Magazine’s](#) March 12, 2021 on-line publication of your article "[Abuse and Power: Andrew Cuomo’s governorship has been defined by cruelty that disguised chronic mismanagement. Why was that celebrated for so long?](#)" – thereafter featured as [the cover story for its Mar. 15-28, 2021 issue](#) – I tried to contact you. Unable to find an e-mail address, I used the contact feature of your website, [www.rebeccatraister.com](#). My March 13, 2021 message – to which I received no response – read:

"Can you furnish me with an e-mail for Rebecca Traister, as I have important information to furnish her pertaining to her yesterday's article 'Abuse and Power' in New York Magazine. Thank you."

By then, I had filed a further complaint against AG James – and *Cuomo, et al.* – on March 5, 2021, with NY’s Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE). It is [here](#). JCOPE has been “sitting on it” ever since – and its record is [here](#).

I have now found your e-mail address on [your twitter page](#). However, I have not found any e-mail address for editors responsible for correcting materially false, election-impacting journalism, which reasonably should be on [New York Magazine’s “Contact Us” webpage](#). I, therefore, request that you forward this e-mail to them, as all I have – and am here utilizing – are [comments@nymag.com](#) and [editorialsubmissions@nymag.com](#), plus the e-mail addresses appearing on the [website promo of your cover story “How Letitia James Wields Her Power”](#), whose quote from you:

“Big questions came up as I looked at James’s career. What is political power for? Who feels entitled to it? What do you have to do to get it, and what do you do with it once you have it? You can’t think or talk about her career without really having to wrestle with these questions”,

is stripped of the racial, gendered, economic, “progressive” bias with which it is laced in your story:

“**James’s story** is about power. How do you get it? What do you do with it once you have it? We have been trained, over centuries, to make certain good guesses about how power works in America. It’s a system built to operate smoothly for those, like Cuomo, Trump, and so many others, who were born into a spot close to the top: politically, economically, and in terms of racial or gendered advantages.

Years of challenging a moneyed white male grip on political authority have meant a diversification of who can make their way up, and those who have risen more recently are often asked tough questions about *how...*"

I look forward to speaking with you and your editors, *as soon as possible*, about the mountain of **open-and-shut, primary-source, documentary EVIDENCE** of James' cynical rise to, and manipulation of, power, rebutting your favored narrative, resoundingly. **THIS BEING AN ELECTION YEAR, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.**

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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