From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>

Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 11:43 AM

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Subject: The Legislature's OWN Budget & 38 Questions for Stewart-Cousins &

Heastie about it & about Gov Hochul's Legislative/Judiciary Appropriation

Bill #S.4001/A.3001 expanding it

Attachments: cja-feb-15-23-written-testimony-general-govt-budget-hearing.pdf

TO: GOTHAMIST/NEW YORK PUBLIC RADIO

Have you examined, <u>at all</u>, the Legislature's OWN budget – the necessity of which I alerted you to three weeks ago, by the below.

To assist you in providing such <u>vital information to New York taxpayers about the purported</u> <u>"\$273,921,877" legislative budget for FY2023-24 that they will be paying for and as to which there has been NO legislative budget hearing</u>, above-attached is my February 15th written testimony exclusively on that subject, setting forth 38 questions to be asked of Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie about the <u>Legislature's OWN budget</u> and Governor Hochul's expansion of it in <u>Legislative/Judiciary Appropriation Bill #S.4001/A.3001</u>.

This written testimony, timely-submitted for the Legislature's February 15th budget hearing on "local government officials/general government", was NOT posted on the Senate and Assembly webpages for the hearing, here and here, until AFTER my February 22" e-mail to Senate Finance Committee Chair Krueger and Assembly Committee Chair Weinstein about its non-posting. However, I have yet to receive ANY response to the e-mail's inquiry as to whether the testimony was distributed to ALL Senate and Assembly members for their review – and to which staff.

I am available to answer your questions – and to give you the lead on further developments in this important story, to be embodied in a third press release following Governor Hochul's 30-day amendments, due this Friday, March 3rd.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <<u>elena@judgewatch.org</u>>
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Subject: Prepping for the NYS Legislature's Budget Hearings -- & "Blowing the Whistle" on the Legislature's OWN budget

TO: GOTHAMIST/NYC PUBLIC RADIO

Shouldn't the press be inquiring about the Legislature's structuring of its budget hearings, by mprogrammatic area[s]", not bills – concealing violations of Article VII, §§2, 3, and 4 of the New York State Constitution?

Above-attached is my already-submitted written testimony addressed to that subject, at the outset. CJA's EVIDENTIARY webpage posting it is here.

I am available to answer questions – and to provide important scoops on the <u>Legislature's own budget</u>, expanded in <u>Legislative/Judiciary budget bill #S.4001/A.3001</u>. How about asking Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie why they are NOT testifying on behalf of their budget and the legislative portion of the combined Legislative/Judiciary budget bill at any legislative budget hearing? Or are they?

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