

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

Post Office Box 8101
White Plains, New York 10602

Tel. (914)421-1200

E-Mail: mail@judgewatch.org
Website: www.judgewatch.org

BY E-MAIL

October 17, 2016

TO: Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation

FROM: Elena Sassower, Director/Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

RE: FOIL: The Commission's Follow-Up to its September 22, 2016 Public Meeting: Correspondence with Legislative Leaders – and Rank-and-File Legislators, the Attorney General, Comptroller, Budget Director Mujica – and Executive Law §169 Commissioners

At the Commission's September 22, 2016 public meeting, there was discussion about holding a further hearing to allow legislators the opportunity to testify. It concluded with Chair Birnbaum stating, as follows:

“So I think there's a majority of the commission that wants to invite the leaders of the assembly and the senate to respond. I think, as Barry made very clear, the fact that they do or don't will not in the end affect our decision mostly, some people it might. But with that caveat, I think that we have a majority, and we will get out a request as soon as possible and invite them to attend the next meeting if they'd like or to respond in writing.

That sort of reflects the majority? I think it does.” (at p. 29)

Thereafter, the Commission posted on its webpage of submissions relating to legislative and executive compensation, an October 5, 2016 letter from Assembly Speaker Heastie whose first sentence reads:

“Please accept this letter as a reply to the request set forth in your letter dated September 26, 2016 for comment on the question of legislative salaries.”

Pursuant to Public Officers Law Article VI [Freedom of Information Law (F.O.I.L.)], this is to request the Commission's referred-to September 26, 2016 letter to Assembly Speaker Heasti. Also, its letters to other legislative leaders – and documents reflecting their responses, if any.

Additionally, request is made for the Commission's correspondence, if any, to the Legislature's rank-and-file, to the Attorney General, to the Comptroller, as well as to Budget Director Robert Mujica and Executive Law §169 commissioners, inviting their comment and/or testimony – and their responses thereto.

Pursuant to Public Officers Law §89.3, your response is required “within five business days” of receipt of this request. I would appreciate if you e-mailed it to me at elena@judgewatch.org.

Thank you.

