

Center for Judicial Accountability

From: Center for Judicial Accountability <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 09, 2013 4:51 PM
To: galie@canisius.edu
Cc: 'mauro@fiscalpolicy.org'; 'rward@osc.state.ny.us'
Subject: The New York State Constitution -- a Potemkin Village Throughout

Dear Professor Galie,

Thank you again for your devastating overview of New York's Constitution at yesterday's forum "A New New York: The Constitutional Dimension".

I was glad to have had the opportunity to briefly chat with you at the end of the program – and to learn that you are proceeding with the project you first described to me last November 29th at the Rockefeller Institute of Government: examining the disparity between the text of New York's Constitution and the on-the-ground reality – revealing what you've described as a Potemkin village. How wonderful that this project will be a book that will bring together different scholars examining the different Articles.

As you did not recall which scholar was going to be comparing the text and reality of Article VI – the Judiciary Article – this is to remind you to send me his/her name as soon as possible. After laboring in the trenches for nearly 25 years, our nonpartisan, nonprofit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) has a goldmine of primary-source documentary evidence to furnish him/her, as likewise other scholars examining the on-the-ground reality of other Articles of our state Constitution. Can you give me a list of who these scholars are, their contact info, and the Articles they will be examining?

How thrilling that Frank Mauro will be examining the disparity between the text and reality of Article VII -- the state budget – as I had a good conversation with him and Robert Ward about the corruption of the budget that I experienced, first-hand, this year with respect to the Judiciary and Legislative budgets, embodied in a single appropriations bill, as to which there is absolutely NO oversight or legitimate "process". For your information – and that of Mr. Mauro to whom I am sending a copy of this e-mail – here's the link to the (webpage of my) April 15, 2013 corruption complaint to US Attorney Bharara, summarizing that experience and furnishing the substantiating primary-source proof, including the video of my testimony at the Legislature' February 6, 2013 budget hearing on "public protection": <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/corruption-complaint-to-us-attorney-bharara2.htm> .

I had a single copy of this April 15, 2013 complaint with me yesterday – and gave it to Mr. Ward, as he is Deputy Comptroller for Budget and Policy Analysis, presumably, in a position to initiate appropriate investigation and corrective action at the Comptroller's Office.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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