

Center for Judicial Accountability

From: Center for Judicial Accountability <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 4:34 PM
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Cc: latimer@nysenate.gov; mallison@nysenate.gov; John Bonacic (cherry@nysenate.gov); gsavage@nysenate.gov
Subject: Request for a Meeting with Senators Bonacic & Hassell-Thompson and to make a Presentation to the Senate Judiciary Committee -- so that they can discharge their oversight responsibilities with respect to the Judiciary & its Budget

**TO: Tonya Speckhardt, Administrative Assistant for Senator John Bonacic
Jackie Jenkins Cox, Director of Albany Relations for Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson**

This follows up my phone calls earlier this afternoon, requesting to schedule a joint meeting with Senator Bonacic, as Chair of the Judiciary Committee, and Senator Hassell-Thompson, as its Ranking Member, concerning the Judiciary's budget – whose unconstitutionality and fraudulence have been the subject of previous letters and phone calls to their offices, likewise requesting meetings.

I had, additionally, requested to testify in opposition to the Judiciary's budget at yesterday's February 5, 2014 joint budget hearing on "public protection" – which opportunity was denied me. For your convenience, here's the link to the webpage of the Center for Judicial Accountability's website on which my most pertinent recent letters to Senators Bonacic and Hasell-Thompson appear: my December 11, 2013 letter and January 14, 2014 letter: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget-2014-2015/menu-budget-reform.htm> .

Based on the serious and substantial nature of these letters, I would appreciate if such meeting could be arranged, as soon as possible. Indeed, consistent with Senator Bonacic's recognition of the importance of empowering legislative committees and legislators, which he so powerfully articulated in 2009 as co-chair of the Temporary Senate Committee on Rules and Administration Reform, I would also welcome the opportunity to make a presentation at the next Senate Judiciary Committee meeting – and to answer questions – so that the Committee and its members can discharge their oversight responsibilities with respect to the Judiciary and its budget. In that regard, here's Senate Rule VIII(d), entitled "Committee presentations", which I believe Senator Bonacic may have been instrumental in achieving in the Senate Rules:

"The chair of a committee may invite interested persons to offer a presentation for a given amount of time on a bill on the meeting agenda with notice provided to the ranking Democratic Conference member no less than 72 hours in advance. Where a committee chair makes such an invitation, the ranking member shall be afforded an equal number of speakers who may speak for an equal amount of time. In addition, the ranker, without consent of the chair, shall be able to schedule 3 committee presentations with notice provided to the chair at least 72 hours in advance. The chair shall be afforded an equal number of speakers who may speak for an equal amount of time."

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

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