

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2017 8:53 AM
To: 'whyteditor@gmail.com'
Subject: Thank you, but -- RE: FOLLOW-UP TO YOUR ARTICLE "Astorino's Challenge of the Independence Party's Past Endorsements Failed; Will the Second Time Around Be a Charm? (8/2/17-Yonkers Tribune -- plus 8/3/17 update)

Dear Hezi,

While I appreciate your responding, it is IMPERATIVE that we have a phone conversation. I have no idea when your radio show is on, so call me, at your convenience. My # is 914-421-1200. It rings onto my cell which is 646-220-7987.

You've done first-rate reporting and commentary for years, on no money. I am a great admirer of your prodigious talents and work. However, it's long past time that you built on what you've done by a MAJOR political story that will put you on the map – and earn you the recognition and money that has alluded you. What I am offering you is just that.

I AM TRYING TO HELP YOU, as I told you in May, when we spoke by phone at fair length.

At 9:30 am, I will be off to the Board of Elections and then to the court, prompted by your August 2nd article. Don't you want the results of my leg-work? Don't you owe it to your readers to follow-up on your own stories so that they can take appropriate steps to protect their rights in our democracy, including by their votes?

Again, please call me. We CAN and WILL succeed here because the *prima facie*, open-and-shut evidence is ALL laid out in CJA's unfolding citizens' taxpayer action against the Governor, the Legislature, the Attorney General, Comptroller, and Chief Judge -- as you can readily confirm simply by telephoning the defendant public officers that are within your own Yonkers/Bronx/Westchester bailiwick – the highest of whom are Governor Cuomo, Senate Minority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senate Majority Co-Leader Jeffrey Klein, and Chief Judge DiFiore and asking their responses to its allegations, including to EACH of its ten causes of action. Have you viewed the VIDEOS of my testimony about the citizen-taxpayer action at the Legislature's January 30th and January 31st budget hearings? What do these defendant public officers have to say about it? What do they deny or dispute about what I publicly stated? CJA's webpage for the August 10th OPEN LETTER posts all the links to make it EASY for you and them!!!: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2017/8-10-17-open-ltr.htm>. How about inviting your radio listeners and readers to view the VIDEOS of my testimony and to examine the citizen-taxpayer action pleadings supporting it – and inviting them to share what they think.

Through doing your job, as a journalist of the political scene, we can and will succeed here, for the benefit of the People, rather than the politicians who are posturers and imposters!!

Thank you.

Elena

From: Hezi Aris [mailto:whyteditor@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, August 13, 2017 6:57 PM
To: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Subject: Re: FOLLOW-UP TO YOUR ARTICLE "Astorino's Challenge of the Independence Party's Past Endorsements Failed; Will the Second Time Around Be a Charm? (8/2/17-Yonkers Tribune -- plus 8/3/17 update)

I am limited in time. YOU evidently have the time to contend with specific issues which I am thankful for you because they interest you. I am not taunted by you knowing so many people in media. I do not have as much time as I think. I also am not permitted to drive. Share your findings with the likes who have huge followings and get paid to do what they do. My world is much smaller. much success.

Also, you call me during my radio show and I cannot and will not answer the phone at those times. Further I do not have the time for your interest because I am at the boundaries of my capacity now and your project is too big for me.

I wish you success in your endeavor.

All the best to you.

Kindly,

Hezi

On Sunday, August 13, 2017, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org> wrote:

Dear Hezi,

I am at a loss to understand your August 2nd article "*Astorino's Challenge of the Independence Party's Past Endorsements Failed; Will the Second Time Around Be a Charm?*", which you updated the following day to include the court ruling. I will go to the courthouse tomorrow, as well as to the Westchester Co. Board of Elections, to examine the pertinent records – and will report back to you on what I find.

Meantime, why don't you report on the "process", if any, that led up to the Independence Party giving its line to Senator Latimer, purportedly at a May 26th meeting of a quorum of the Executive Committee of its Westchester Committee, held at 6 pm at 910 East Boston Post Road in Mamaroneck, NY 10543. I obtained the Independence Party's July 17th certificate of authorization, from the Westchester Co. Board of Elections, on Friday, August 4th – the same day as I called you TWICE – leaving two voice mail messages about the LEAD I wanted to give you. Did you return my calls?

My visit to the Westchester Co. Board of Elections, on August 4th, was prompted by the fact that I was UNABLE to contact the Independence Party about the "process" underlying its endorsement of Latimer – because I had neither an e-mail or phone number for it: its website was "temporarily unavailable" and the phone number that the Westchester Co. Board of Elections had given me, by phone, was "not in service". Much to my surprise, the Independence Party's certificate of authorization furnished no contact information for even its signers: Dr. Giulio A. Cavallo, "Presiding Officer/Chairman" of the Westchester Executive Board, and Dhyalma Vazquez, "Secretary" thereof. Nor did the Westchester Co. Board of Elections have phone numbers and e-mail addresses for them on its three-page list of committee information. That list did have a phone number for the State Independence Party chair -- listed as Frank MacKay – however, it was the same not-in-service phone number as I had already tried. The list did contain an e-mail address for Mr. MacKay, but upon using it, on August 9th, to send an e-mail to Mr. MacKay for a phone number and/or e-mail address for the Westchester Committee of the Independence Party, I received nothing in reply. It did not bounce back, however – nor my e-mailing, on August 10th, to that same address of my attached OPEN LETTER.

For your convenience, I am attaching for you the pertinent documents to which I refer. Please note that unlike the unnamed sources upon which your August 2nd article relies, I would most appreciate attribution, to the Center for Judicial Accountability, as the source for the follow-up reporting and investigation by you that I am here requesting – including by a link to the pertinent webpages of our website which will post everything we have bearing upon Latimer's FOUR third-party endorsements: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/ending-the-road-latimer.htm>.

Meantime, below is my yesterday's e-mail to Lohud.com concerning Mark Lungariello's August 7, 2017 article "*Latimer endorsed by the party Astorino started: Incumbent Rob Astorino will seek to steal the line back in a write-in primary in September*" pertaining to Latimer's Reform Party line.

I look forward to assisting you, fully, and, especially, to speaking with you about how I can best enable you to TAKE THE LEAD on this MAJOR, far-reaching story about the race for Westchester county executive.

Thank you.

Elena
914-421-1200

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

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2017 6:12 PM

To: 'mlungariel@lohud.com' <mlungariel@lohud.com>

Cc: 'tbauer@lohud.com' <tbauer@lohud.com>; 'mdolan@lohud.com' <mdolan@lohud.com>; 'fscandale@lohud.com' <fscandale@lohud.com>; 'metro@lohud.com' <metro@lohud.com>; 'jbandler@lohud.com' <jbandler@lohud.com>; 'jfitzgib@lohud.com' <jfitzgib@lohud.com>; 'dwilson3@lohud.com' <dwilson3@lohud.com>; 'ceberhart@lohud.com' <ceberhart@lohud.com>; 'ceberhart@lohud.com' <ceberhart@lohud.com>; 'jfusco@lohud.com' <jfusco@lohud.com>; 'elgarcia@lohud.com' <elgarcia@lohud.com>; 'rriebson@lohud.com' <rriebson@lohud.com>; 'mmckinney@lohud.com' <mmckinney@lohud.com>; 'dreiner@lohud.com' <dreiner@lohud.com>; 'mspillane@lohud.com' <mspillane@lohud.com>; 'jspector@gannett.com' <jspector@gannett.com>; 'jcampbell1@gannett.com' <jcampbell1@gannett.com>

Subject: FOLLOW-UP: "*Latimer endorsed by the party Astorino started: Incumbent Rob Astorino will seek to steal the line back in a write-in primary in September*" (8/7/17-Mark Lungariello/Gannett/lohud.com)

TO: Mark Lungariello/Gannett-lohud.com

Your August 7, 2017 article "*Latimer endorsed by the party Astorino started*", with the provocative subtitle "*Incumbent Rob Astorino will seek to steal the line back in a write-in primary in September*", updated on August 8, 2017: <http://www.lohud.com/story/news/politics/elections/2017/08/07/reform/537871001/>, makes it appear that Senator Latimer rightfully enjoys the endorsement of the Reform Party. You quote Reform Party Chair Curtis Sliwa as saying: "It was clear to us that Rob Astorino had veered away from the concept of the Reform Party while Latimer seemed to be more in league [with] what we stood for". No mention as to whether the 13 members of the state Reform Party's executive committee, who unanimously voted to endorse Latimer, had considered any other candidates for Westchester county executive, as for instance, county Legislator Jenkins – or the "process", if any, that preceded the vote. Were candidates required to complete questionnaires? Were they interviewed? Was there any outreach to Westchester County's 35 Reform Party members? You then **uncritically** quote Senator Latimer as saying that he is looking "to restore civic engagement and transparency" in Westchester. No mention of his senate record, in Albany, on "civic engagement and transparency", though you do report that a spokesman for Astorino stated that he would be running on his record as county executive.

It is essential that you follow up with an investigative story – especially in light of your subtitle accusation of Astorino "seek[ing] to steal the line back" – which your article particularizes as follows:

"Astorino will try to take the line back in a Sept. 12 primary. Latimer will appear on the ballot, but Astorino's name will have to be written in.

There are only 35 registered Reform members in the entire county, according to most recent

Board of Elections active voter logs.

There is still time for voters not registered to a party to become Reform members, though.”

What is the source for your inference that Astorino will flood the Reform Party with new registrants who will write in his name? Is it Latimer’s written statement, from which you quote – or is his written statement merely his response:

“Latimer, a state senator from Rye, said in a statement he was looking ‘to restore civic engagement and transparency’ in Westchester. ‘These are values that Rob Astorino has taken for granted...,’ Latimer said. ‘No amount of political tricks o[r] party raiding attempts by Astorino will change this, and that is why the Reform Party has turned its back on him.’”

Surely, if Astorino is flooding the ranks of the Westchester Reform Party with new registrants to achieve a write-in victory on the Reform Party line, Latimer is doing likewise to secure his own write-in victory. And, how about Jenkins, from whom, apparently, you have gotten no comment. Would it be “theft” if he tried to get in on the action by recruiting new Reform Party members who will write in his name on its line? And why have you not mentioned Jenkins as having a stake in any primary other than the Democratic primary as a challenger to Latimer. Indeed, is nothing happening on the “write-in” front with respect to the Working Families, Independence, and Women’s Equality lines, which, as you report, Latimer has, in addition to the Reform Party line.

To assist in your investigative follow-up of the candidates and the parties – and germane to all the foregoing – attached is my OPEN LETTER, as director of the Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA), entitled “**The NYS Reform Party of Curtis Sliwa MUST Rescind its Endorsement of, & Party Line to, Senator George Latimer for Westchester County Executive & the Other Parties Must Follow Suit – Unless they Deem Corruption in Office a Qualification**”. It was sent yesterday, by the below e-mail, to candidates Latimer, Astorino, and Jenkins – and all eight recognized political parties.

In furtherance of our common goal of furnishing the electorate in Westchester county and throughout the state with the information essential to its casting intelligent votes in the September 12th primary and November 7th general elections, I am available to answer your questions and to be interviewed, directly, not through a spokesperson or by written statement.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2017 12:27 PM
To: 'curtis@curtissliwa.com' <curtis@curtissliwa.com>; 'PopulistReformNY@gmail.com' <PopulistReformNY@gmail.com>; 'mjmesq@aol.com' <mjmesq@aol.com>; 'rluthmann@luthmannfirm.com' <rluthmann@luthmannfirm.com>; 'morano@nycradio.com' <morano@nycradio.com>
Cc: 'pleber@workingfamilies.org' <pleber@workingfamilies.org>; 'nywomensequalityparty@gmail.com' <nywomensequalityparty@gmail.com>; 'frankmackay@yahoo.com' <frankmackay@yahoo.com>; 'tj.wcdems@gmail.com' <tj.wcdems@gmail.com>; 'chairman@westchestergop.com' <chairman@westchestergop.com>; 'ff607@optonline.net' <ff607@optonline.net>; 'chair2@gpny.org' <chair2@gpny.org>; 'sec@gpny.org' <sec@gpny.org>; 'michaelvlawler@gmail.com' <michaelvlawler@gmail.com>; 'profmerrell@optonline.net' <profmerrell@optonline.net>; 'latimer@nysenate.gov' <latimer@nysenate.gov>; 'mallison@nysenate.gov' <mallison@nysenate.gov>; 'Peter Loughran' <loughran@nysenate.gov>;

'wmurphy@nysenate.gov' <wmurphy@nysenate.gov>; 'kenjenkins01@gmail.com' <kenjenkins01@gmail.com>;
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Subject: OPEN LETTER: The NYS Reform Part of Curtis Sliwa MUST Rescind its Endorsement of, & Party Line to, Senator Geo. Latimer for Westchester Co. Executive & the Other Parties Must Follow Suit -- Unless They Deem Corruption in Office a Qualification

Attached is the Center for Judicial Accountability's OPEN LETTER of today's date entitled "**The NYS Reform Party of Curtis Sliwa MUST Rescind its Endorsement of, & Party Line to, Senator George Latimer for Westchester County Executive & the Other Parties Must Follow Suit – Unless they Deem Corruption in Office a Qualification**", herewith sent to ALL eight recognized political parties and to the three candidates seeking election/re-election to the office of Westchester County Executive: Messrs. Latimer, Astorino, and Jenkins.

The OPEN LETTER is already posted on CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org, accessible *via* the prominent link "**OUTING CORRUPT & COLLUSIVE INCUMBENTS & Ending their Road to Re-Election & Higher Office in 2017, 2018, & Beyond – WITH EVIDENCE**". The direct link to the webpage for the letter, which also furnishes THE EVIDENCE on which it is based, is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/ending-the-road-latimer.htm>.

I am available to answer questions, under oath, and to assist you to the max, toward what should be our common goal of open, honest, fiscally-responsible, responsive, and accountable government, such as we do NOT remotely have on the state level... You can change that!

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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Kindly,

Hezi Aris

Editor-at-Large / Radio Host

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