

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.*

Post Office Box 8101
White Plains, New York 10602

Tel. (914)455-4373

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

Elena Ruth Sassower, Director

BY FAX: 212-374-5790 (3 pages)

January 10, 2013

New York County Clerk Norman Goodman
New York County Courthouse
60 Centre Street, Room 161
New York, New York 10007

RE: **STATUS OF CJA's OCTOBER 26, 2012 LETTER:**
"Quality Control at the New York County Clerk's Office:
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc., et al. v. Cuomo, et al.,
(NY Co. #401988/2012):

- (1) Official Misconduct by Chief Deputy County Clerk James A. Rossetti
- (2) Official Misconduct by Chief Clerk Joseph F. Antonelli
- (3) Official Misconduct by a Uniformed Officer, believed to be a 'major', who refused to give his name or badge number
- (4) Certification Request Pursuant to Judiciary Law §255"

Dear County Clerk Goodman:

It is now 2-1/2 months that I have been patiently waiting for your response to my above-entitled October 26, 2012 letter – as I have received none.

By my count, I have called your office (646-386-5956) at least seven times about the status of my October 26, 2012 letter: On Monday November 15, 2012 (10:20 a.m.), I called, requesting to speak with your counsel, Phyllis Mingione, and left a message for her with your receptionist, Yvette Stokes. On Tuesday, November 20, 2012 (11:45 a.m.), I left a second message for her with Ms. Stokes. On Wednesday, November 21, 2012 (11:25 a.m.), I called a third time and Ms. Stokes confirmed that she had given my messages to Ms. Mingione. I thereupon requested to speak with you – and my call was routed to Linda Arnone, your secretary, who stated she would get back to me the following week. I received no call. When I called again on Friday, November 30, 2012 (3:18 p.m.), Ms. Arnone also stated she would get back to me, if not that day, then early the following week. Once again, I received no return call. On Monday, December 10, 2012

* **Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)** is a national, non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, working to ensure that the processes of judicial selection and discipline are effective and meaningful.

(3:05 p.m.), I again telephoned. Still, I received no return call. On Friday, December 14, 2012 (10:19 am), I called once more to speak with you – and, again, Ms. Arnone stated that I would get a call back—from Ms. Mingione – either later that day or the following week. Again, I received no return call.

The strangest call to your office, however, was on Friday, December 21, 2012 (12:21 p.m.), when I was told by a woman who answered the phone and identified herself as “Elizabeth” that:

“Mr. Goodman has read the letter and is aware of the situation.”

In response to my question as to what you were going to do about “the situation”, “Elizabeth” placed me on hold for many minutes, following which she came back on the line (12:28 p.m.), stating:

“Mr. Goodman has looked at the file and everything that should be there is there. If you think something is missing, you can bring copies.”

I told “Esther” that if you had read the October 26, 2012 letter you knew that I had twice examined the file and itemized the documents that were missing and that unless you were contending that such itemized documents were, in fact, in the file, I was entitled to a certification pursuant to Judiciary Law §255 that they were missing.

Upon my asking “Esther” for her last name, she placed me on hold yet again. Although she took my message that I wished to speak with you or Ms. Mingione, I have received no call from either of you in the nearly three weeks since.

Please furnish the Judiciary Law §255 certification to which I am entitled, IMMEDIATELY, or explain why you are not doing so and what action you are taking with respect to the misconduct of those under your supervision, as recounted by my October 26, 2012 letter and herein.

Thank you.

Yours for a quality judiciary,



ELENA RUTH SASSOWER
Director, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
& individual plaintiff *pro se*

cc's: see next page

cc: Phyllis M. Mingione, Counsel, County Clerk, New York County
James A. Rossetti, Chief Deputy County Clerk, New York County
Joseph F. Antonelli, Chief Clerk, New York County
Sherry Klein Heitler, Administrative Judge for Civil Matters, First Judicial District
Sherrill Spatz, Inspector General for the Unified Court System
Cyrus Vance, Jr., New York County District Attorney/
Public Integrity Unit: Dan Cort, Chief
Andrew Meier, Assistant Attorney General