Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From:

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>

Sent:

Monday, March 18, 2013 11:54 AM

To:

paternol@assembly.state.ny.us; buchwaldd@assembly.state.ny.us

Cc:

weisfeldd@assembly.state.ny.us; roithmayra@assembly.state.ny.us

Subject:

Governor's Commentary & Appropriations Bill for the Judiciary, & March 11th Senate

Resolution

Attachments:

3-18-13-senate-assembly-members.pdf

Dear Lauren,

Here's the direct link to our webpage on "Securing Legislative Oversight &

Override...": http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/legislative-oversight-judicial-raises.htm .

I have NOW posted the Governor's Commentary & Appropriations Bill S2601/A3001 immediately below my March 11th letter & analysis of the Legislature's "color books" so that this further documentary evidence of what I am saying will be more conveniently before you – and Assemblyman Buchwald.

By the way, a link to the March 11th Senate resolution, identified by my March 15th e-mail & letter of today's date to the Legislators, also appears on our "Legislative Oversight & Override" webpage.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) 914-455-4373

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

Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 11:19 AM

To: paternol@assembly.state.ny.us; buchwaldd@assembly.state.ny.us **Cc:** weisfeldd@assembly.state.ny.us; roithmayra@assembly.state.ny.us

Subject: What is the Dollar Cost of the Judiciary Budget & of the Judiciary Appropriations Bill?

Dear Lauren.

Following up our phone conversation moments ago, attached is my letter of today's date, just sent to ALL Senators & Assembly Members bearing the above-entitled subject-line.

Please let me know as soon as you obtain the requested information.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) 914-455-4373 From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [mailto:elena@judgewatch.org]

Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 3:48 PM

To: paternol@assembly.state.ny.us; buchwaldd@assembly.state.ny.us **Cc:** weisfeldd@assembly.state.ny.us; roithmayra@assembly.state.ny.us

Subject: What is the cumulative dollar amount of the appropriations bill for the Judiciary -- A3001? And of the Judiciary's

budget request?

TO: Lauren Paterno, Legislative Director to Assemblyman Buchwald

Here's the paragraph that I just read to you over the phone, from page 10 of my March 11th letter, particularizing the information I'm seeking as to the cumulative dollar amount of the appropriations bill for the Judiciary – A3001. <u>Please get me this information as soon as possible</u>, as likewise the dollar amount requested by the Judiciary's budget – as to which the "Yellow Book", "White Book", "Blue Book" all give different numbers – with no number given by the "Green Book".

"The Judiciary's 'single budget bill' also provides <u>no</u> cumulative tally of the appropriations it contains. Is the \$50,095,000 of 'Reappropriations' a sum on top of the 'All Funds', and 'General State Charges' – in which case isn't the total monies being appropriated \$2,683,991,476? Or does the bill contain more appropriations, as, for instance, \$15,000,000 for 'New Appropriations (Supplemental)' and \$51,000,000 for 'Capital Projects-Reappropriations', both tucked in the back."

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) 914-455-4373

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

Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 12:32 PM

To: paternol@assembly.state.ny.us

Cc: buchwaldd@assembly.state.ny.us; weisfeldd@assembly.state.ny.us; roithmayra@assembly.state.ny.us

Subject: Judiciary Budget -- A Slush Fund as the Dollar Figures Would Show

TO: Lauren Paterno, Legislative Director to Assemblyman Buchwald

Following up our phone conversation a short time ago, attached is the letter I sent yesterday. Kindly read it and bring to Assemblyman Buchwald's attention IMMEDIATELY. It sums up much of what I stated to Chief of Staff Dan Weissfeld, when I met with him on Monday, March 4th, in the absence of Assemblyman Buchwald, who I understood was in Albany, hard at work on the budget – and with whom I spoke briefly, by phone, on February 15th, while en route to his office to drop off the documentary materials I had handed up when I testified before the Legislature, on February 6th, at its joint budget hearing on "Public Protection". A copy of the note that I had written to the Assemblyman, when I dropped off the materials on February 15th, is annexed. The direct link to the video of the February 6th hearing with my testimony, posted on our website, is here: http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/legislative-oversight-judicial-raises.htm.

What I did not discuss with Dan on March 4^{th} is what appears at pages 10-11 of the March 11^{th} letter, identifying that the Judiciary has concealed the total dollar amount it is actually requesting for the Judiciary budget. It has also concealed

the total dollar amount of its "single budget bill", embodied by the Governor's appropriation bill—S2601; A3001. As stated at page 10, it appears to be "a veritable slush fund".

Please get me these two figures by the end of the day – or as soon as possible.

I am most concerned that the documentary materials I dropped off on February 15^{th} for Assemblyman Buchwald to review in substantiation of my February 6^{th} testimony have not, as yet been reviewed by him – or perhaps by anyone else on his staff, etc. According to Alex Roithmayr , with whom I spoke before calling you, those materials are still in the district office – now moved to Mt. Kisco .

I had an excellent meeting on Friday, March 8th with Senator Latimer – with whom, additionally, I supplied a copy of those documentary materials. I suggest that Assemblyman Buchwald work together with Senator Latimer on this issue – a suggestion I discussed with both of them.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) 914-455-4373

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

Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 3:25 PM

To: nozzolio@nysenate.gov; 'mfitzger@nysenate.gov'; gball@nysenate.gov; 'sritz@ball4ny.com'; gallivan@nysenate.gov;

'bryan@nysenate.gov'; 'aldinger@nysenate.gov'; golden@nysenate.gov; 'eilts@nysenate.gov'

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'bonacic@nysenate.gov'; 'judiciary@nysenate.gov'; winchell@nysenate.gov; 'sampson@senate.state.ny.us';

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'latimer@nysenate.gov'; 'ferris@nysenate.gov'; <u>buchwaldd@assembly.state.ny.us</u>; <u>weisfeldd@assembly.state.ny.us</u>;

roithmayra@assembly.state.ny.us

Subject: Superseding Letter to Senate Budget Subcommittee on "Public Protection": ... Verifying the Dispositive Nature of the Opposition to the Judiciary Budget & its Judicial Salary Increase Request

The attached letter of today's date to the Chair & Members of the Senate Budget Committee on "Public Protection" – Senators Nozzolio, Ball, Gallivan, & Golden -- supersedes the letter sent on Friday, March 8th, as it makes SUBSTANTIVE additions. See, in particular, pages 10-13.

It is already posted on our website. Here's the direct link: http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/legislative-oversight-judicial-raises.htm.

Apologies for the inconvenience.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) 914-455-4373