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

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 12:26 PM

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Subject: AGENDA: Judiciary budget & budget of the Commission on Judicial Conduct

for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Attachments: 2-19-18-written-testimony-with-questions-24pp.pdf

TO: SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
Chair: Brad Hoylman, ESQ.,

Ranking Member: Thomas O'Mara, ESQ.,

Rank & File Members: <u>Jamaal Bailey, ESQ.</u>, <u>Phil Boyle, ESQ.</u>, <u>Neil Breslin, ESQ.</u>,

Andrew Gounardes, ESQ., Anna Kaplan, ESQ., Andrew Lanza, ESQ., Kenneth Lavalle, ESQ., Zellnor Myrie, ESQ., Michael Ranzenhofer, ESQ., Diane Savino,

Luis Sepulveda, ESQ., Toby Ann Stavisky, Kevin Thomas, ESQ.

TO: ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Chair: Jeffrey Dinowitz, ESQ.

Ranking Member: Anthony Palumbo, ESQ.,

Rank & File Members: Thomas Abinanti, ESQ., Edward Braunstein, ESQ.,

David Buchwald, ESQ., Marjorie Byrnes, ESQ., Andy Goodell, ESQ., Latoya Joyner, ESQ., Charles Lavine, ESQ., Michael Montesano, ESQ., Michael J. Norris, ESQ., Dan Quart, ESQ., Rebecca Seawright, ESQ.,

Aravella Simotas, ESQ., Phil Steck, ESQ., Michele Titus, ESQ.,

Monica P. Wallace, ESQ., Mary Beth Walsh, ESQ., David Weprin, ESQ.,

Tremaine Wright, ESQ., Kenneth Zebrowski, ESQ.

This is to request that you place the Judiciary's budget and the budget of the Commission on Judicial Conduct for fiscal year 2019-2020 – both within the jurisdiction of your Committees – on the agendas of your next committee meetings for ALL the reasons set forth by the Center for Judicial Accountability's attached February 19, 2019 written testimony, submitted to the Senate Finance Committee and Assembly Ways and Means Committee. This includes for review of the list of 41 "QUESTIONS FOR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE LAWRENCE MARKS" that the testimony appends, so that each Judiciary Committee may separately decide, by a vote of its members, whether there is any "QUESTION" that the public is not entitled to have answered by the Chief Administrative Judge – and sent to him for response.

Should the February 19, 2019 written testimony and its "QUESTIONS" <u>not</u> be placed on the agendas of your Committees' <u>next</u> meetings, I request that members publicly raise the issue at those meetings – and take such other appropriate steps as themselves forwarding the testimony and "QUESTIONS" to Chief Administrative Judge Marks for response.

For your convenience, CJA's webpage on which the February 19, 2019 written testimony is posted, with links to the substantiating EVIDENTIARY PROOF, is here: http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2019-legislative/feb-19-2019-written-testimony.htm.

Finally, I take this opportunity to inquire whether ANY of the 15 members of the Senate Judiciary Committee or the 21 members of the Assembly Judiciary Committee have ever themselves filed a complaint of judicial misconduct with the Commission on Judicial Conduct — or filed a complaint of attorney misconduct with any of the court-controlled attorney grievance committees. If not, on what EVIDENTIARY basis does any Committee member, all but two of whom are lawyers, purport that these entities are properly functioning?

I am available to assist you, <u>to the max</u>, in discharging the constitutional responsibilities you owe to the People of the State of New York to ensure the integrity of the judicial branch and protect their tax dollars. I would be pleased to speak with you, directly, either by phone or in person – and to be invited to make an EVIDENTIARY presentation before the Committees, under oath.

Thank you.

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