

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2019 9:09 AM

To: jheaney@investigativepost.org

Subject: **LEAD: Exposing Albany's "Culture of Corruption" -- & ENDING IT -- runs through Buffalo & Western New York**

Attachments: [7-15-19-transmitting-ltr-notice.pdf](#);
[7-15-19-analysis-12-10-18-report.pdf](#)

TO: James Heaney, Founding Editor/Executive Director – Investigative Post

Thank you for recognizing the need to develop “in-depth, public interest journalism that makes for an informed citizenry” – and founding and developing the Investigative Post for that critical purpose. I was unaware of the Investigative Post until yesterday. That was when I visited the website of the Museum of Public Corruption, <http://www.museumofpoliticalcorruption.org/>, and saw you prominently featured as the recipient of its 2019 Nellie Bly Award for Investigative Reporting. This was most propitious, as I was about to furnish the press with the major story reflected by the below two e-mails and above two attachments. I am now holding back doing so, in order to give you the LEAD for the story that will put the Investigative Post “ON THE MAP”, big-time – and win for you many journalism awards, including the Pulitzer Prize.

As the Investigative Post is, in the first instance, focused on stories pertaining to Buffalo and Western New York, the story – an exploration of Albany’s so-called “culture of corruption” – is PERFECT. It will enable you to showcase the on-the-job performance of ALL Western New York’s Albany Legislators, of Buffalo-native Lt. Governor Cathy Hochul, and of Western New York’s sole representative on the New York Court of Appeals, Buffalo-native Judge Eugene Fahey, as well as of Western New York’s District Attorneys and its U.S. Attorney – and to rely, for expert analysis and guidance, upon the scholars of Western New York’s premier academic institution, the taxpayer-run SUNY at Buffalo and its law school.

For your convenience, these and other Buffalo/Western New York connections are reflected on a webpage I created for my outreach to you, on the Center for Judicial Accountability’s website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/hhh-compensation-committee/new-paths-investigative-post.htm). The direct link to the webpage is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/hhh-compensation-committee/new-paths-investigative-post.htm>.

I look forward to speaking with you directly – and as soon as possible – about the story and my description of it, at the top of the webpage:

“The stars are aligned, through Buffalo, to examine Albany’s ‘culture of corruption’ -- and END IT!”

When would be the best time for me to call you – or would you prefer to call me and, if so, when?

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 1:06 PM

To: 'gianaris@nysenate.gov' <gianaris@nysenate.gov>; 'barth@nysenate.gov' <barth@nysenate.gov>; 'lkrueger@nysenate.gov' <lkrueger@nysenate.gov>; 'usher@nysenate.gov' <usher@nysenate.gov>; 'flanagan@nysenate.gov' <flanagan@nysenate.gov>; 'cmills@nysenate.gov' <cmills@nysenate.gov>; 'griffo@nysenate.gov' <griffo@nysenate.gov>; 'kinderma@nysenate.gov' <kinderma@nysenate.gov>; 'seward@nysenate.gov' <seward@nysenate.gov>; 'davie@nysenate.gov' <davie@nysenate.gov>; 'PeopleC@nyassembly.gov' <PeopleC@nyassembly.gov>; 'haltonl@nyassembly.gov' <haltonl@nyassembly.gov>; 'aubryJ@nyassembly.gov' <aubryJ@nyassembly.gov>; 'hernandezd@nyassembly.gov' <hernandezd@nyassembly.gov>; 'WeinstH@nyassembly.gov' <WeinstH@nyassembly.gov>; 'ancowir@nyassembly.gov' <ancowir@nyassembly.gov>; 'lentolj@nyassembly.gov' <lentolj@nyassembly.gov>; 'peakec@nyassembly.gov' <peakec@nyassembly.gov>; 'kolbB@nyassembly.gov' <kolbB@nyassembly.gov>; 'goodella@nyassembly.gov' <goodella@nyassembly.gov>; 'BarclaW@nyassembly.gov' <BarclaW@nyassembly.gov>; 'herricks@nyassembly.gov' <herricks@nyassembly.gov>; 'rae@nyassembly.gov' <rae@nyassembly.gov>; 'dunleavyc@nyassembly.gov' <dunleavyc@nyassembly.gov>
Cc: 'scousins@nysenate.gov' <scousins@nysenate.gov>; 'speaker@nyassembly.gov' <speaker@nyassembly.gov>; 'Carl Heastie' <cehbronx@gmail.com>; 'grelick@nysenate.gov' <grelick@nysenate.gov>; 'vargash@nyassembly.gov' <vargash@nyassembly.gov>

Subject: NOTICE of Your Duty to Void the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative & Executive Compensation that Boosted Your Salaries -- & Preserved Your Stipends

[TO: The Legislators Whose Stipends Were Preserved by the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative & Executive Compensation](#)

Temporary Senate President Andrea Stewart-Cousins	\$41,500
Senate Deputy Majority Leader Michael Gianaris, Esq.	\$34,000
Finance Committee Chair Liz Krueger	\$34,000
Senate Minority Leader John Flanagan, Esq.	\$34,500
Senate Deputy Minority Leader Joseph Griffo	\$20,500
Finance Committee Ranking Member James Seward	\$20,500
Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie	\$41,500
Assembly Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes	\$34,500
Assembly Speaker <i>Pro Tempore</i> Jeffrion Aubry	\$25,000
Ways and Means Chair Helene Weinstein, Esq.	\$34,000
Assembly Codes Committee Chair Joseph Lentol, Esq.	\$18,000
Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb	\$34,500

Assembly Minority Leader <i>Pro Tempore</i> Andy Goodell, Esq.	\$20,500
Ways and Means Committee Ranking Member William Barclay, Esq.	\$20,500
Assembly Codes Committee Ranking Member Edward Ra, Esq.	\$11,000

As you know, the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative and Executive Compensation preserved your stipends in recognition of the “significantly more work” and “additional duties” you are expected to perform (at p. 19). That Report is a fraud on the People of the State of New York and larceny of their tax dollars – and the particulars are set forth by the above-attached analysis of the Report.

Below is the e-mail I sent yesterday to Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie, with the analysis and its accompanying letter-NOTICE. It is now sent to you so that you can demonstrate how you discharge the greater responsibilities for which you are paid. Presumably, this includes alerting the other 57 Senate members and 141 Assembly members to matters of seriousness and substance involving them. In any event, I request that you promptly forward this e-mail to them, with its above-attached July 15, 2019 letter-NOTICE and analysis and below e-mail, each addressed to ALL 63 Senate and 150 Assembly Members.

Hard copies of the letter-NOTICE and analysis, with exhibits, are being priority mailed today to Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie – and I trust they will make same available to you and all other Senate and Assembly Members, upon request. Everything is accessible from CJA’s website, www.judgewatch.org – and the direct link to the webpage for the July 15, 2019 letter-NOTICE and analysis, with the EVIDENCE substantiating it, is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/hhh-compensation-committee/7-15-19-analysis-of-report.htm>.

Thank you.

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

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

Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 2:19 PM

To: 'alfonso.david@exec.ny.gov' <alfonso.david@exec.ny.gov>; 'records.access@exec.ny.gov' <records.access@exec.ny.gov>; 'letitia.james@ag.ny.gov' <letitia.james@ag.ny.gov>; 'Barbara.Underwood@ag.ny.gov' <Barbara.Underwood@ag.ny.gov>; 'scousins@nysenate.gov' <scousins@nysenate.gov>; 'grelick@nysenate.gov' <grelick@nysenate.gov>; 'speaker@nyassembly.gov' <speaker@nyassembly.gov>; 'Carl Heastie' <cehbronx@gmail.com>; 'vargash@nyassembly.gov' <vargash@nyassembly.gov>

Subject: NOTICE of Your Duty to Void the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative & Executive Compensation that Boosted Your Salaries

TO: Governor Andrew M. Cuomo & Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul
Attorney General Letitia James
Temporary Senate President Andrea Stewart-Cousins & the Other 62 Senate Members
Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie & the Other 149 Assembly Members

RE: NOTICE of Your Duty to Void the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative & Executive Compensation that Boosted Your Salaries

This is to give you NOTICE of what you should already know: that the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative & Executive Compensation that boosted your salaries is a fraud upon the People of the State of New York – and a larceny of their tax dollars.

To assist you in belatedly discharging your responsibilities to protect the People you were elected to serve, attached is the Center for Judicial Accountability's formal NOTICE to you, transmitting an analysis of the December 10, 2018 Report. Four hard copies, with the exhibits to the analysis, will be sent, priority-mail:

- (1) to the Governor, for himself and the Lieutenant Governor;
- (2) to the Attorney General;
- (3) to the Temporary Senate President, for herself & the other 62 Senate Members; and
- (4) to the Assembly Speaker, for himself & the other 149 Assembly Members.

For your further convenience, CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org, posts the NOTICE, analysis, exhibits, and other referred-to substantiating evidence, accessible *via* the prominent center link, now renamed: "2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative & Executive Compensation – Unconstitutionality & Fraud in Plain Sight". The direct link to the webpage is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/hhh-compensation-committee/7-15-19-analysis-of-report.htm>.

Please confirm, as soon as possible – and no later than August 15, 2019 – that you will be taking steps to void the Report, to return the already-disbursed salary increases, and to criminally prosecute the Compensation Committee members and their *pro bono* counsel for their penal law violations including: Penal Law §175.35: "offering a false instrument for filing in the first degree"; Penal Law §195.20: "defrauding the government"; Penal Law §190.65: "scheme to defraud in the first degree"; and Penal Law §496.05; §496.06: "PUBLIC TRUST ACT: "corrupting the government in the first degree"; "public corruption".

Thank you.

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