

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 3:31 PM
To: 'jcaher@alm.com'
Cc: 'joelstashenko@aol.com'; kfischer@alm.com
Subject: The Legislature's Duty to Reject Judiciary Appropriations Bill S2601-A3001 & its Unidentified Judicial Salary Increases that are Fraudulent, Statutorily-Violative, & Unconstitutional

Citizen Challenge to Judiciary Budget Exposes the Sham of NY's Budget Process & the Hoax of its New Transparency

Dear John,

Following up our conversation this morning, interrupted because you were running off to an interview, below is the e-mail I sent yesterday to the Legislature's General Conference Committee – and its Joint Budget Subcommittee on “Public Protection”, Criminal Justice, and the Judiciary. It summarizes the MAJOR story I described to you, established by:

- (1) the video of my 10-minute testimony on February 6, 2013 at the Legislature's joint budget hearing on “Public Protection”; and
- (2) my March 11, 2013 letter to the Senate Budget Subcommittee for “Public Protection” – Senators Nozzolio, Gallivan, Ball, and Golden – now each members of the Joint Subcommittee for “Public Protection”, Criminal Justice, and the Judiciary.

Both are posted on CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org, on the page devoted to “The People Fight Back: Securing Legislative Oversight & Override of the 2nd & 3rd phases of the judicial pay raises...” Here's the direct link: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/legislative-oversight-judicial-raises.htm> .

As I discussed, Chief Administrative Judge Prudenti did not identify the dollar amount of the Judiciary's budget when she testified at the February 6, 2013 budget hearing. The Legislature's “White”, “Blue”, and “Yellow” books each give different figures, with the “Green” book giving no figure. The Governor's “Commentary” to the Judiciary budget gives an approximation: “\$2.6 billion”. As stated at page 10 of my March 11th letter, this is “a rounded figure able to conceal many tens of millions of dollars: a veritable slush fund... “

The Law Journal's investigation and reporting of this scandalous story can achieve MAJOR good-government reform for the People of this State. As always, I offer my fullest assistance.

Thank you.

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 5:45 PM
To: senator@senatorlibous.com; morellej@assembly.state.ny.us; LentolJ@assembly.state.ny.us; lavignij@assembly.state.ny.us; little@nysenate.gov; hassellt@nysenate.gov; gsavage@nysenate.gov; EngleS@assembly.state.ny.us; CamaraK@assembly.state.ny.us; GiglioJ@assembly.state.ny.us; MontesanoM@assembly.state.ny.us