

# CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

P.O. Box 69, Gedney Station  
White Plains, New York 10605-0069

Tel. (914) 421-1200  
Fax (914) 428-4994

E-Mail: [judgewatch@aol.com](mailto:judgewatch@aol.com)  
Web site: [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)

Elena Ruth Sassower, Coordinator

BY FAX: 212-428-2155 (3 pages)

BY CERTIFIED MAIL/RRR: 7001-0320-0004-5457-4958

March 21, 2002

Office of Court Administration  
25 Beaver Street  
New York, New York 10004

ATT: John Eiseman, Records Access Officer

RE: Request to Inspect Records

Dear Mr. Eiseman:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law (F.O.I.L) [Public Officers Law, Article VI] and Part 124 of the Chief Administrator's Rules for Public Access to Records, request is made to inspect and copy:

1. publicly-available records pertaining to the Office of Court Administration's "consolidation" of the Office of Inspector General, the Office of Special Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments, and the Office of Special Inspector General for Bias Matters, announced in its March 12, 2002 press release as "provid[ing] a more efficient use of the court system's investigative resources", including records pertaining to the jurisdiction, budget, staff, staff credentials, and staff salaries of the new consolidated Office of Inspector General;
2. publicly-available records pertaining to the history and operations of the pre-consolidated Office of Inspector General, including its annual reports, if any, and other documents reflecting its jurisdiction, yearly activities, budget, staff, staff credentials, and staff salaries;


March 21, 2002

3. publicly-available records pertaining to the history and operations of the Office of Special Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments, including its annual reports, if any, and other records reflecting its jurisdiction, yearly activities, budget, staff, staff credentials, and staff salaries, apart from its December 3, 2001 report.
4. publicly-available records pertaining to the history and operations of the Office of the Special Inspector General for Bias Matters, including its annual reports, if any, and other records reflecting its jurisdiction, yearly activities, budget, staff, staff credentials, and staff salaries;
5. publicly-available records pertaining to the history and operations of the Office of Internal Affairs, including its annual reports, if any, and other records reflecting its jurisdiction, yearly activities, budget, staff, staff credentials, and staff salaries;
6. the Office of Court Administration's subject matter list of "all administrative records" in its possession, pursuant to §§124.2(b)(1) and 124.3 of the Chief Administrator's Rules for Public Access to Records<sup>1</sup> and, in particular, the subject matter list pertaining to the pre-consolidated Office of Inspector General, the Office of the Special Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments, the Office of the Special Inspector General for Bias Matters, and the Office of Internal Affairs.
7. rules, schedules, and procedures promulgated for Retention and Disposition of the Records of the Courts of the Unified Court System, pursuant to Part 38 of the Chief Administrator's Rules.

Pursuant to F.O.I.L. [Public Officers Law §89.3] and §124.6(a) of the Chief Administrator's Rules for Public Access to Records, your response is required within five business days of receipt of this written request.

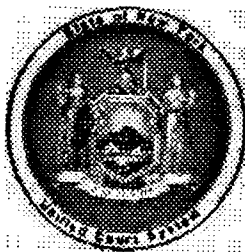
Thank you.

Yours for a quality judiciary,

  
ELENA RUTH SASSOWER, Coordinator  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

Enclosure: OCA March 12, 2002 press release,  
"Court System Consolidates Investigative Offices"

<sup>1</sup> Public Officers Law §87.3(c).



## PRESS RELEASE

**New York State  
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Jonathan Lippman  
Chief Administrative Judge**

**Contact: David Bookstaver,  
Communications Director  
Mai Yee, Assistant Director  
(212) 428-2500  
[www.courts.state.ny.us](http://www.courts.state.ny.us)**

**Release: Immediate, March 12, 2002**

### **Court System Consolidates Investigative Offices**

**NEW YORK**—Chief Administrative Judge Jonathan Lippman announced today the consolidation of the Unified Court System's three investigative offices—the Office of Inspector General, the Office of Special Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments and the Office of the Special Inspector General for Bias Matters. The Office of Inspector General investigates allegations of misconduct within the Unified Court System. The Office of the Special Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments investigates compliance with court rules governing judicial appointment of guardians, guardians ad litem, receivers, referees and others who assist the courts in resolving cases. The Office of the Inspector General for Bias Matters investigates allegations of work-related bias involving court system employees.

The newly consolidated office will be headed by Sherrill R. Spatz, currently the Special Inspector General for Fiduciary Appointments. Judge Lippman said, "The consolidation of these three offices will provide a more efficient use of the court system's investigative resources. Sherrill Spatz is an experienced professional with a proven track record. She has done an outstanding job during the past two years in regard to the fiduciary appointment process. I know that as the new Inspector General for the Unified Court System she will be a highly effective leader of this newly merged office."

William Gallagher, the current Inspector General, and Desiree Kim, the current Special Inspector General for Bias Matters, will work under Ms. Spatz's direction. In her new role, Ms. Spatz will also continue to work closely with Dennis Donnelly, the Director of the court system's Office of Internal Affairs.

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 03/21/2002 09:25  
 NAME : CJA  
 FAX : 9144284994  
 TEL : 9144211200

DATE, TIME 03/21 09:24  
 FAX NO./NAME 12124282155  
 DURATION 00:01:42  
 PAGE(S) 03  
 RESULT OK  
 MODE STANDARD  
 ECM

**U.S. Postal Service**  
**CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT**  
 (Domestic Mail Only; No Insurance Coverage Provided)

7001 0320 0004 5457 4958

NEW YORK, NY 10004

Postage	0.34	UNIT ID: 0137
Certified Fee	2.10	
Return Receipt Fee (Endorsement Required)	1.50	
Restricted Delivery Fee (Endorsement Required)		
Total Postage & Fees	\$ 3.94	Clerk: KHBBP6

Postmark Here  
 03/21/02

Sent To: *Office of Ct Administration*  
*Att. John Eisman*  
 Street, Apt. No., or PO Box No.: *25 Beaver Street*  
 City, State, ZIP+4: *NY, NY 10004*

PS Form 3800, January 2001 See Reverse for Instructions

COMPLETE THIS SECTION

is 1, 2, and 3. Also complete Restricted Delivery is desired. Name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.  
 ■ Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:  
*Office of Ct Administration*  
*25 Beaver Street*  
*NY, NY 10004*  
*Att. John Eisman*  
*Records Access Officer*

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature *[Signature]*  Agent  Addressee  
 B. Received by (Printed Name) C. Date of Delivery  
 D. Is delivery address different from item 1?  Yes  
 If YES, enter delivery address below:  No

3. Service Type  
 Certified Mail  Express Mail  
 Registered  Return Receipt for Merchandise  
 Insured Mail  C.O.D.  
 4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)  Yes

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label) 7001 0320 0004 5457 4958