

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: elena@judgewatch.org
Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2019 10:08 AM
To: spc@peacecouncil.net
Cc: yabdulqadir@nyclu.org; lchaplin@nyclu.org; katwater@nyclu.org; ckeller3@twcny.rr.com; glavine@bhlawpllc.com; cbaker@syracuse.com; citynews@syracuse.com; features@syracuse.com; timkennedy@syracuse.com; mmorelli@syracuse.com; ddowty@syracuse.com; 'Chris Alan Bolt'; 'Scott R Willis'; 'John S Smith'; Ashley@Stand.com; 'Gregory James Munno'; gdreeher@maxwell.syr.edu; 'Jonathan Neal Glass'
Subject: The rigged Oct 10th Onondaga D.A. Candidates Forum -- depriving voters of what they most need to know about D.A. Fitzpatrick & would-be D.A.s Keller & Levine

TO: Syracuse Peace Council

This follows my substantive conversation with staff organizer Michaela Czerkies yesterday afternoon about the rigging of the October 10th district attorney candidates forum by the director of the Central New York Civil Liberties Union, Yusuf Abdul-Qadir, who – having been furnished *readily-verifiable* EVIDENCE establishing, *prima facie*, the public corruption of District Attorney Fitzpatrick as chair of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption, causing vast, irreparable, and on-going injury to the People of the State of New York and resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars in personal financial gain to Fitzpatrick and his judge-wife – EVIDENCE previously furnished to District Attorney Candidates Keller and Lavine – failed to pose even a single question about it.

Below is my October 13th e-mail to Mr. Abdul-Qadir, setting forth the pertinent facts – and inquiring whether his conduct was with the knowledge of the 17 members of the Central NYCLU board and of the 13 or so other organizations co-sponsoring the forum with the Central NYCLU.

Having received no response from Mr. Abdul-Qadir or anyone else at Central NYCLU to my October 13th e-mail and to my phone calls on October 15th, including to its Legal Committee chair, Sam Young, Esq., I decided to begin calling the 13 or so other organizations – and Syracuse Peace Council was the first.

I would appreciate, if, in addition to forwarding this e-mail to your board members, you forward it to the other organizational co-sponsors of the October 10th forum – so that, individually and collectively, they can examine the EVIDENCE, for themselves, and evaluate the duty they owe Onondaga voters – and the People of the State of New York – to “blow the whistle” at a press conference or by other means.

I am available to assist you, and them, to the max.

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: Sunday, October 13, 2019 9:59 AM
To: 'yabdulqadir@nyclu.org' <yabdulqadir@nyclu.org>

Cc: 'lchaplin@nyclu.org' <lchaplin@nyclu.org>; 'katwater@nyclu.org' <katwater@nyclu.org>; 'ckeller3@twcny.rr.com' <ckeller3@twcny.rr.com>; 'glavine@bhlawpllc.com' <glavine@bhlawpllc.com>; 'cbaker@syracuse.com' <cbaker@syracuse.com>; 'citynews@syracuse.com' <citynews@syracuse.com>; 'features@syracuse.com' <features@syracuse.com>; 'timkennedy@syracuse.com' <timkennedy@syracuse.com>; 'mmorelli@syracuse.com' <mmorelli@syracuse.com>; 'ddowty@syracuse.com' <ddowty@syracuse.com>; 'cabolt@syr.edu' <cabolt@syr.edu>; 'srwillis@syr.edu' <srwillis@syr.edu>; 'jssmit05@syr.edu' <jssmit05@syr.edu>; 'Ashley@MySouthSideStand.com' <Ashley@MySouthSideStand.com>; 'gimunno@syr.edu' <gimunno@syr.edu>; 'Grant Davis Reeher' <gdriveher@maxwell.syr.edu>; 'robert.harding@auburnpub.com' <robert.harding@auburnpub.com>; 'robert.harding@lee.net' <robert.harding@lee.net>; 'jeremy.boyer@auburnpub.com' <jeremy.boyer@auburnpub.com>; 'michael.dowd@auburnpub.com' <michael.dowd@auburnpub.com>; 'mbowers@auburnpub.com' <mbowers@auburnpub.com>; 'chris.sciria@auburnpub.com' <chris.sciria@auburnpub.com>; 'david.wilcox@auburnpub.com' <david.wilcox@auburnpub.com>; 'mary.catalfamo@lee.net' <mary.catalfamo@lee.net>

Subject: Informing the Voters: The open-&-shut EVIDENCE of public corruption by D.A. Fitzpatrick -- & its cover-up by Candidates Keller & Lavine

TO: Central New York Civil Liberties Union
ATT: Yusuf Abdul-Qadir/Director

I was surprised to have received no response from you or from counsel Lanessa Chaplin, Esq. to my below October 10th e-mail pertaining to the open-and-shut EVIDENCE of Onondaga County D.A. Fitzpatrick's public corruption, causing vast, irreparable, and ongoing injury to the People of the State of New York and Onondaga County, and furnishing you with my October 7th e-mails to Candidates Lavine and Keller on the subject.

Did you examine the EVIDENCE posted on the webpage I had created to speed verification of the pertinent facts: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2019/fitzpatrick.htm>. Indeed, if you watched the [VIDEO of my testimony before D.A. Fitzpatrick at the September 17, 2013 hearing of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption](#), you know that my parting words were that the EVIDENCE was "open-and-shut" and could be verified "in a matter of minutes". Certainly, it takes only "a matter of minutes" to read the [executive summary](#) to [CJA's October 27, 2011 opposition report](#) to the [Commission on Judicial Compensation's August 29, 2011 report](#) – and to recognize what is obvious from comparing those two documents, *to wit*, the fraudulence of the paltry, facially-violative August 29, 2011 report that had boosted judicial salaries – and which, by reason of the statutory link between judicial salaries and district attorney salaries, also boosted district attorney salaries.

Please advise, without delay, which EVIDENCE, if any, you reviewed, when – as it appears -- you decided not to pose even a single question at the D.A. candidates forum as to D.A. Fitzpatrick's public corruption, financially benefitting himself and his judge-wife by hundreds of thousands of dollars – and whether, in so-deciding, you had forwarded my e-mail to the Central New York Civil Liberties' 17 board members (<https://www.nyclu.org/en/chapters/central-new-york>), to its Legal Committee chair, and, additionally, to the 13 or so other organizations co-sponsoring the October 10th D.A. candidates forum (<https://my.lvw.org/new-york/syracuse-metropolitan-area/event/candidate-forum-onondaga-county-district-attorney>) for their examination and deliberation as to their obligations to voters with respect to all three candidates.

Finally, apart from the most minimal news reporting of the October 10th D.A. candidates forum, I am unable to find any posted VIDEO. Was such an important forum for voters not VIDEOED – or, for that matter, live-streamed? Please advise – and as soon as possible – as time is of the essence, especially in light of this year's early voting.

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: Thursday, October 10, 2019 10:05 AM

To: 'yabdulqadir@nyclu.org' <yabdulqadir@nyclu.org>; 'lchaplin@nyclu.org' <lchaplin@nyclu.org>

Cc: 'cabolt@syr.edu' <cabolt@syr.edu>; 'cbaker@syracuse.com' <cbaker@syracuse.com>; 'citynews@syracuse.com' <citynews@syracuse.com>; 'glavine@bhlawpllc.com' <glavine@bhlawpllc.com>; 'ckeller3@twcny.rr.com' <ckeller3@twcny.rr.com>

Subject: Tonight's Onondaga County D.A. Candidates Forum -- Exposing the Corruption of D.A. Fitzpatrick -- & Testing the Fitness of Candidates Lavine, Keller

TO: Central New York Civil Liberties Union

**ATT: Yusuf Abdul-Qadir/Director
Lanessa L. Chaplin, Esq.**

D.A. Fitzpatrick is CORRUPT – and has willfully and deliberately caused vast and ongoing injury to the People of Onondaga and the State of New York, while financially benefitting by hundreds of thousands of dollars in fraudulent pay raises, with his Court of Claims judge-wife. The open-and-shut EVIDENCE, sufficient for ANY prosecutor to bring a criminal indictment and secure a conviction, is posted on the Center for Judicial Accountability's website, here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2019/fitzpatrick.htm>.

Please call me, ASAP, so that I can assist you in presenting this EVIDENCE at tonight's D.A. candidates forum – ENDING Fitzpatrick's candidacy and establishing the fitness of the two candidates competing against him and each other.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director

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

Sent: Thursday, October 10, 2019 9:32 AM

To: 'cabolt@syr.edu' <cabolt@syr.edu>

Subject: Tonight's Onondaga County D.A. Candidates Forum -- Fitzpatrick, Lavine, Keller

TO: WAER/Scott Willis & Chris Bolt --

Following up the voice mail messages I left, a short time ago, first at 315-443-4046 and then at 315-443-5242, upon reading your posting "[Three Onondaga County D.A. Candidates to Make Their Case to Voters at Forum](#)", below are the October 7th e-mails I sent D.A. Candidates Gary Lavine, Esq. and Charles Keller, Esq. following my lengthy phone conversations with them. They can EASILY defeat D.A. Fitzpatrick – and without money. It requires nothing more than their "whistleblowing" about the *open-and-shut* EVIDENCE of his corruption as chair of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption -- including his flagrant violation of conflict of interest rules to financially benefit himself and his Court of Claims judge wife by hundreds of thousands of dollars in fraudulent pay raises. It is EVIDENCE that brings down D.A. Fitzpatrick and the whole edifice of public corruption that was his obligation to expose and prosecute six years ago – and it is posted on the website of our non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability,

www.judgewatch.org. The direct link to the EVIDENCE webpage I built to assist Candidates Lavine and Keller, the press – and voters – is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2019/fitzpatrick.htm>.

Please call me so that student reporters can get to work on investigating and reporting this, as soon as possible – starting with viewing the VIDEO of my testimony before D.A. Fitzpatrick at the Commission to Investigate Public's first rigged hearing, on September 17, 2013: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-1hXstP0Uhw>.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 7:19 PM
To: 'glavine@bhlawpllc.com' <glavine@bhlawpllc.com>
Cc: 'ckeller3@twcny.rr.com' <ckeller3@twcny.rr.com>

Subject: You can win, easily & without \$, against D.A. Fitzpatrick -- ALL it takes is "whistleblowing" as to the open-and-shut, prima facie EVIDENCE" of his corruption as chair of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption

TO: Onondaga District Attorney Candidate Gary Lavine –

Following up your return call to me, a short time ago – and our lengthy conversation together, largely replicating what I had discussed with Candidate Keller this morning – below is the e-mail I sent to him, with its above-attachment pertaining to the significance of CJA's citizen-taxpayer action, now at the Court of Appeals.

This e-mail to you – and the below to him – will be posted on the webpage I created for the 2019 Onondaga County District Attorney race. It is accessible from the Center for Judicial Accountability's homepage, www.judgewatch.org, via the prominent center link: "ELECTIONS – 2019" – which leads to a menu page with a link for D.A. Fitzpatrick's 2019 candidacy for re-election. The direct link is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2019/fitzpatrick.htm>.

The People need district attorneys who are true to their duty to "follow the EVIDENCE" – and it is EVIDENCE that brings down D.A. Fitzpatrick and the whole edifice of public corruption that was his obligation to expose and prosecute six years ago.

I am available to assist you, to the max, to achieve honest, accountable, constitutional governance. As the posted EVIDENCE establishes, this is something we do not remotely have.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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From: Elena Sassower <elenaruth@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 1:13 PM

To: 'ckeller3@twcny.rr.com' <ckeller3@twcny.rr.com>

Subject: You can win, easily & without \$, against D.A. Fitzpatrick -- ALL it takes is "whistleblowing" as to the open-and-shut, prima facie EVIDENCE" of his corruption as chair of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption

TO: Onondaga District Attorney Candidate Charles Keller –

Following up our phone conversation a short time ago (315-450-3846) – aided by your visit to the Center for Judicial Accountability's website, www.judgewatch.org – here's the direct link to the webpage I showed you that I had created to enable you to WIN against Onondaga County District Attorney Fitzpatrick: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/elections/2019/fitzpatrick.htm>.

Winning will not require you to expend lots of campaign money -- or, for that matter, any money. All it requires is using the "bully-pulpit" of your candidacy to "whistle-blow" about the open-and-shut, prima facie EVIDENCE of Fitzpatrick's corruption as chair of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption. For starters, here's the direct link to the webpage of my September 17, 2013 testimony before him and the Commission, posting, in addition to the VIDEO, the primary-source EVIDENCE I furnished in substantiation: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/people-evidence/sassower-elena.htm>.

As promised, I am also sending, by the below and attached, my August 2019 published letter in the New York Law Journal about the significance of CJA's second citizen-taxpayer action, now before the New York Court of Appeals. As discussed, that citizen-taxpayer action encompasses and expands upon a first citizen-taxpayer action, whose origin was the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption's pretense that the EVIDENCE I furnished it on September 17, 2013 and thereafter, pertaining to the larceny of taxpayer monies arising from the Commission on Judicial Compensation's "force of law" August 29, 2011 report recommending judicial pay raises and the slush-fund state budget "falls outside of our mandate" (1st citizen-taxpayer action, March 28, 2014 verified complaint at para. 5(i) [p. 7]).

The details of the corruption of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption are laid out, with substantiating proof, in CJA's motion to intervene in the Legislature's declaratory judgment action against it. The direct link to the record is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/holding-to-account/intervention-declaratory-judgment.htm>.

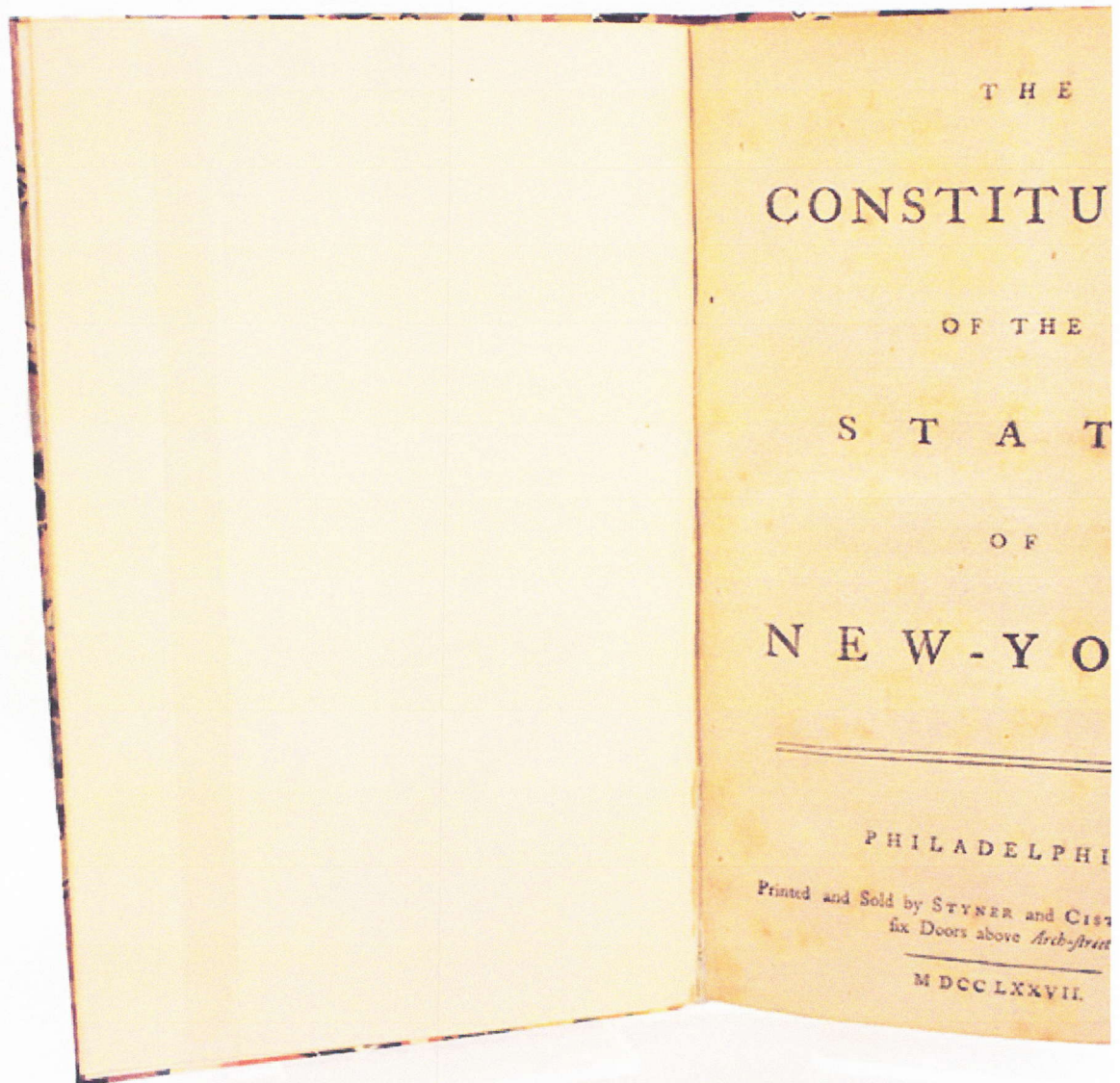
I am available to assist you, to the max.

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A Call for Scholarship, Civic Engagement & Amicus Curiae Before the NYCOA

Where are the voices of the scholars of the New York state constitution and other experts of law and political science about the "clear violation" that has been going on in statutorily delegating legislative powers to commissions?

By Elena Sassower | August 20, 2019 at 02:26 PM



The Constitution of the State New York, 1777. Photo: The Library Company of Philadelphia Constitution Center

New York—the “Excelsior State”—has 13 law schools, a 70,000-plus-member state bar association, countless county, city and specialized bar associations, a vast array of universities, colleges and other schools with scholars of constitutional law and political science, as well as think tanks and research institutes. Yet, it was solo practitioner Roger Bennet Adler who sounded the alarm by his recent perspective column entitled [“It’s Legally Perilous to Have a Commission Responsible for Election Laws”](#) whose internet subtitle (8/9/19) and stand-out text in its print edition (8/13/19) was even more stark, reading: “Simply put, there are no available legislative shortcuts around the State Constitution. The recent attempts to ignore it to raise legislative and executive salaries via an appointed commission is in clear violation.”

Where are the voices of the scholars of the New York state constitution and other experts of law and political science about the “clear violation” that has been going on in statutorily delegating legislative powers to commissions? The most cursory investigation would reveal it to be even more flagrantly unconstitutional than what Mr. Adler so admirably describes.

I should know. For more than seven years, I have been single-handedly litigating its unconstitutionality and unlawfulness, as written, as applied and by its enactment in three major lawsuits, brought expressly “on behalf of the

People of the State of New York & the Public Interest,” The third of these lawsuits, encompassing the prior two, is now before the New York Court of Appeals, appealing by right and by leave the Appellate Division, Third Department’s December 27, 2018 decision in *Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. v. Cuomo*, 167 A.D.3d 1406.

This is the decision Mr. Adler identifies and describes as being one of three decisions cited by Albany Supreme Court Justice Ryba in her June 7, 2019 decision upholding the constitutionality of the statutory delegation of legislative power challenged in *Delgado v. State of New York*. In fact, *CJA v. Cuomo* is the first decision to which Justice Ryba cites—and eight times in total—because it is the decision on which she relies, involving, as it does, a materially identical statute. As for Mr. Adler’s description that the *CJA v. Cuomo* decision “upheld the delegation to the commission to increasing judicial salaries”—implying that it did not uphold delegation of legislative and executive salaries, this is incorrect. It upheld these, as well.

The shocking record of *CJA v. Cuomo*—including before the Court of Appeals—is accessible from the [Center for Judicial Accountability’s website](#) and powerfully refutes Mr. Adler’s assertion that “legislating by proxy commissioners, is doomed to failure when judicially challenged.”

Likewise, his further comment that a newly-commenced lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the Public Campaign Financing and Election Commission “is an initial salvo in a legal struggle to vindicate the plain words of the State Constitution, and hold the Legislature constitutionally accountable.”

I invite Mr. Adler to join with me in rallying scholars, experts and just plain civic-minded attorneys to examine and report on the record and to file amicus curiae briefs with the Court of Appeals. Especially is this important because *CJA v. Cuomo* is dispositive of *Delgado* and of the five current other lawsuits challenging delegations of legislative power to commissions/committees—a fact I stated to the Court of Appeals, most recently by an August 9, 2019 letter—without contest from the Attorney General.

Elena Sassower is the director of the Center for Judicial Accountability.