

## Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 1, 2019 12:36 AM  
**To:** 'roterb@strose.edu'; 'fanechia@hamilton.edu'; 'tbass@albany.edu'; 'AlbanyMPC@gmail.com'  
**Cc:** 'rsmith@timesunion.com'; 'cseiler@timesunion.com'; 'jimmy.vielkind@wsj.com'; 'dfriedfel@cbcny.org'; 'berit.berger@law.columbia.edu'; 'jrodgers@law.columbia.edu'; 'rb34@columbia.edu'; 'richard.faughnan@kroll.com'; 'dfeldman@jjay.cuny.edu'; 'rgoldstock@pjlaw.com'; 'jjaffe@guidepostsolutions.com'; 'president@cicu.com'; 'emorgese@cicu.org'  
**Subject:** Achieving the Goal of Today's May 1, 2019 Forum -- "Finding Our Way: Rebuilding Ethics in New York State"  
**Attachments:** 3-31-16-email-to-groups-scholars.pdf; 8-6-17-email-seiler-fake-news.pdf; constitutional-provisions.pdf

### **TO: Museum of Political Corruption Founders & Trustees Bruce Roter, Frank Anechiarico, and Thomas Bass**

This follows up the voice mail message I left for Professors Roter and Bass, at approximately 3:30 yesterday afternoon, which I was unable to leave for Professor Anechiarico, as his voice mail does not take messages.

I am the director and co-founder of a non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA), which, for nearly thirty years, has documented that the judiciary "throws" cases by fraudulent judicial decisions, aided and abetted by the legislative and executive branches. Our website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), posts this documentation for *independent* verification by those in positions of power and leadership. The most spectacular of this documentation, as pertains to New York State, is NOW before the New York Court of Appeals in connection with an appeal of right on the constitutional issues directly involved. The appeal is of a citizen-taxpayer action which CJA commenced in September 2016 "on behalf of the People of the State of New York & the Public Interest", challenging the constitutionality and lawfulness of the state budget and the commission-based pay raises it embeds, in which the constitutional officers of New York's three branches are all interested and all now benefitting.

The direct link to the record before the Court of Appeals is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2nd/record-ct-of-appeals.htm> -- and from it you can confirm that, in one fell swoop, our citizen-taxpayer action is poised to knock out Albany's "culture of corruption", including the reviled "three-men-in-a-room" budget deal-making and the Legislature's closed-door party conferences that substitute for open legislative committee meetings. You can also confirm, from such other links as this: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/press-suppression/nys-press-outreach/ny-fake-news-corruption-abetting-press.htm> and this: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/menu-budget-reform.htm>, as well as the above attached, that the reason the citizen-taxpayer action has not already done so is because the media has willfully refused to report on the case, and scholars, academic institutes, and so-called "good government" organizations have willfully refused to comment upon the case – or upon our predecessor citizen-taxpayer action, which it embodies – and which we commenced in March 2014 after the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption fraudulently purported that it had no jurisdiction to investigate the evidence of corruption we had furnished it.

It is as a result of this willful nonfeasance by media, academia, and so-called "good government" organizations that you presumably know nothing about our citizen-taxpayer actions – or about our April 2014 order to show cause to intervene in the Legislature's declaratory judgment action against the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption, particularizing its corruption, born of flagrant conflicts of interests – or about our declaratory judgment action, commenced in March 2012, against New York's three government branches for colluding against the People concerning judicial pay raises and the August 2011 report of the Commission on Judicial Compensation which secured them by statutory violations, fraud,

and unconstitutionality. Common to the media, academia, and the “good government” organizations is that they care not a whit that each lawsuit has been “thrown” by fraudulent judicial decisions, in collusion with the state attorney general, who, having no legitimate defense, has corrupted the judicial process by litigation fraud. This includes participants in today’s May 1st forum “*Finding Our Way: Rebuilding Ethics in New York State*”, which The Museum on Political Corruption has organized with The Albany Times Union. Chief among these participants:

Albany Times Union Editor **Rex Smith**;

Albany Times Union Managing Editor **Casey Seiler**;

Former Albany Times Union reporter **Jimmy Vielkind**, thereafter at Politico, now with The Wall Street Journal;

**David Friedfel**, Director of State Studies of the Citizens Budget Commission and, formerly a deputy director of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee;

**Berit Berger, Esq.**, Executive Director of Columbia Law School’s Center for the Advancement of Public Integrity (CAPI);

**Jennifer Rodgers, Esq.**, CAPI’s former Executive Director, now a professor at Columbia Law School, in addition to being a member of CAPI’s advisory board;

**Richard Briffault, Esq.**, a professor of legislation and government law at Columbia Law School, who had been a member of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption and who is a member of CAPI’s advisory board.

All seven know – from what we have furnished them – that it is an “easy lift” to extirpate the public corruption that plagues this state. All it requires is confronting the EVIDENCE about what has been going on – and devising strategies based thereon. This they refuse to do – because they are compromised by a panoply of conflicts of interest which they do not disclose. Indeed, if these seven are, as the forum notice describes, “some of the brightest minds”, they are certainly NOT the ones “already working to weed out the bad actors and infuse a renewed sense of ethical behavior at every level”.

Indeed, their unethical behavior is reflected by my below e-mail, sent over 14 hours ago, at 9:48 a.m. yesterday, to Professors Berger, Rodgers, and Briffault – to which I have received no response – pertaining to my request for CAPI’s *amicus curiae* support and other assistance for the citizen-taxpayer action’s appeal of right and for scholarship.

By the way, two days ago, I left a voice mail message for Mr. Friedfel, to verify that he had received the e-mails I had sent him on April 23, 2019, requesting the Citizens Budget Commission’s *amicus curiae* support and other assistance for the appeal of right and scholarship – as I had received no response from him – and reiterating the conflict-of-interest issue I had raised last year, by an August 13, 2018 e-mail to him and others at the Citizens Budget Commission, to which I had received no response. The webpage on which these are both posted is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-organizations/citizens-budget-commission.htm>.

Time does not permit more to be written. However, the foregoing, with its links to the record of CJA’s citizen-taxpayer action provides the “needed framework for a better future for our state”. This “framework” are declarations by the Court of Appeals of the issues of constitutional construction directly involved. The “brightest minds” forum participants, particularly the above seven who have known of the lawsuit’s ten corruption-eradicating causes of action, for years, should be expected to address them – beginning with CJA’s ninth cause of action challenge to the constitutionality of “three-men-in-a-room” budget deal-making. To enable them to do this – and to respond to the above recitation of their complicity in, and cover-up of, systemic governmental corruption, I am cc’ing them on this e-mail. As I do not have an e-mail address for Steven M. Pasichow, kindly forward this to him.

I am available to assist The Museum of Political Corruption, to the fullest, in ensuring the accuracy of its exhibits and programming, in fulfillment of its mission of “educating and empowering the public by providing a better understanding of political corruption, and encouraging solutions that promote ethics reform and honest governance.”

Thank you.

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

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 9:48 AM  
**To:** 'Berit Berger' <[berit.berger@law.columbia.edu](mailto:berit.berger@law.columbia.edu)>  
**Cc:** 'capi@law.columbia.edu' <[capi@law.columbia.edu](mailto:capi@law.columbia.edu)>; 'etp2113@columbia.edu' <[etp2113@columbia.edu](mailto:etp2113@columbia.edu)>; 'jrodgers@law.columbia.edu' <[jrodgers@law.columbia.edu](mailto:jrodgers@law.columbia.edu)>; 'rb34@columbia.edu' <[rb34@columbia.edu](mailto:rb34@columbia.edu)>

**Subject: What Time are You Available TODAY for our Phone Conversation? -- Request for Amicus Curiae Support & Scholarship: Citizen-Taxpayer Action, NOW at the Court of Appeals, Suing All 3 NYS Gov't Branches for Corruption with respect to the NYS budget --**

Dear Berit,

What happened to our yesterday's phone conversation? At 12:28 pm yesterday, I sent you the below e-mail. I received no response. Did you not receive it? When I thereafter telephoned, at approximately 2:20 pm, to the phone number you had indicated, I only got your voice mail. Did you not get my message? I received no call back – nor voice mail message, nor e-mail. Did you not try to reach me?

What time today would be convenient for our phone conversation together? Obviously, tomorrow, May 1<sup>st</sup>, will not fit your schedule, as you will be in Albany for the forum “Finding Our Way: Rebuilding Ethics in New York State” – at which you and Professor Jennifer Rodgers are “keynote” speakers – and Professor Richard Briffault a participant in the panel on preventing conflicts of interest: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-our-way-rebuilding-ethics-in-new-york-state-tickets-59328622507?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.

**By the way, have you shared my below April 16<sup>th</sup> and April 26<sup>th</sup> e-mails with Ms. Rodgers and Professor Briffault, each members of CAPI's advisory board. How about with CAPI's other advisory board members? Who is it, at CAPI, who will be determining my request for its *amicus curiae* support and other assistance for CJA's citizen-taxpayer action – and for scholarship. What disclosure have they – and you – made, consistent with CAPI's “Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Policies”, set forth on its website: <https://www.law.columbia.edu/public-integrity/about/conflict-interest-policy> and embracing that of Columbia University: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/vpaa/handbook/appendix.html>.**

Suffice to say, the citizen-taxpayer action now before the Court of Appeals arises from Professor Briffault's violation of his scholarly and ethical obligations in 2012 – inexplicable except as a manifestation of conflict of interest – thereafter compounded in 2013-2014 by his complicity, as a member of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption, in its flagrant violation of conflict of interest rules.

To date, there has been NO investigative scholarship of the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption. That CAPI did NONE during the five years of Ms. Rodgers' tenure as executive director may reflect her knowledge – based upon my contact with CAPI in its early years – that ANY competent scholarship would reveal the Commission's unconstitutionality, fraudulence, and violation of conflict of interest rules – such as particularized by my April 23, 2014

order to show cause to intervene in the Legislature's declaratory judgment action against the Commission: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/holding-to-account/intervention-declaratory-judgment.htm>. Certainly, this was already evident from the VIDEO of my September 17, 2013 testimony before the Commission and my August 5, 2013 letter to which I referred in testifying – both accessible, since 2013, from CJA's homepage [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), along with the primary-source, EVIDENCE I furnished the Commission in substantiation. Indeed, clear from the description of my prior contact with Professor Briffault in my August 5, 2013 letter (at pp. 7-8), is that scholarship of the Commission would not reflect well on him.

**So that Professor Briffault and Ms. Rodgers may respond as to the disclosure appropriate to my below request for CAPI's *amicus curiae* support and other assistance for the citizen-taxpayer action and for scholarship, a copy of this e-mail is being sent to them.** For their convenience and yours, the direct link to CJA's webpage of my substantial correspondence with Professor Briffault, commencing in 2012, is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-academia/briffault-richard.htm> and the direct link to CJA's webpage with the VIDEO of my September 17, 2013 testimony before the Commission to Investigate Public Corruption, at which Professor Briffault was present, is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/commission-to-investigate-public-corruption/people-evidence/sassower-elena.htm>

Thank you.

Elena  
914-421-1200

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 29, 2019 12:28 PM  
**To:** 'Berit Berger' <[berit.berger@law.columbia.edu](mailto:berit.berger@law.columbia.edu)>  
**Cc:** 'etp2113@columbia.edu' <[etp2113@columbia.edu](mailto:etp2113@columbia.edu)>

**Subject: Today's Phone Conversation -- RE: Wonderful! -- RE: STATUS? -- Request for Amicus Curiae Support & Scholarship: Citizen-Taxpayer Action, NOW at the Court of Appeals, Suing All 3 NYS Gov't Branches for Corruption with respect to the NYS budget --**

Dear Berit,

I believe you may have inadvertently misread my e-mail stating that I would not be available from 12:30 – 2:30 pm today. Are you available to speak with me by phone between 2:30 and 3 pm?

Thanks.

Elena  
914-421-1200

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**From:** Berit Berger <[berit.berger@law.columbia.edu](mailto:berit.berger@law.columbia.edu)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2019 9:46 PM  
**To:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Wonderful! -- RE: STATUS? -- Request for Amicus Curiae Support & Scholarship: Citizen-Taxpayer Action, NOW at the Court of Appeals, Suing All 3 NYS Gov't Branches for Corruption with respect to the NYS budget --

Elena,

I could speak Monday around 2:00 PM. You can reach me at 212-854-8379.

Warm regards,

Berit Berger

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On Fri, Apr 26, 2019 at 9:14 PM Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)> wrote:

Thank you. I will accommodate whatever time works best for you. I am available throughout the day on Monday – except for an engagement from 12:30 – 2:30 pm. Just e-mail me the time that is most convenient – and whether I should call you or you will call me.

So that you can see what's been happening with my other outreach efforts – including with regard to the “reform-oriented civil society organizations” referred-to at page 3 of CAPI’s 2018 report on “Oversight and Enforcement of Public Integrity” in New York State – here’s the link to the webpage where it’s all posted: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2nd/ct-appeals/ct-appeals-outreach-for-amicus.htm>.

With you and CAPI leading the way – with scholarship, *amicus curiae*, and journalism – the citizen-taxpayer action can EASILY achieve the HUGE corruption-eradicating potential that is evident from the record: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2nd/record-ct-of-appeals.htm>. I so look forward to discussing it, with you – starting with the ninth cause of action pertaining to the unconstitutionality of three-men-in-a-room budget deal-making, *as unwritten and as applied*, discussed at pages 19-21 of my March 26, 2019 letter to the Court of Appeals, in support of the appeal of right – and annexed thereto as Exhibit B: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2nd/ct-appeals/3-26-19-ltr.htm>.

Again, thank you.

Elena

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**From:** Berit Berger <[berit.berger@law.columbia.edu](mailto:berit.berger@law.columbia.edu)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2019 8:01 PM

**To:** [elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)

**Subject:** Fwd: STATUS? -- Request for Amicus Curiae Support & Scholarship: Citizen-Taxpayer Action, NOW at the Court of Appeals, Suing All 3 NYS Gov't Branches for Corruption with respect to the NYS budget -- & the commission-based pay raises it gives them

Elena,

I understand you reached out. I would be happy to speak with you about your requests. Is there a good time on Monday?

Best regards,

Berit

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. \ (CJA)" <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Date:** April 26, 2019 at 1:46:31 PM EDT  
**To:** <[etp2113@columbia.edu](mailto:etp2113@columbia.edu)>  
**Subject:** STATUS? -- Request for Amicus Curiae Support & Scholarship: Citizen-Taxpayer Action, NOW at the Court of Appeals, Suing All 3 NYS Gov't Branches for Corruption with respect to the NYS budget -- & the commission-based pay raises it gives them

Re-sent. Let's see if it arrives!

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2019 1:42 PM  
**To:** '[etp2113@law.columbia.edu](mailto:etp2113@law.columbia.edu)' <[etp2113@law.columbia.edu](mailto:etp2113@law.columbia.edu)>  
**Cc:** '[capi@law.columbia.edu](mailto:capi@law.columbia.edu)' <[capi@law.columbia.edu](mailto:capi@law.columbia.edu)>  
**Subject:** STATUS? -- Request for Amicus Curiae Support & Scholarship: Citizen-Taxpayer Action, NOW at the Court of Appeals, Suing All 3 NYS Gov't Branches for Corruption with respect to the NYS budget -- & the commission-based pay raises it gives them

**TO: Center for the Advancement of Public Integrity (CAPI)/Columbia University Law School**  
Research Fellow Edward Popovici, Esq.

Following up our phone conversation this morning, below is the e-mail I sent ten days ago to Executive Director Berit Berger – to which I received no response – and about which I called, two days ago, leaving a voice mail message, to which I received no response.

Did she respond? And if not, why not.

As discussed, it is not difficult to END the systemic public corruption that plagues New York state government. What it requires is that academic institutes – such as CAPI – engage in **scholarship based on primary source, empirical EVIDENCE – and build advocacy and strategies based thereon**. Illustrative of the kind of rock-solid EVIDENCE I am talking about is that which our non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA), has offered to CAPI. It "blows to smithereens" CAPI's superficial, assumption-laden 2018 report on "*Oversight and Enforcement of Public Integrity*" in New York State, whose annotating footnotes are mostly to news reporting and commission/committee reports, whose accuracy, methodologies, and integrity it does not investigate: <https://www.law.columbia.edu/capi-map#capi-mapinfo>. Likely, CJA's treasure-trove of EVIDENCE would have the same effect with regard to your article on the Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct – and CAPI's February 2019 program about DAASNY's lawsuit against it, featuring DAASNY President Albany County D.A. Soares. Perhaps you will send me links so I can verify this.

So that you can begin your *own* verification – and the necessary scholarship flowing therefrom – here are some links from CJA's website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), that will surely be relevant – and which will lead you to scores of other valuable links, with EVIDENCE galore:

**My FULLY-DOCUMENTED October 14, 2016 conflict-of-interest/misconduct complaint against Albany District Attorney Soares and his fellow New York district attorneys – including those, like himself, who were members of the Commission to Investigate**

Public Corruption, filed with New York's attorney grievance committees: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/oct-14-2016-district-attorney-complaint/menu-oct-14-2016-complaint.htm> – whose beginning recitation is about the district attorneys' opposition to the then-proposed Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct at the Legislature's June 8, 2016 public forum on the Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct – & whose links include to CJA's webpage for the VIDEO of that public forum & my October 5, 2016 e-mail to Assemblyman Nick Perry's Legislative Director about it: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/full-time-legislators/comm-prosecutorial-conduct.htm>;

**My FULLY-DOCUMENTED March 6, 2018 corruption complaint against all the public officers that D.A. Soares has been "protecting" since 2013, filed with him and seeking enforcement of "The Public Trust Act" (Penal Law §496 "corrupting government") – which, like my prior July 19, 2013, January 7, 2014, and June 21, 2016 corruption complaints – D.A. Soares has been "sitting on":** <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2018-legislature/enforcing-public-trust-act.htm>.

All this underlies – and has led to – the citizen-taxpayer action that is now before the New York Court of Appeals, on an appeal of right – for which I am seeking CAPI's *amicus curiae* support and other assistance, as set forth by the below.

Thank you.  
Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
[www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org)  
914-421-1200

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 16, 2019 4:15 PM  
**To:** '[capi@law.columbia.edu](mailto:capi@law.columbia.edu)' <[capi@law.columbia.edu](mailto:capi@law.columbia.edu)>

**Subject: Request for Amicus Curiae Support & Scholarship: Citizen-Taxpayer Action, NOW at the Court of Appeals, Suing All 3 NYS Gov't Branches for Corruption with respect to the NYS budget -- & the commission-based pay raises it gives them**

TO: Center for the Advancement of Public Integrity (CAPI)/Columbia University Law School  
Executive Director Berit Berger

This follows up my phone conversation this morning with Program Officer Rosie Fatt, who spoke with me at fair length, doing the necessary intake to assist you.

The reason for my call was, in the first instance, to speak with you about a monumental citizen-taxpayer action, now at the New York Court of Appeals, suing the constitutional officers of New York's three government branches for corruption with respect to the state budget and the commission-based salary increases it embeds -- of which they are all now beneficiaries.

The lawsuit, presenting ten causes of action – including the first-ever-cause of action to challenge the constitutionality of “three-men-in-a-room” budget deal-making – is before the Court of Appeals on an appeal of right – and I am requesting that CAPI file an *amicus curiae* brief in support. As I showed Rosie, the full lawsuit record is accessible from CJA’s website, [www.judgewatch.org](http://www.judgewatch.org), via the prominent center link: “CJA’s Citizen-Taxpayer Actions to End NYS’ Corrupt Budget ‘Process’ and Unconstitutional ‘Three-Men-in-a-Room’ Governance”. For your convenience, the direct link to the webpage for my March 26, 2019 letter to the Court of Appeals in support of the appeal of right is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2nd/ct-appeals/3-26-19-ltr.htm>. It furnishes all the relevant facts and law. However, as I showed Rosie, you will also want to examine my April 11, 2019 letter to the Court: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2nd/ct-appeals/4-11-19-ltr-to-ct-appeals.htm>, as it not only details the state of the record, *vis-à-vis* the Attorney General’s opposition to the appeal of right, but identifies an issue impacting on CAPI’s work to secure public campaign financing, namely, the unconstitutionality of the commission on public campaign financing, inserted into the 2019-2020 revenue budget bill, following this year’s “three-men-in-a-room” budget deal-making.

I also explained to Rosie that quite apart from my *amicus curiae* request, the second reason for my call was to furnish CAPI with primary-source, empirical evidence for scholarship – as it is plain that its 2018 study of “Oversight and Enforcement of Public Integrity” in New York is not so-based: <https://www.law.columbia.edu/capi-map#capi-mapinfo>. Indeed, the record of CJA’s citizen-taxpayer action – and the underlying documentary evidence on which it rests: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/menu-ny-judicial-compensation.htm> – “blows to smithereens” CAPI’s 2018 New York study, beginning with the entities it identifies as part of New York’s “substantial anti-corruption system” and “Oversight Structure”: the Attorney General and Comptroller. This, because the Attorney General and Comptroller are each defendants-appellants in the citizen-taxpayer action, with the Attorney General, additionally, counsel.

Obviously, time is of the essence with regard to this *amicus curiae* request. Inasmuch as CAPI’s study asserts:

“New York State’s corruption issues have received unusual attention from scholars and activists, due to the state’s position as a financial, cultural, and intellectual hub. Factors commonly cited as contributing to corruption in the state include: concentration of power – particularly budgetary discretion – in the ‘three men in a room’ (governor, senate majority leader, and assembly speaker)...and the lack of press coverage of Albany”,

can CAPI assist us in building a coalition of such “scholars and activists” who, together with CAPI, will file an *amicus* brief on the corruption and constitutional issues – including as to the unconstitutionality of “three men in a room” budget deal-making? Will CAPI contact them, on our behalf? How about New York’s bar associations – and, additionally, the “many reform-oriented civil society organizations” in New York, so-identified by CAPI’s study. How about press coverage? Certainly, CAPI can easily reach out to Columbia’s journalism programs, including its Graduate School of Journalism, to find student journalists to investigate and report on CJA’s extraordinary, corruption-ending case, could it not?

I look forward to hearing from you, as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
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914-421-1200