

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Tim Hoefer <tim=empirecenter.org@mail25.sea21.rsgsv.net> on behalf of Tim Hoefer <tim@empirecenter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 10:10 AM
To: elena@judgewatch.org
Subject: A legal challenge to government overreach



Elena,

At the Empire Center, we work hard to develop the public policy research and data New Yorkers need to keep government in its rightful place—fully accountable to taxpayers.

Sometimes, however, information alone isn't enough. When state and local agencies violate the law and exceed the limits of their power, the fight for accountability must move into court.

That's where the new Government Justice Center comes in.

The [Government Justice Center](#) was established this year as an independent, non-profit, non-partisan organization focused on bringing legal challenges to government overreach. Led by its executive director and general counsel, Cameron J. "Cam" Macdonald, the Center's mission is to protect New York taxpayers from government waste, negligence, misappropriation and other improper actions.

In May, the Government Justice Center [filed its first lawsuit](#), challenging the practice in which some government employees in New York are paid for work on labor union business. The case—focused on taxpayer-funded “release time” for the president of the Syracuse teachers’ union—is now heading to appeal from the State Supreme Court.

Today, the Center [filed a suit](#) against one of New York's largest county governments, Suffolk County on Long Island, seeking to overturn their recent illegal imposition of new or added fees to raise general revenue. This case also has potentially broader implications

for other counties and local governments across our state.

Because the mission of the Government Justice Center fits so well with our mission here at the Empire Center, I'm proud to serve as president of the Center's board of directors—and I thought you might be interested in learning about its activities.

To stay informed about the Government Justice Center, [click here to sign up for its email updates](#).

Best,



Tim Hoefer
Executive Director
Empire Center for Public Policy

Empire Center for Public Policy

Albany, New York

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