

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2017 9:40 AM
To: 'ccampanile@nypost.com'
Cc: 'kconley@nypost.com'
Subject: Please advise: GIVING YOU THE LEAD: The Legislature's UNCERTIFIED/SLUSH-FUND BUDGET -- Follow-up to Kristan Conley's article: "Breakaway State Senate Dems cost taxpayers 2.2M a year" (5/15/17)
Attachments: 1-30-17-statement-supplementing-testimony.pdf; 2-3-17-hand-out-red-alert.pdf

Dear Mr. Campanile,

When I called you on Thursday, May 18th regarding the below, you stated to me that you had not yet had an opportunity to review it. Have you since reviewed it?

Please confirm – and that you will be writing a story about the UNCERTIFIED legislative budget – and the countless millions of dollars of legislative reappropriations, snuck into the back of Governor Cuomo's Legislative/Judiciary budget bill, as to which neither Temporary Senate President Skelos, nor Assembly Speaker Heastie, nor any other legislator gives testimony at the Legislative budget hearings.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [mailto:elena@judgewatch.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 11:25 AM
To: 'ccampanile@nypost.com' <ccampanile@nypost.com>
Cc: 'kconley@nypost.com' <kconley@nypost.com>

Subject: GIVING YOU THE LEAD: The Legislature's UNCERTIFIED/SLUSH-FUND BUDGET -- Follow-up to Kristan Conley's article: "Breakaway State Senate Dems cost taxpayers 2.2M a year" (5/15/17)

Dear Mr. Campanile,

Following up our brief phone conversation, in which you asked me if there was any lawsuit challenging the legislative budget, the answer, which I showed you from the Center for Judicial Accountability's website, www.judgewatch.org, is YES! YES! YES!

The lawsuit is a citizen-taxpayer action – and I testified about it at the Senate and Assembly budget hearings on January 30th & January 31st. Here's the direct link to CJA's webpage with the VIDEOS: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2017-legislature/budget-hearings.htm>. My January 30th written statement is attached. Not only is it EXCLUSIVELY focused on the legislative budget, but it presented 26 "Questions that Legislators & Appropriate Committees Should be Asking Temporary Senate President John Flanagan and Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie about their Proposed Legislative Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 & Legislative/Judiciary Budget Bill #S.2001/A.3001" – not a single one of which was ever publicly asked or answered.

These 26 questions are ready-made for you to ask – and will enable you to rapidly expose the far larger scandal of the UNCERTIFIED & CONTRIVED, SLUSH-FUND LEGISLATIVE BUDGET – whose dollar amount, including reappropriations, is completely UNKNOWN.

The particulars are set forth at ¶¶117-129 and 148-149, 152-160, 162-163 of our March 29, 2017 verified supplemental complaint and in its reiterated first and third causes of action (pp. 63, 64-65). The link to our webpage of the March 29, 2017 verified complaint is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2016/9-2-16-osc-complaint/3-29-17-osc.htm>.

As to our SUMMARY JUDGMENT ENTITLEMENT to a court order enjoining disbursement of monies to the Legislature because, inter alia, its budget is NOT CERTIFIED – which is part of the relief sought by the sixth branch of our March 29, 2017 order to show cause, here's the link to the webpage of plaintiffs' May 15, 2017 reply papers: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/2016/5-15-17-reply.htm>. (See plaintiffs' May 17, 2017 memorandum of law – pp. 41-48.

I am available to be assist you, to the max – to answer questions and to be interviewed. Meantime, I have also attached Article VII, §§1-7 and Article III, §10 of the New York State Constitution, about which I testified on January 31st, as likewise on January 30th, stating that the budget was “OFF THE CONSTITUTIONAL RAILS.”

Thank you.

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 10:08 AM
To: 'kconley@nypost.com' kconley@nypost.com

Subject: Follow-up: your article: "Breakaway State Senate Dems cost taxpayers 2.2M a year" (5/15/17)

Dear Ms. Conley,

RE: Your article, “Breakaway State Senate Dems cost taxpayers 2.2M a year”: <http://nypost.com/2017/05/15/state-senate-dems-conference-costs-taxpayers-2-2m-a-year/>.

You write, “Members of the IDC and GOP insist the money comes from the Senate’s overall budget and would be added to one of the two other parties’ spending pots if the IDC didn’t spend it.”

I have important information to furnish you on that subject -- & substantiating documents.

As I’d like to give you the lead on the far larger scandal of the UNCERTIFIED, SLUSH-FUND legislative budget, please call me, as soon as possible.

Thank you.

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