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May 8, 2026

TO: U.S. District Court Judge Kenneth Karas

FROM: Elena Sassower, Plaintiff *Pro Se*

RE: *CJA, et al. v. LCA, et al.* (25-CV-8370)
Reiterating Plaintiffs' February 23, 2026 Letter "Awaiting the Court's ruling on
plaintiffs' December 19, 2025 affidavit demonstrating subject matter jurisdiction –
& extending their time to effect service on the 34 defendants", PLUS Threshold
Issues of the Court's Demonstrated Actual Bias & Duty of Disclosure

In response to [plaintiffs' February 23rd letter](#) entitled "Awaiting the Court's ruling on plaintiffs' December 19, 2025 affidavit demonstrating subject matter jurisdiction – & extending their time to effect service on the 34 defendants", the Court affixed, at the end, a [March 2nd annotation](#) reading:

"The Court is aware of Plaintiff's response to the Court's November 2025 Order and will address the question of jurisdiction in short order. This is not the only case on the Court's docket. Plaintiff is asked to refrain from reminding the Court about what is already known to the Court.

So Ordered."

Presumably, "the Court's docket" was no less voluminous six months ago when the Court deemed this lawsuit such a priority that within three days of the Court being assigned the case on November 10th and without waiting for defendants to be served, it issued a four-page *sua sponte* [November 13th Order](#) requiring me to show cause by December 15th why plaintiffs' October 29th verified amended complaint should not be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction – and then adhered to this priority status by a four-page [December 5th Order](#) which, ignoring the request in my [November 19th letter](#) for a 30-day extension because I had a December 18th deadline at the Appellate Division, Third Department in [CJA v. Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation, et al.](#), gave me but a single day beyond that deadline to file the show cause affidavit.

To accommodate the Court's priority approach to this case, I furnished the Court with my show cause affidavit, in draft, by a [December 10th letter](#), stating:

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“...it would be most helpful if the Court would confirm that such drafted affidavit, when I have signed and filed it in support of plaintiffs’ [October 29th verified amended complaint](#), will suffice to establish the Court’s subject matter jurisdiction – or else identify what further elaboration the Court deems necessary at this ‘pleading stage’. *Baur v. Veneman*, 352 F.3d 625, 636-37 (2d Cir. 2003).” (p. 8, hyperlinks in the original, corrected spelling of *Baur*).

The Court did not respond to my December 10th letter – and the ONLY response to my signed and filed [December 19th affidavit](#) was the Court’s March 2nd so-ordered annotation that it would “address the question of jurisdiction in short order.” That was more than two months ago.

With all respect, what “question of jurisdiction” needs to be addressed? Based on my December 19th affidavit, presumably read by the Court on that date or shortly thereafter, wasn’t it IMMEDIATELY obvious that I and CJA had met our burden of demonstrating injury and standing, which was the subject matter jurisdiction inquiry raised by the Court’s *sua sponte* November 13th Order. Couldn’t the Court have simply stated this in a single sentence – followed by a second sentence extending plaintiffs’ time within which to serve defendants by 30 days?

And wasn’t the imperative of such straight-forward, speedy disposition reinforced by my [February 23rd letter](#), giving notice to the Court of the further injury being suffered, as follows:

“Meanwhile, defendants’ *knowingly* false, ‘fake news’, corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism, destroying constitutional, lawful governance in New York State – the subject of plaintiffs’ [October 29, 2025 verified amended complaint, refiled on January 5, 2026, with Mr. Zerman’s signature](#) — is continuing, unabated, now with respect to the FY2026-27 state budget and the 2026 elections for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller, all 213 state legislative seats, and for district attorney in roughly a dozen and a half counties throughout the state.

The Court’s expedition is urgently required and respectfully requested.” (italics, hyperlinking, and underlining in the original).

Here’s the evidence substantiating such continuing injury, embodied by my [April 14th e-mail to the Defendant Legislative Correspondents Association’s \(LCA’s\) roster of reporters](#),¹ stating:

“Following up my [January 29th e-mail](#), [March 13th e-mail](#), and [April 7th e-mail](#) to you pertaining to the FY2026-27 state budget and this year’s electoral races, which you have ignored, *in toto*, in reporting on the state budget as if there is nothing unconstitutional, unlawful, fraudulent, and larcenous about it, and in reporting on the races for governor, attorney general, comptroller, and state legislative seats, as

¹

The roster I used was from the LCA’s new website, www.nyslca.org.

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if the incumbents running for re-election can be re-elected, when the evidence furnished you establishes, open and-shut, that all incumbents must be indicted for corruption pertaining to the budget – and will be convicted – below, with the above-attached, is my today's e-mail to New York's 62 district attorneys and their institutional entity, the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York, to which the New York State Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct is cc'd.

If it is your intention to continue to conceal and affirmatively misrepresent the situation by your journalism, please, as previously requested, immediately forward this e-mail to the highest editors and managerial levels of your respective publications, including counsel, so that there is no question of their knowledge of, and liability for, your corruption-abetting, election-rigging, journalistic fraud, having no First Amendment protection.

I am available to answer questions. Don't you have any?"

I also sent e-mails to ten additional defendants not listed on the LCA roster:

- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant Wall Street Journal](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant Daily News](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant The City](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant WINS NY 1010 News Radio](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant WPIX-NY Channel 11 News](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendants WCBS-NY Channel 2 News & CBS News](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant WNBC-NY Channel 4 News](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant WNET/NY Channel Thirteen](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant Schneps Media](#);
- an [April 17th e-mail to Defendant CUNY Graduate School of Journalism](#).

The e-mail to Defendant [Wall Street Journal](#), essentially identical to the other nine e-mails,² stated:

² I also sent a comparably identical [April 17th e-mail to Defendant Crains New York Business](#), not realizing that a [Crains](#) reporter was listed on the LCA roster on its new website, to whom I had sent my [April 14th e-mail](#).

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“I have received no responses from you to my March 16th e-mail entitled ‘The NYS Budget – & the 2026 Elections for ALL 213 Legislative Seats, & for Gov, Lt. Gov, AG, Comptroller, D.A.s & Judges’. Is there anything that didn’t check out 100%? Do you dispute that the evidence it furnished is open-and-shut, *prima facie*, mandating that such top re-election-seeking incumbents as Governor Hochul, Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Heastie, Attorney General James, and Comptroller DiNapoli be indicted for public corruption and larceny – and that they will be convicted?

To assist you in discharging your First Amendment responsibilities to report on how this year, as in past years, NYS’ highest public officers have been flagrantly violating mandatory constitutional, statutory, and legislative rule safeguards to steal massive amounts of taxpayer monies and enact, by fraud and zero legislative due process, non-revenue-producing, non-fiscal policies – for which an independent special prosecutor must be appointed – above-attached is CJA’s April 14th grand jury/public corruption complaint to NYS’ 62 D.A.s and their organizational entity, the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DAASNY), to which the New York State Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct is cc’d. My April 14th e-mail transmitting the grand jury/public corruption complaint to the Legislative Correspondents Association’s roster of reporters, on whose journalism you presumably rely, is below.

As stated by my March 16th e-mail:

‘If it is not your intention to report this – essential not only to the integrity of the budget, but to the 2026 elections for all 213 legislative seats, and for governor, lieutenant governor, AG, comptroller, D.A.s, and judges – please furnish the reason and forward this e-mail to your highest managerial levels and legal counsel. I am available to answer questions and to assist you to the max. Feel free to call me, no matter how early or late. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, both with respect to the budget and the elections.’ (capitalization in the original).

Thank you.” (hyperlinking, underlining, italics and capitalization in the original).

I received no responses from these defendants, who reported nothing about my e-mails and their transmitted evidence, including my fully-documented April 14, 2026 grand jury/public corruption complaint against New York’s highest public officers, specifically pertaining to the FY2026-27 state budget.

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Instead, they have been defrauding the People of New York by *knowingly* false journalism that conceals, *in toto*, that the state budget is ‘OFF THE CONSTITUTIONAL RAILS’ and that New York’s highest public officers are brazenly violating unequivocal constitutional, statutory, and legislative rule provisions to steal massive sums of taxpayer money and enact substantive policy, by fraud and without legislative due process, for which, based on the evidence, they must be indicted and will be convicted.

Illustrative of defendants’ journalistic fraud about the FY2026-27 state budget, by which, simultaneously, they have been rigging the 2026 elections to enable corrupt incumbents to run for re-election and win, are their articles today and yesterday about Governor Hochul’s announced budget deal with Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie – and such prior reporting as:

- Defendant WNYC/Gothamist’s May 6th article “[Money talk takes a back seat in NY’s belated budget negotiations](#)” by its reporter Jon Campbell, who is co-treasurer of Defendant LCA;
- Defendant New York Post’s May 4th editorial “[NY state budget delay is just the tip of Albany’s epic dysfunction](#)” by its reporter Vaughn Golden, listed on Defendant LCA’s roster;
- Defendant Newsday’s May 2nd article “[As state budget debate continues, time runs short for other bills](#)”, by its reporter Keshia Clukey, listed on Defendant LCA’s roster – and who, last year, was LCA president;
- Defendant Spectrum News’ April 23rd article “[Hochul’s budget sway forces legislators to use power of ‘no’](#)” by its reporter Jack Arpey, listed on Defendant LCA’s roster;
- the April 24th article “[Silver v Pataki: NY state budget delay and executive overreach](#)” by Johan Sheridan, listed on Defendant LCA’s roster as a reporter for Albany Channel 10 News, which is owned by Defendant Nexstar Media, owner of Defendant PIX-NY Channel 11 News;
- Defendant WCNY’s April 21st podcast “[Hochul budget strategy relies on time and special interest attacks](#)”, part of its “Planet Albany”/Capitol Pressroom, hosted by its reporter David Lombardo, who is Defendant LCA’s current president, consisting of his interview of Defendant Politico reporter Nick Reisman, listed on Defendant LCA’s roster;
- Defendant New York Focus’ April 15th article “[How the New York State Budget Works](#)” by its reporter Sam Mellins, listed on Defendant LCA’s roster – also

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published by Defendant The City, with which it is “[in partnership](#)”;

- Defendant City and State’s March 31st article “[Lawmakers apathetic, yet unfazed, by sluggish state budget talks](#)” by its reporter Kate Lisa, listed on Defendant LCA’s roster.

As a consequence of this flagrant election-rigging, journalistic fraud, concealing from the People of New York the corruption of the state budget and state governance by New York’s executive, legislative, and judicial branches, at their highest levels, involving ALL oversight/“public protection” entities, such as New York’s 62 D.A.s and the Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct, from whom, with the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York, there has been NO response to my April 14th grand jury/public corruption complaint – and NO reporting about it by defendants – nothing remains of the “Republican Form of Government” guaranteed by Article IV, §4 of the United States Constitution, upon which plaintiffs’ [October 29, 2025 verified amended complaint](#) principally rests.

In keeping with the promise of [Rule 1 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure](#) of a “just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action and proceeding”, please advise:

- whether the Court will recuse itself for the demonstrated actual bias my [December 10th letter](#) particularizes and which this letter additionally particularizes; and, if not,
- whether the Court will disclose facts bearing upon its fairness and impartiality, as requested by my [November 19th letter](#);
- the date by which the Court will “address the question of jurisdiction in short order”.

Thank you.

Signatures on next page to preserve above live hyperlinks.

s/ Elena Sassower

Read & Approved: s/ Gary Zerman, Esq.

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Read & Approved by Gary Zerman, Esq.

Gary L. Zerman