

From: elena@judgewatch.org
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 2:41 PM
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'mjg395@cornell.edu'; 'jc2537@cornell.edu'
Cc: 'gj13@cornell.edu'
Subject: **AGAIN -- Scholarship, Amicus Curiae...Needed: Federal Lawsuit vs The NYT
& 33 Other Press Defendants in Vindication of the First Amendment &
Constitutional, Lawful Governance**

TO: **CORNELL LAW SCHOOL FIRST AMENDMENT CLINIC**

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How disappointing to have received no responses from you to my below December 1st e-mail entitled "Scholarship, Amicus Curiae, & Counsel Needed: Federal Lawsuit vs The NYT & 33 Other Press Defendants in Vindication of the First Amendment & Constitutional, Lawful Governance. **Is it not germane to the First Amendment Clinic's purpose and to your scholarship, and teaching?**

By way of update, here linked are the [October 29, 2025 verified amended complaint, signed by CJA's counsel on January 5, 2026 and refiled](#) and my [filed December 19, 2025 affidavit demonstrating subject matter jurisdiction](#), highlighting the unprecedented manner in which the district court has proceeded.

Please confirm that the lawsuit will be part of your scholarship and teaching – and, if not, the reason and your recommendation of other scholars for whom it would be relevant.

Thank you.

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

Sent: Monday, December 1, 2025 12:30 PM

To: 'clinicalprograms@cornell.edu' <clinicalprograms@cornell.edu>; 'md494@cornell.edu' <md494@cornell.edu>; 'nt277@cornell.edu' <nt277@cornell.edu>; 'james.grimmelmann@cornell.edu' <james.grimmelmann@cornell.edu>; 'mhj35@cornell.edu' <mhj35@cornell.edu>; 'hem58@cornell.edu' <hem58@cornell.edu>; 'mml89@cornell.edu' <mml89@cornell.edu>; 'ddw83@cornell.edu' <ddw83@cornell.edu>; 'mjg395@cornell.edu' <mjg395@cornell.edu>; 'jc2537@cornell.edu' <jc2537@cornell.edu>

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I am co-founder and director of the non-partisan, nonprofit citizens' organization [Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. \(CJA\)](#).

I am writing to alert you to a major federal lawsuit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, that CJA and I have brought on our own behalf and "*and on behalf of the People of the State of New York & the Public Interest*" against [The New York Times](#) and 33 other press defendants, seeking to establish judicial recognition of causes of action for "journalistic fraud" and "institutional reckless disregard for truth".

Above-attached and here-linked is the [October 29, 2025 amended verified complaint](#), whose prefacing quote and first paragraph read:

""The First Amendment goes beyond protection of the press...'...it is the right of the [public], not the right of the [media], which is paramount,'...for 'without the information provided by the press most of us and many of our representatives would be unable to vote intelligently or to register opinions on the administration of government generally,'..."

Cohen v. Cowles Media Co., 501 U.S. 663, 678 (1991), Justice Souter, writing in dissent with Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and O'Connor, citing cases

culminating in *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 278-279 (1964), cited in “[*Journalistic Malpractice: Suing Jayson Blair and the New York Times for Fraud and Negligence*](#)”, 14 *Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal* 1, footnotes 62 and 156 (2003).^{fn}

...

1. Pursuant to Article 4, §4 of the United States Constitution, ‘The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government...’, and the First Amendment to the Constitution pertaining to the press, as explicated by federal caselaw, including as above recited, and the First Amendment’s guarantee of ‘the right of the people...to petition the Government for a redress of grievances’, and the further guarantees of the Fifth Amendment^{fn} and the Fourteenth Amendment, §1^{fn} to every ‘person’ of ‘due process of law’ and ‘the equal protection of laws’, plaintiffs seek declaratory relief and compensatory, presumed, and punitive damages against defendants for their *knowingly* false, ‘fake news’, corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism, concealing and enabling the destruction of constitutional, lawful governance in New York State, culminating in corrupt candidates running on the 2025 election ballots – and, in particular, for New York City mayor, for New York City public advocate, for Manhattan borough president, for Manhattan district attorney, for Brooklyn district attorney, and to be district attorneys in approximately a dozen other counties throughout the state – and their election.” (hyperlink in the original).

In addition to furnishing the lawsuit to you for scholarship and teaching, I am requesting your participation as *amicus curiae* or as counsel to CJA, *pro bono* or paid, which, because I am a non-lawyer, I cannot represent. I believe the lawsuit to be a summary judgment case, as there is NO defense to it factually or legally. The SOLE issue is the magnitude of compensatory, presumed, and punitive damages – a jury determination that will reasonably be many tens of billions of dollars.

The district court’s irregular handling of the lawsuit, highlighted by my [November 19th letter to the district court judge](#), only reinforces this – as does my [drafted responding affidavit, for submission in January, disposing, at the outset, and before defendants are even served](#), of a subject matter jurisdiction defense of standing.

As it is essential to put together a crackerjack legal team for what is clearly a monumental, if not unprecedented, lawsuit, fundamental to “a Republican Form of Government”, demonstrating, by open-and-shut, primary-source, documentary evidence how a representative sample of New York’s “free press” operates, in fact, I look forward to discussing the foregoing with you as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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