

From: elena@judgewatch.org
Sent: Friday, January 23, 2026 12:04 PM
To: 'contact@legalinsurrection.com'; 'info@legalinsurrection.com'; 'waj24@cornell.edu'
Cc: 'clinicalprograms@cornell.edu'; 'md494@cornell.edu'; 'nt277@cornell.edu'; 'james.grimmelmann@cornell.edu'; 'mhj35@cornell.edu'; 'hem58@cornell.edu'; 'mml89@cornell.edu'; 'ddw83@cornell.edu'; 'mjb395@cornell.edu'; 'jc2537@cornell.edu'; 'gj13@cornell.edu'; 'kk@legalinsurrection.com'
Subject: **AGAIN, FOR YOUR BLOGGING: Federal Lawsuit vs The NYT & 33 Other Press Defendants in Vindication of the First Amendment & Constitutional, Lawful NYS Governance**

TO: [LEGAL INSURRECTION BLOG](#)
& [Founder-Author/Cornell Law School Professor William Jacobson](#)

How disappointing to have received no response from you to my below December 24th e-mail pertaining to CJA's federal lawsuit against The New York Times and 33 other press defendants for their *knowingly false*, corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism, destroying constitutional, lawful New York State governance. Isn't the lawsuit, brought "*on behalf of the People of the State of New York & the Public Interest*", in vindication of the First Amendment, sufficiently monumental for Legal Insurrection to be blogging about it, including as to the expert opinion of Cornell's First Amendment Clinic and its three Cornell law professor advisory board – Professors Michael Dorf, Nelson Tebbe, and James Grimmelmann?

By way of update, I have still received no response from the First Amendment Clinic's advisory board professors and affiliated faculty to my below December 1st e-mail to them – and inquired about that in a [January 20th e-mail](#), furnishing them with the [October 29, 2025 verified amended complaint, as signed by CJA's counsel on January 5, 2026 and refiled](#) and my [filed substantiating December 19, 2025 affidavit](#). As yet, I have received no responses – and am cc'ing them as a reminder.

Please forward this e-mail to [Legal Insurrection's contributing writers](#), as their webpages do not include their e-mail addresses, except for Senior Contributing Editor Kemberlee Kaye's – and she is herein cc'd.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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From: elena@judgewatch.org <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 24, 2025 1:44 PM
To: 'info@legalinsurrection.com' <info@legalinsurrection.com>; 'waj24@cornell.edu' <waj24@cornell.edu>

Cc: '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>; 'mjb395@cornell.edu' <mjb395@cornell.edu>; 'jc2537@cornell.edu' <jc2537@cornell.edu>; 'gj13@cornell.edu' <gj13@cornell.edu>

Subject: Federal Lawsuit vs The NYT & 33 Other Press Defendants in Vindication of the First Amendment & Constitutional, Lawful NYS Governance

**TO: [Legal Insurrection Blog](#)
& [Founder-Author/Cornell Law School Professor William Jacobson](#)**

Above-attached and here-linked, for your blogging and scholarship, is the [October 29th amended verified complaint](#) in a history-making federal lawsuit against [The New York Times](#) & 33 other press defendants in vindication of the First Amendment & constitutional, lawful NYS governance, sent by my below December 1st e-mail to advisory members and affiliated faculty of Cornell Law School's First Amendment Clinic.

The December 1st e-mail states, without contradiction, as I have received no response from any of its recipients:

"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." (underlining in the original).

What is your opinion – and of my [December 19th affidavit](#) demonstrating subject matter jurisdiction, in response to an unprecedented *sua sponte* order to show cause of the federal district judge.

I am cc'ing the First Amendment Clinic recipients so that they can belatedly respond to the December 1st e-mail – beginning with confirmation that the lawsuit will be made part of their scholarship and teaching and, if not, why not.

I am available to answer your questions – and would welcome the opportunity to do so. Please also forward the lawsuit to other law professors and persons for whom it would be relevant, for scholarship, reporting, and action, as what is particularizes, with evidence, is catastrophic.

Thank you.

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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>

Cc: 'gj13@cornell.edu' <gj13@cornell.edu>

Subject: Scholarship, Amicus Curiae, & Counsel 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](#)

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

[Constitutional Law Professor Michael C. Dorf](#)

[Constitutional Law Professor Nelson Tebbe](#)

[Digital and Information Law Professor James Grimmelmann](#)

AFFILIATED FACULTY

[Mark Jackson, Esq./Director-First Amendment Clinic & Adjunct Law Professor](#)

[Heather Murray, Esq./Associate Director-First Amendment Clinic](#)

[& Managing Attorney-Local Journalism Project](#)

[Michael Lindhorst, Esq./Local Journalism Attorney](#)

[Daniela del Rosario Wertheimer, Esq./Stanton Fellow](#)

[Adjunct Professor Michael J. Grygiel, Esq.](#)

[Adjunct Professor Jared Carter, Esq.](#)

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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