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Three-Minute Oral Testimony **for the NYS Legislature's January 25, 2022 "Public Protection" Budget Hearing**

I am Elena Sassower, director and co-founder of the non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability. By two citizen-taxpayer actions, we sued New York's three government branches for corrupting the state budget. Each was "thrown" by fraudulent decisions of self-interested judges of the Unified Court System, whose chief administrative judge, Lawrence Marks, was your first witness and was, with them, protected from accountability by the Commission on Judicial Conduct, whose administrator/counsel, Robert Tembeckjian, was your second witness.

Andrew Cuomo may be gone as governor, and Sheldon Silver, long gone as assembly speaker and now dead, but Governor Hochul's executive budget, with its included legislative and judiciary budgets, is just as flagrantly unconstitutional and rife with unlawfulness, fraud, and larceny. Thus far, the Legislature's response has been of the same ilk.

Look at how these legislative hearings are being conducted – not as hearings for each of Governor Hochul's five appropriations bills, plus a revenue bill – consistent with the constitutional scheme of a rolling budget, enacted bill by bill. Rather, they are organized by so-called "programmatic areas" – with testimony and questioning mostly not about numbers, but about non-fiscal policy, such as Governor Hochul has loaded into so-called "Article VII" legislation, not bills – which the Legislature, by fraud, has converted into budget bills, in the Governor's name, including for "public protection".¹ And the ten minutes that citizens used to have for their testimony, as recently as 2018, is now three minutes.

Suffice to bullet point that the unconstitutionality, fraud, and larceny of the state budget have been enabled and perpetuated by New York's corrupt "public protection" entities, funded in the budget. The Commission on Judicial Conduct is a prime example. Others include the Judiciary's attorney grievance committees, the Judiciary's Inspector General, the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, the Legislative Ethics Commission, and the State Inspector General.

It is not a heavy lift to fix their corruption. Indeed, it does not necessarily require emendation of existing laws – because, in many respects, the laws establishing them are perfectly fine, even

¹ The mechanics of this fraud – and the unconstitutionality of the insertion of non-fiscal policy into the budget – were dissected by [my March 18, 2020 letter to then Governor Cuomo](#), which I simultaneously furnished to the Legislature – and identified in the [62 grand jury/public corruption complaints I filed with New York's 62 district attorneys pertaining to the FY2020-21 budget](#). This includes former assemblyman-turned Washington County District Attorney J. Anthony Jordan, testifying at this hearing as president of the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DAASNY), who has been "sitting on" the [June 25, 2020 grand jury/public corruption complaint](#) I filed with him.

exemplary. Rather, the laws are being violated by those appointed to operate them, such as Mr. Tembeckjian. In other words, the personnel needs to be investigated, prosecuted, and removed – and this is obvious from comparing the laws with how the “public protection” entities have handled complaints filed pursuant thereto.

I look forward to discussing with you the MOUNTAIN of fully-documented complaints pertaining to the budget that I have filed with all the aforesaid “public protection” entities – and others.² When are you available?

Our website is www.judgewatch.org – and from its prominent center panel entitled “Comparing NY’s Legislature BEFORE & AFTER Its Fraudulent Pay Raise”, you can find the EVIDENTIARY substantiation of this testimony.³

Thank you.

² For this testimony, I have created a separate webpage inventorying my complaints to New York’s “public protection” entities pertaining to the state budget – and the pay raises it embeds. The direct link is here: <https://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget/citizen-taxpayer-action/complaints-notice/menu-inventory-complaints.htm>.

³ The direct link to the EVIDENTIARY webpage for this testimony, as likewise for my [January 22, 2022 written testimony](#), submitted in support of my January 18, 2022 request to testify, is here: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/2022-legislative-session/jan-25-public-protection-budget-hearing.htm>.