

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 9:09 AM
To: 'Records_Access'; 'foil@nysenate.gov'; 'whylandfm@nyassembly.gov'
Subject: **FOIL -- Appointments of Members to the Citizen Review Panels Required by Social Services Law §371-B, ¶2**

**TO: Governor Hochul Records Access Officer Christopher Ritchey, Esq.
Senate Records Access Officer/Secretary of the Senate Alejandra Paulino, Esq.
Assembly Records Access Officer Fern Whyland**

[Social Services Law §371-B](#) establishes “at least three citizen review panels” to “evaluate the extent to which the state and the social services district(s) are discharging their child protection responsibilities”. Its ¶2 states, in pertinent part:

“Each citizen review panel shall consist of thirteen members, seven of whom shall be appointed by the governor, three of whom shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate, and three of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly”.

Pursuant to [FOIL \[Public Officers Law VI\]](#), [Senate Rule XIV \[“Freedom of Information”\]](#), and [Assembly Rules VIII \[“Public Access to Records”\]](#), this is to request the following, spanning from the 1999 enactment of [Social Services Law §371-B](#) to date:

- (a) records of appointments of members to the three Citizen Review Panels made by the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker;
- (b) records of requests by members of the Citizen Review Panels to the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies;
- (c) records of requests from the Office of Children and Family Services to the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies.
- (d) records reflecting the number of candidate applications for appointment/“letters of interest” received by the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies – and the applications/“letters of interest”.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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