

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Eric Reed <ericre@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2019 1:54 PM
To: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
Subject: Re: I need HELP in finding a journalist to do the "DEEP DIVE" that your August 13, 2019 article does not do

Hi Elena,

I feel that I've answered your substantive questions fully. All stories have a certain scope, which makes all stories imprecise to a certain degree. To review New York's specific judicial selection process would also require that I review this process for every state. That is beyond the scope of this piece.

Regarding your second question, it is a matter of professional ethics. Journalists are not allowed to accept compensation or gifts of absolutely any kind from sources, potential sources or subjects of a piece. Nor are we allowed to accept compensation or gifts of absolutely any kind in exchange for placing stories. To do so would create a conflict of interest. If I accepted payment from you, from that point on my readers, editors and colleagues would always have to question whether my stories were based on my own best judgment of the truth or based on a payout from someone with an interest in the issue.

I cannot help you with this. To the extent that it's useful, I also recommend that you stop offering payment to people as you approach them with this story. Most journalists will disregard your pitch out of hand as soon as you bring this up. In fact, even mentioning it is kind of offensive. It suggests that someone is open to bribery.

Good luck placing this piece.

Eric

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On Thu, Aug 15, 2019 at 12:11 PM Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org> wrote:

Dear Eric,

Thank you for your second e-mail. It is concerning to me that you do not view the "imprecis[ion]" of your August 13, 2019 article to warrant, at very least, clarification, either by an appended note or by a follow-up article.