

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2023 1:41 PM

To: 'editor@buffnews.com'; 'mkenny@buffnews.com'; 'djgee@buffnews.com';
'kwalter@buffnews.com'; 'twiley@buffnews.com'; 'bstille@buffnews.com';
'bconnolly@buffnews.com'; 'rmccarthy@buffnews.com';
'mmcandrew@buffnews.com'; 'plakamp@buffnews.com';
'dherbeck@buffnews.com'; 'lmichel@buffnews.com';
'cspecht@buffnews.com'; 'mspina@buffnews.com'; 'jtokasz@buffnews.com'

Subject: **The Legislature's OWN Budget & 38 Questions for Stewart-Cousins & Heastie about it & about Gov Hochul's Legislative/Judiciary Appropriation Bill #S.4001/A.3001 expanding it**

Attachments: [cja-feb-15-23-written-testimony-general-govt-budget-hearing.pdf](#)

TO: The Buffalo News

Have you examined, at all, the Legislature's OWN budget – the necessity of which I alerted you to three weeks ago, by the below.

To assist you in providing such vital information to New York taxpayers about the purported "\$273,921,877" legislative budget for FY2023-24 that they will be paying for and as to which there has been NO legislative budget hearing, above-attached is my February 15th written testimony exclusively on that subject, setting forth 38 questions to be asked of Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie about the [Legislature's OWN budget](#) and Governor Hochul's expansion of it in [Legislative/Judiciary Appropriation Bill #S.4001/A.3001](#).

This written testimony, timely-submitted for the Legislature's February 15th budget hearing on "local government officials/general government", was NOT posted on the Senate and Assembly webpages for the hearing, [here](#) and [here](#), until AFTER [my February 22nd e-mail to Senate Finance Committee Chair Krueger and Assembly Ways and Means Committee Chair Weinstein](#) about its non-posting. However, I have yet to receive ANY response to the e-mail's inquiry as to whether the testimony was distributed to ALL Senate and Assembly members for their review – and to which staff.

I am available to answer your questions – and to give you the lead on further developments in this important story, to be embodied in a third press release following Governor Hochul's 30-day amendments, due this Friday, March 3rd.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Sunday, February 5, 2023 2:46 PM

To: 'editor@buffnews.com' <editor@buffnews.com>; 'mkenny@buffnews.com' <mkenny@buffnews.com>; 'djgee@buffnews.com' <djgee@buffnews.com>; 'kwalter@buffnews.com' <kwalter@buffnews.com>; 'twiley@buffnews.com' <twiley@buffnews.com>; 'bstille@buffnews.com' <bstille@buffnews.com>; 'bconnolly@buffnews.com' <bconnolly@buffnews.com>; 'rmccarthy@buffnews.com' <rmccarthy@buffnews.com>; 'mmcandrew@buffnews.com' <mmcandrew@buffnews.com>; 'plakamp@buffnews.com' <plakamp@buffnews.com>; 'dherbeck@buffnews.com' <dherbeck@buffnews.com>; 'lmichel@buffnews.com' <lmichel@buffnews.com>; 'mpasciak@buffnews.com' <mpasciak@buffnews.com>; 'cspecht@buffnews.com' <cspecht@buffnews.com>; 'mspina@buffnews.com' <mspina@buffnews.com>; 'jtokasz@buffnews.com' <jtokasz@buffnews.com>

Subject: Prepping for the Legislature's Budget Hearings -- & "Blowing the Whistle" on the Legislature's OWN budget

TO: The Buffalo News

Shouldn't the Buffalo News be inquiring about [the Legislature's structuring of its budget hearings, by "programmatic area\[s\]", not bills](#) – concealing [violations of Article VII, §§2, 3, and 4 of the New York State Constitution](#)?

Above-attached is my already-submitted written testimony addressed to that subject, at the outset. CJA's EVIDENTIARY webpage posting it is [here](#).

I am available to answer questions – and to provide important scoops on the [Legislature's own budget](#), expanded in [Legislative/Judiciary budget bill #S.4001/A.3001](#). How about asking Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie why they are NOT testifying on behalf of their budget and the legislative portion of the combined Legislative/Judiciary budget bill at any legislative budget hearing? Or are they?

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org