

**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 5, 2023 10:59 AM  
**To:** 'maia@nysfocus.com'  
**Subject:** **Prepping for the Legislature's Budget Hearings -- & "Blowing the Whistle" on the Legislature's OWN budget**  
**Attachments:** [cja-testimony-for-feb-7-2023-public-protection-budget-hearing.pdf](#)

**TO: NEW YORK FOCUS Managing Editor Maia Hibbett**

The below was inadvertently misaddressed to you and bounced back. I trust this will reach you now.

I look forward to speaking with you directly about this major story.

Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)  
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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <[elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 5, 2023 10:08 AM  
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**Subject: Prepping for the Legislature's Budget Hearings -- & "Blowing the Whistle" on the Legislature's OWN budget**

**TO: NEW YORK FOCUS –**

Editor-in-Chief Akash Mehta  
General Manager Rebecca Klein  
Managing Editor Maia Hibbett  
Co-Founder/Contributing Editor Lee Harris  
Senior Reporter Sam Mellins  
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Shouldn't the press 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?

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