

## GUIDE FOR WYOMING COUNTY “LOCAL JOURNALISM”

### INFORMING THE VOTERS:

#### Wyoming County's Uncontested D.A. Candidate Hemming, its 3 State Legislators, 1 Uncontested for Re-Election, & its 4 Uncontested Supreme Court Judgeships, Etc.

The duty of the Wyoming County D.A. is to enforce New York’s penal laws and obey conflict of interest protocols. That is the subject of the [Center for Judicial Accountability’s July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint](#) to [Wyoming County Acting D.A. Vincent Hemming](#), sent to him by the below e-mail. It involves his \$221,100 D.A. salary, statutorily-linked to the Wyoming county court judge salary. Of this, \$101,300 is the product of three “false instrument”, penal law-violating commission reports that Wyoming County’s three state legislators, two running for re-election, are knowledgeable of and complicit in.

Acting D.A. Hemming, who assumed his position because [Wyoming D.A. Donald O’Geen was elected Wyoming county court judge](#) last November, in an uncontested election, is now himself running in an uncontested election to be D.A. He did not respond to the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint, requesting his response by August 1<sup>st</sup> to two simple questions:

- (1) whether he would be repudiating the \$101,300 salary difference and advising Wyoming County to secure a judicial declaration voiding the three “false instrument”, penal law-violating commission reports?;
- (2) whether he would be recusing himself from the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint and securing an independent prosecutor?

Surely, Acting D.A. Hemming will be more responsive to inquiries from you –and he is ready to field them as I sent him e-mails alerting him to press inquiries.

What does he have to say about the \$221,100 Wyoming County D.A. salary – and about Wyoming County’s state legislators whose public corruption is prioritized by the July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint (at pp. 2-4). Will he disclose his political, professional, and personal relationships with them – and with the other public officers complained-against and implicated by the grand jury/public corruption complaint?

And can Acting D.A. Hemming explain how it is possible that notwithstanding [Wyoming County has a population of 40,338 and median household income of \\$65,066](#) and [state legislator salaries are \\$142,000, the highest in the nation](#), on top of which, as with D.A. salaries, are many thousands of dollars more in non-salary compensation benefits:

- [Senator George Borrello \(SD57\)](#) is uncontested for re-election and is running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for either line;
- [Assemblyman David DiPietro \(AD147\)](#) is running for re-election on both Republican and Conservative lines for which he faced no primaries for the Conservative line, but only for the Republican line, against a single candidate. [Darci Cramer](#) is running against him on the Democratic line for which she faced no primaries for that line;

- The two candidates vying for election to the seat of retiring [Assemblywoman Marjorie Byrnes, Esq. \(AD133\)](#) are [Andrea Bailey](#), running on both Republican and Conservative lines for which she faced no primaries for either line, and [Colleen Walsch-Williams](#), running on the Democratic line for which she faced no primaries for that line.

Indeed, can Acting D.A. Hemming explain how it is possible that he is uncontested for election on the Republican line for which he faced no primaries.

For that matter, can he explain how is it possible that with supreme court justice salaries being \$232,600, plus thousands of dollars in non-salary compensation benefits – and the candidate pool encompassing the eight counties of the Eighth Judicial District – the Republican and Democratic parties put forward the same four candidates for four supreme court judgeships: incumbent Justices Deborah Chimes, Henry Nowak, and Catherine Nugent Panepinto, plus Assemblyman Michael Norris, the latter being additionally the only candidate the Conservative party put forward.

I look forward to discussing with you the above questions and assisting your investigative journalism about Wyoming County’s D.A. race, three state legislative races, and judicial races from supreme court to city court – all involving “false instrument”, penal law-violating salaries for these offices. Meantime, here’s [CJA’s webpage for the 2024 Wyoming County D.A. election](#).

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
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**Subject: NOTICE & grand jury/public corruption complaint -- Your D.A. salary increases, the judicial salary increases on which they are based, & the violations of NY penal laws by state legislators within your jurisdictions**

**Attachments:**                    [7-18-24-daasny-notice-complaint.pdf](#);  
    [7-17-24-complaint-vs-soares-to-albany-ethics.pdf](#);  
    [7-17-24-transmittal-to-soares.pdf](#)

**District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DAASNY)**

**ATT:    President/Richmond County D.A. Michael McMahan  
          NYS' 61 Other D.A. and Acting D.A. Members**

Above-attached are CJA's July 18, 2024 NOTICE & grand jury/public corruption complaint and underlying July 17, 2024 ethics complaint to the Albany County Ethics Commission against Albany County D.A. Soares and its accompanying transmittal letter to him.

So that I may be guided accordingly, please let me hear from each of you by no later than two weeks from today, August 1, 2024, with respect to both the NOTICE and July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint, herewith filed with you.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
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