

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 8:32 PM
To: 'susan.arbetter@charter.com'; 'albanynews@charter.com'
Cc: 'timothy.p.williams@charter.com'; 'Maryfrancis.Stoute@charter.com'

Subject: **Tomorrow's Albany D.A. Debate -- FOIL request to Albany County pertaining to \$223,700 Albany DA salary that took effect on April 1st**

Attachments: [6-3-24-albany-foil.pdf](#)

TO: Susan Arbetter/Spectrum News Political Anchor –

I have received no response to my below May 31st e-mail – and am re-sending it, in the event it was overlooked by you and by your Albany/Capital Region news team, to whose generic e-mail address, posted on the [Spectrum News website](#), I also sent it.

To assist you in questioning D.A. Soares and Candidate Kindlon about the Albany County D.A. salary and about their actual performance with respect to public corruption and conflict-of-interest issues, above-attached and here linked is [the FOIL request I filed earlier today](#) to Albany County Clerk/FOIL Officer Bruce Hidley, whose first two requests are for:

“(1) records reflecting the current Albany D.A. salary, believed to be \$223,700, effective April 1, 2024;

(2) records reflecting when and whether Albany D.A. Soares alerted Albany County that his 2024 district attorney salary might be, or had been, increased by the (3rd) Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation by reason of [Judiciary Law §183-a](#) mandating that his salary be at least ‘equivalent to that’ of an Albany County Court judge”.

I am available to answer questions tonight, no matter how late, and tomorrow, no matter how early, including from your Albany/Capital Region news team. As the [current Legislative Correspondents Association roster](#) lists [Spectrum News](#) reporters Timothy Williams and Mary Francis Stoute as LCA members, I am cc’ing them at their listed e-mail addresses with a request that they undertake investigative reporting of my [fully-documented February 23, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint to D.A. Soares](#) that he is “sitting on” – and which D.A. Kindlon would, apparently, “sit on” – exposing, as it does, the larcenous Albany D.A. salary and the corruption, *inter alia*, of New York’s highest officials, including its 213 state legislators, the vast majority of whom are now running for re-election or, as with Assemblywoman Pat Fahy, running for election to the state Senate.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 9:00 PM

To: 'susan.arbetter@charter.com' <susan.arbetter@charter.com>

Cc: 'albanynews@charter.com' <albanynews@charter.com>

Subject: Prepping for your June 4th Albany D.A. debate with primary-source, documentary evidence & questions, starting with the \$223,700 Albany DA salary that took effect on April 1st

TO: Susan Arbetter/Spectrum News Political Anchor –

Albany D.A. Soares' *modus operandi* of nonfeasance with respect to fully-documented public corruption complaints against state public officers involving his own D.A. salary and the state budget are critical issues for your inquiry at the [June 4th debate](#) you will be moderating between him and Challenger Kindlon – and especially as it appears that Challenger Kindlon, if elected, will follow an identical course as D.A. Soares in trashing the non-partisan public integrity duties of the D.A. office.

So that you can discern this, for yourself, from primary source, documentary evidence, below is my May 28th e-mail to D.A. Soares pertaining to my above-attached February 23, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint to him – to which I have received NO response.

Likewise, I have also received NO response from Challenger Kindlon to whom I sent the following message, *via* his law office website, also on May 28th:

"This follows up my phone call to your office (518-444-428), shortly after 11 am, which was picked up by your assistant AJ. The reason for my call was to inquire as to whether you had had received the March 23rd message I sent you, *via* this message system, entitled 'You Can Easily Defeat Albany D.A. Soares' -- to which I had received no response. AJ stated she had no access to your message system and, therefore, could not confirm receipt. She also stated that she could not give me an e-mail address for you, without your permission -- and that the office had no e-mail she could provide. I left my name and phone number with her, with a request that you call me. Also, my e-mail address, elena@judgewatch.org -- and the website information that had been contained in my March 23rd message to you, posted on the website, as follows:

'You Can Easily Defeat Albany D.A. Soares –

I am the director & co-founder of the non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA). DA Soares has flagrantly corrupted his office in matters pertaining to public corruption -- and this has been the subject of public corruption complaints I have filed to him, against him, and of FOIL requests, spanning from 2013 to the present. CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org, posts everything -- accessible from the prominent center link 'Cleaning up

NY's Corrupt & Unconstitutional State Governance -- starting with its most important D.A race: Albany County'. I look forward to speaking with you about the mountain of primary-source, documentary evidence there posted, establishing that D.A. Soares cannot be re-elected, because he must be indicted for public corruption, including larceny involving his own D.A. salary -- and that he will be convicted. Thank you. Elena Sassower 914-421-1200'.

Please call me, as soon as possible, so that I can update you as to what has been happening since March 23rd on the public corruption front, centered in Albany County -- and to discuss how, as a candidate and, if elected, as Albany County DA, you will address conflicts of interest, involving, your D.A. salary and public officers such as Assemblyman Phil Steck, who on May 9th publicly endorsed you. Your promise, in response, was 'to be the Albany County DA the taxpayers can count on to never self-deal their hard-earned tax dollars' and to 'prosecute all crimes...without political favor.'"

As to "what has been happening since March 23rd on the public corruption front, centered in Albany County", Candidate Kindlon would have seen, from CJA's "[Corrupt Incumbent](#)" [webpage for D.A. Soares](#), his shocking [March 26, 2024 letter to the Albany County Clerk](#) in response to my [February 23, 2024 FOIL request](#), including its certification that the office has "no responsive documents" to my request for:

"manuals, guides, and other records setting forth the policies and procedures of the district attorney's office in instances of conflicts of interests of the district attorney or assistant district attorneys, *to wit*, financial interest and professional, political, and social relationships"

and "no responsive documents" to my request for:

"manuals, guides, and other records of the district attorney's office setting forth its procedures for handling public corruption complaints".

The foregoing primary-source, documentary evidence will enable you to formulate questions for the two candidates that will require them to confront, not posture about, public integrity/corruption issues – and the first of these questions should be about the \$223,700 Albany D.A. salary which took effect on April 1st as a result of D.A. Soares' conflict-of-interest-driven nonfeasance with respect to [CJA's January 18, 2024 Opposition Report to the December 4, 2023 Report on the \(3rd\) Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation](#) upon which the above-attached grand jury/public corruption complaint is based, to which Candidate Kindlon seems completely "on board".

I am available to answer questions over the weekend, no matter how early or late.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2024 3:44 PM
To: 'David.Souares@albanycountyny.gov' <David.Souares@albanycountyny.gov>
Cc: 'Cheryl.Fowler@AlbanyCountyNY.gov' <Cheryl.Fowler@AlbanyCountyNY.gov>;
'Christopher.Horn@AlbanyCountyNY.gov' <Christopher.Horn@AlbanyCountyNY.gov>;
'Linda.Griggs@AlbanyCountyNY.gov' <Linda.Griggs@AlbanyCountyNY.gov>

Subject: STATUS? CJA's Feb 23, 2024 Grand Jury/Public Corruption Complaint -- (3rd) Commission on Legislative, Judicial & Executive Compensation & its Co-Conspirators & Accomplices

TO: Albany County District Attorney Soares

This follows my phone call to your DA office (518-487-5460) at 1:37 pm today, answered by a voice recording, on which I left a message.

Please advise as to the status of my fully-documented February 23, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint, which I sent by the below e-mails and, thereafter, by priority mail, which was delivered on March 4, 2024. I have received no response.

Please also advise whether, as it seems from your [new website](#), you have eliminated your public integrity unit – and, if so, the reason.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2024 12:33 PM
To: 'David.Souares@albanycountyny.gov' <David.Souares@albanycountyny.gov>;
'Linda.Griggs@albanycounty.ny.gov' <Linda.Griggs@albanycounty.ny.gov>;
'AlbanyDA@albanycountyny.gov' <AlbanyDA@albanycountyny.gov>

Subject: Superseding-REVISED: Grand Jury/Public Corruption Complaint -- (3rd) Commission on Legislative, Judicial & Executive Compensation & its Co-Conspirators & Accomplices

TO: Albany County District Attorney Soares

Kindly supersede my grand jury/public corruption complaint, sent by the below on Friday, February 23rd, with the above-attached, containing substantial revision to expand the previous 8-page complaint to 12 pages. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Thank you.

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

Sent: Friday, February 23, 2024 11:56 PM

To: 'David.Soares@albanycountyny.gov' <David.Soares@albanycountyny.gov>;

'Linda.Griggs@albanycounty.ny.gov' <Linda.Griggs@albanycounty.ny.gov>;

'AlbanyDA@albanycountyny.gov' <AlbanyDA@albanycountyny.gov>

Subject: Grand Jury/Public Corruption Complaint -- (3rd) Commission on Legislative, Judicial & Executive Compensation & its Co-Conspirators & Accomplices

TO: Albany County District Attorney Soares

Attached is my grand jury/public corruption complaint of today's date, with its two exhibits. Original will be mailed. CJA's EVIDENTIARY WEBPAGE on which it will be posted is here:

<https://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/district-attorneys/albany-2-23-24-complaint-evidence.htm>.

Further e-mail will follow attaching my Independent Expert Report and October 25, 2023 complaint pertaining to the Monroe County Family Court case, referred to at pages 3-4 of the grand jury/public corruption complaint.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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