

**CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.**

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July 26, 2011

**TO: BAR LEADERS TESTIFYING AT THE JULY 20, 2011 PUBLIC HEARING OF THE  
NEW YORK STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL COMPENSATION:**

Vincent E. Doyle, III, President, NYS Bar Association  
Roger Juan Maldonado, Chair, Council on Judicial Administration  
NYC Bar Association  
Stewart Aaron, President, NY Co. Lawyers' Association  
Leslie Kelmachter, President, NYS Trial Lawyers Association  
Lance D. Clarke, Past President, Nassau County Bar Association  
Maureen Maney, President-Elect, Women's Bar Association of the State of NY

**FROM:** Elena Sassower, Director  
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

**RE:** The Average/Mean Salaries of Your Lawyer Membership and of NY Lawyers;  
Their Views of the Compensation of NY Judges, of the Quality of NY Judges, of  
the Efficacy of Safeguarding Mechanisms – and Whether Your Bar Associations  
Have Examined These Issues

In your testimony on July 20, 2011 before New York's Commission on Judicial Compensation, none of you provided any information as to the average and/or mean salaries of the lawyer members of your bar associations. Do your bar associations not have that information?

How about information as to the average and/or mean salaries of the approximately 160,000 lawyers in New York, as to which you also did not testify. Do your bar associations not have that information either?

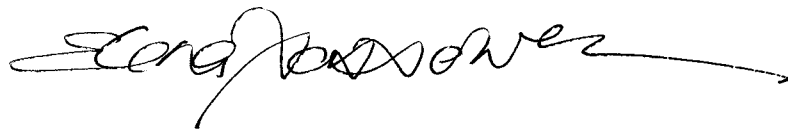
Additionally, none of you testified as to any polls or surveys conducted by your bar associations of your lawyer members or of the larger pool of 160,000 New York lawyers to ascertain their views of the compensation of New York judges. Have your bar associations conducted no such polls or surveys – and if they have, what are the details?

Finally, what polling or surveying have your bar associations done of lawyer members and of New York's 160,000 lawyer-population to ascertain their views of the quality of New York judges and of the efficacy of existing mechanisms to safeguard judicial integrity, as for instance, recusal procedures; appellate review; requests for oversight by supervisory judges; and complaints to the Commission on Judicial Conduct. Have any of your bar committees examined judicial misconduct complaints and the adequacy of mechanisms of discipline and removal,

particularly where the misconduct involves judicial decisions which flagrantly falsify and omit the material facts and disregard controlling black-letter law? Can you supply copies of their committee reports?

I would appreciate your responses by Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup> to my direct e-mail address: [elena@judgewatch.org](mailto:elena@judgewatch.org) – as well as copies of your written testimony and such substantiating materials as you provided the Judicial Compensation Commission.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elena D'Amico", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.