

Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 12:32 PM
To: 'mgormley@ap.org'
Cc: 'mvirtanen@ap.org'
Subject: Citizen Challenge to Judiciary Budget, Exposes the Sham of NY's Budget Process & the Hoax of its New Transparency

Citizen Challenge to Judiciary Budget, Exposes the Sham of NY's Budget Process & the Hoax of its New Transparency

Dear Mike,

There is a BIG budget story to report, as reflected by the below e-mail I sent yesterday to the Legislature's General Conference Committee – and its Joint Budget Subcommittee on “Public Protection”, Criminal Justice, and the Judiciary. It highlights the significance of:

- (1) the video of my 10-minute testimony on February 6, 2013 at the Legislature's joint budget hearing on “Public Protection”; and
- (2) my March 11, 2013 letter to the Senate Budget Subcommittee for “Public Protection” – Senators Nozzolio, Gallivan, Ball, and Golden – now each members of the Joint Subcommittee for “Public Protection”, Criminal Justice, and the Judiciary.

Both are posted on our website, www.judgewatch.org, on the page devoted to “The People Fight Back: Securing Legislative Oversight & Override of the 2nd & 3rd phases of the judicial pay raises...” Here's the direct link: : <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/judicial-compensation/legislative-oversight-judicial-raises.htm> .

Please be advised – and this itself is a shocking story -- that the Legislature's “White”, “Blue”, and “Yellow” books each give different figures as to the dollar amount requested by the Judiciary's budget, with the “Green” book giving no figure. The Governor's “Commentary” to the Judiciary budget gives an approximation: “\$2.6 billion”. As stated at page 10 of my March 11th letter, this is “a rounded figure able to conceal many tens of millions of dollars: a veritable slush fund... “

Your investigation and reporting of this scandalous story can achieve MAJOR good-government reform for the People of this State. I look forward to assisting you, to the fullest.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
914-455-4373

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) [<mailto:elena@judgewatch.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2013 5:45 PM
To: senator@senatorlibous.com; morellej@assembly.state.ny.us; LentolJ@assembly.state.ny.us; 'lavignij@assembly.state.ny.us'; 'litttle@nysenate.gov'; hassellt@nysenate.gov; gsavage@nysenate.gov;