

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 10:23 AM
To: 'bari@thefp.com'
Cc: 'nellie@thefp.com'; 'sean@thefp.com'; 'olivia@thefp.com'

Subject: **FEDERAL LAWSUIT vs The Free Press & CBS-NY Channel 2 News & CBS News: 2025 NYC Mayoral Race, Etc. -- "journalistic fraud", "institutional reckless disregard for truth", & other causes of action**

Attachments: [cja-complaint-oct-8-2025-corrected.pdf](#)

TO: [BARI WEISS, Editor-in-Chief of THE FREE PRESS](#)
&, additionally, since October 6th, [Editor-in-Chief of CBS NEWS](#)

Having received no response to my below October 3rd e-mail to you, sent “as a courtesy – and so that you [could] alert [CBS News](#) and its [Channel 2 News](#), accordingly”, you left me no choice but to do what truth and civic patriotism compelled – and what my October 3rd e-mail said I would do, in the absence of your response.

On October 8th, I filed a federal lawsuit against NY and national press for “journalistic fraud”, “institutional reckless disregard for truth”, “defrauding purchasers, contributors & taxpayers”, and “conspiracy” pertaining to the 2025 NYC mayoral and other top races, destroying constitutional, lawful state governance. The last two defendants are [CBS-NY Channel 2 News/CBS News](#) and [The Free Press](#). The October 8th verified complaint is above-attached and [here-linked](#).

[The Free Press](#) was the first and only defendant to be notified in advance of the lawsuit – and it is now the last defendant to be furnished with the October 8th verified complaint. My e-mail to [CBS-NY Channel 2 News](#) and [CBS News](#), sent a short time ago, is [here](#).

To all defendants, my e-mails identically stated:

“Pursuant to [Rule 4\(d\) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure](#), you have ‘a duty to avoid unnecessary expenses of serving the summons’ and I, as plaintiff, may request that you ‘waive service of [the] summons’, which I am required to do by mail, enclosing a copy of the complaint, two copies of the waiver form and a stamped return envelope.

As a benefit of your timely return of the waiver, you get 60 days from the date of my mailed request within which to answer the complaint, rather than 21 days from the date of physical/personal service – and your waiving service of the summons does not waive any objection to personal jurisdiction or to venue. If, ‘without good cause’, you fail to sign and return the waiver, ‘the court must impose’ upon you ‘the expenses later incurred in making service’ and ‘the reasonable expenses, including attorney’s fees, of any motion required to collect expenses’. “Good cause’ does not include a belief that the lawsuit is groundless, or that it has been brought in an improper venue, or that the court has no jurisdiction over this matter or over [you]’.” (hyperlink in the originals).

My October 3rd e-mail to you asked that you “advise where the summons and complaint for [The Free Press](#) should be served” and that I had “not been able to find any record of [The Free Press](#) on the [Corporation](#)

[and Business Entity Database of the NYS Department of State](#) – although I understand, *via* a google query, that it was incorporated in New York.”. As Mr. Ellison has now purchased [The Free Press](#) and it is part of Paramount, with a headquarters at 1515 Broadway, New York, New York 10036, I assume I should mail my written request for waiver to that address. So that I may confirm – and make appropriate arrangements should I opt to effect personal service – please furnish me with the name, e-mail address, and phone number of [The Free Press](#)’ counsel who negotiated the purchase and your [CBS News](#)’ editor-in-chief position, and the name, e-mail address, and phone number of Paramount’s counsel.

As a further courtesy to you – and to [CBS News](#), which was [the news station I grew up watching](#) and whose Saturday, July 6, 1974 [Evening News](#) featured me as the first and only person then on line at the U.S. Supreme Court for the [Monday, July 8, 1974 oral argument](#) in the [US v. Richard Nixon tapes case](#), interviewed by its [superlative legal correspondent Fred Graham](#) – here’s my [yesterday’s e-mail](#) to the roster of Albany Legislative Correspondents Association reporters entitled “UPDATE -- & the OBVIOUS legal advice your counsel should be giving you concerning CJA, et al. v. LCA, et al. & your First Amendment responsibilities, journalistic duties, & your P.R. about yourselves”.

Please forward this e-mail to [CBS News](#) Ombudsman Weinstein, whose new role, to [“reinforce\[\] \[CBS\]’ commitment to truth, trust, and accountability”](#), my October 3rd e-mail highlighted, so that he can implement that “commitment”, forthwith – early voting starting on October 25th.

Thank you.

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

Sent: Friday, October 3, 2025 5:43 PM

To: 'bari@thefp.com' <bari@thefp.com>

Cc: 'nellie@thefp.com' <nellie@thefp.com>; 'sean@thefp.com' <sean@thefp.com>; 'olivia@thefp.com' <olivia@thefp.com>

Subject: NOTICE OF LAWSUIT vs The Free Press & CBS News/CBS Channel 2 News -- NYC’s Mayoral Race, Etc. -- "journalistic fraud", "institutional reckless disregard for truth", & other causes of action

TO: [BARI WEISS, Founder & Editor/THE FREE PRESS](#)

I received no response to my below September 11th e-mail to you – and I see from Oliva Reingold’s two subsequent articles [“How the DSA Became the Democrats’ Tea Party”](#) (Sept 17th) and [“Eric Adams Gives Cuomo One Last Chance Against Mamdani”](#) (Sept 29th) that she has continued to write about the NYC mayoral race, as if she does not have the EVIDENCE that neither Mamdani nor Cuomo can be elected NYC mayor because each must be indicted for public corruption – and will be convicted – and possibly Sliwa, as well, for his [corruption as former chair of the NYS Reform Party](#), which he destroyed – and, for a certainty, Hochul, among a “who’s who” of NYS’ public officers.

According to press reports, such as in yesterday's Times' article "[Paramount Nears a Deal to Buy Bari Weiss's Free Press](#)", Paramount will be announcing, "as early as Monday" that it will be buying The Free Press and making you editor in chief of CBS News. It quotes Mr. Ellison as saying that he wants CBS to "remain a purveyor of 'truth' and 'facts.'"

How can CBS meet that challenge when you and your Free Press have been engaged, since March, in covering up the "truth" and "facts" about how the press operates – which is identical to how you and The Free Press operate. Have you shared with him, with Paramount and CBS executives, and with the lawyers involved in the deal you've been negotiating, my e-mails to you?

Will it be your view, as CBS News editor in chief, that a commitment to "truth" and "facts" does not mandate CBS Channel 2 News reporting the EVIDENCE of Mamdani's corruption as NYS assemblyman, unreported by any other press, with knowledge of its election-upending consequences for the NYC mayoral and other races? And what about CBS News and 60 Minutes? Is it a story for their national audiences? Here are my e-mails to CBS local and national news, [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#), to which I have received no responses. What do you think of that? And how should it be handled by CBS News Ombudsman Kenneth Weinstein, whose new role is to "[reinforce\[\] \[CBS'\] commitment to truth, trust, and accountability](#)".

Based on the foregoing, I have drafted a federal complaint naming The Free Press as a defendant and, on account of you, CBS Channel 2 News/CBS News, as the last two of 22 defendants, "*being representative of other New York & national media*". The complaint's first paragraph and prefatory quote read:

"The First Amendment goes beyond protection of the press...'it is the right of the [public], not the right of the [media], which is paramount,'...for 'without the information provided by the press most of us and many of our representatives would be unable to vote intelligently or to register opinions on the administration of government generally,'..."

Cohen v. Cowles Media Co., 501 U.S. 663, 678 (1991), Justice Souter, writing in dissent with Justices Marshall, Blackmun, and O'Connor, citing cases culminating in *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 278-279 (1964), cited in "[Journalistic Malpractice: Suing Jayson Blair and the New York Times for Fraud and Negligence](#)", 14 Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal 1, footnotes 62 and 156 (2003).

* * *

1. Pursuant to Article 4, §4 of the United States Constitution, "The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government..." and the First Amendment to the Constitution, as explicated by federal caselaw including, as above recited, plaintiffs seek declaratory relief and compensatory, presumed, and punitive damages against defendants for their *knowingly* false, "fake news", corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism, concealing and abetting the destruction of constitutional, lawful governance in New York State, culminating in corrupt candidates running on the 2025 election ballots – and, in particular, for New York City mayor, for New York City public advocate, for Manhattan borough president, for Manhattan district

attorney, for Brooklyn district attorney, and to be district attorneys in approximately a dozen other counties throughout the state.

I plan to file the complaint in the Southern District of New York on Wednesday morning, October 8th. I am alerting you to this, as a courtesy – and so that you can alert [CBS News](#) and its [Channel 2 News](#), accordingly. If you or they would like to dissuade me from including [The Free Press](#) and [CBS News/Channel 2 News](#) as defendants, I would be happy to engage in that conversation.

Otherwise, please advise where the summons and complaint for [The Free Press](#) should be served. I note that I have not been able to find any record of [The Free Press](#) on the [Corporation and Business Entity Database of the NYS Department of State](#) – although I understand, *via* a google query, that it was incorporated in New York. Is it an Inc? LLC?

Thank you.

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

Sent: Thursday, September 11, 2025 5:12 PM

To: 'bari@thefp.com' <bari@thefp.com>

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Subject: FOLLOW-UP: Your reported deal to sell The Free Press & "help steer CBS News" -- & the unreported story of Mamdani's corruption as a NYS assemblyman, destroying constitutional, lawful state governance

TO: [BARI WEISS, Founder & Editor/THE FREE PRESS](#)

Early in the morning on September 9th, while awaiting your response to my [September 6th email](#) entitled “Your reported deal to sell The Free Press & ‘help steer CBS News’ -- & the unreported story of Mamdani's corruption as a NYS assemblyman, destroying constitutional, lawful state governance”, I was alerted to the [NYT's](#) September 8th article “[Wealthy N.Y. Developers Call Meeting to Plot Mamdani's Defeat](#)”, posted shortly before midnight. My response to this article, which the [NYT](#) would update after the meeting to include the meeting, was my [September 9th e-mail](#) to NY's business leaders and financial titans entitled “GOOD NEWS! You can take out Mamdani, easily & without money, for corruption as a NYS assemblyman -- & you can do it as leaders of a patriotic non-partisan battle for honest, accountable, constitutional governance” – the original of which is below.

Will [The Free Press](#) report on this September 9th e-mail and the EVIDENCE substantiating it? – EVIDENCE you not only had by my September 6th e-mail, with its above two attachments, but by my [August 1st e-mail](#) entitled “Mamdani can't be elected NYC mayor because he must be indicted & will be convicted of

corruption as a NYS assemblyman, involving the NYS budget, his legislative salary, & NY's oversight/'public protection' entities" – and, prior thereto, by my [March 31st e-mail](#), my [May 12th e-mail](#), and my [May 18th e-mail](#).

How disappointing it was that instead of receiving any response from you to my September 6th e-mail, warning that in the absence of response, I would have no choice but to “myself forward [the] e-mail to David Ellison and the top echelons of CBS News, among others”, you allowed your reporter Olivia Reingold to continue her “journalistic fraud”, as she did by her September 9th article “[New York Power Brokers Try to Claw Back Clout Before It's Too Late](#)”, which she was writing as I was writing my below e-mail to the business leaders and financial titans – an article that could only dispirit them as to their likelihood of success in defeating Mamdani, when, as she knew from my [August 1st e-mail](#), their success will be IMMEDIATE and cost them no money, upon a “free press”, discharging its First Amendment responsibilities to report on the EVIDENCE of his corruption as a NYS assemblyman – a scandal he cannot survive, nor the “woke”, hard left capture it has enabled.

I note that yesterday's NYT's article “[CBS News Weighs Major Role for Bari Weiss as Part of Deal to Buy The Free Press](#)” not only manifests the NYT's usual anti-Israel bias by putting in quotes, as if not consistent with facts, your characterization of “Israel's ‘[war of defense](#)’ in Gaza”, but states:

“So far, Mr. Ellison has mostly spoken in broad terms publicly about his plans for CBS News, saying he wants the division to be ‘fact-based and truth-based’ during a press briefing in August. ‘We believe in basically being in the trust business,’ Mr. Ellison said. ‘We believe in being in the truth business.’”

Again, absent your response, now to this e-mail, I will have no choice but to forward it to Mr. Ellison, CBS, and others, ENDING your reputation and that of The Free Press as trustworthy and truth-telling and ANY deal with Mr. Ellison and CBS.

I will wait until noon, Monday, September 15th. Meantime, please forward this e-mail to The Free Press' legal counsel and such additional counsel as are involved in the negotiations with Mr. Ellison and CBS, with my request that they call me to discuss the situation.

Thank you.

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From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 4:50 PM
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Subject: GOOD NEWS! You can take out Mamdani, easily & without money, for corruption as a NYS assemblyman -- & you can do it as leaders of a patriotic non-partisan battle for honest, accountable, constitutional governance.

TO: NEW YORK CITY BUSINESS LEADERS & FINANCIAL TITANS

c/o Jeffrey Blau, Jared Epstein, William Ackman, Daniel Loeb, John Catsimatidis, Aby Rosen,
Gregg Hymowitz, ESQ., Laurie Tisch

From press reports of the large amounts of money you have pumped into NYC's mayoral race and would be willing to, *if you believed Mamdani could be defeated* – and yesterday's New York Times' article "[Wealthy N.Y. Developers Call Meeting to Plot Mamdani's Defeat](#)", posted shortly before midnight – it seems you are unaware that Mamdani cannot be elected mayor, because he must be indicted and will be convicted of corruption as a NYS assemblyman involving the entirety of the NYS budget, his own legislative salary, and NY's oversight/"public protection" entities, destroying constitutional, lawful state governance and irreparably injuring the People of New York.

Are you unaware? Has no one shared with you that Mamdani can be taken out, easily and without money, simply by the press doing its job of reporting on the open-and-shut, *prima facie* EVIDENCE of his corruption as a NYS assemblyman – EVIDENCE it had three months before the June 24th Democratic mayoral primary – and since – and which is embodied in two major lawsuits, still live, against him and his co-conspirators in NY's three government branches, as well as the subject of complaints against him and them to criminal and ethics authorities, as, for instance, this [July 18, 2024 grand jury/public corruption complaint to NY's 62 district attorneys](#), including the two NYC incumbent D.A.s running for re-election, [Manhattan D.A. Bragg and Brooklyn D.A. Gonzalez](#).

This EVIDENCE – also mandating indictments and convictions of Mamdani's mayoral opponents, Cuomo and Adams, if not also Sliwa, and, additionally, of D.A.s Bragg and Gonzalez, NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, running for re-election, and NYS Senator Brad Hoylman Sigal, running for Manhattan borough president – is summarized, with EVIDENTIARY links, by the above-attached and below-linked:

- ["MOBILIZING NEW YORK'S JEWISH, PRO-ISRAEL & OTHER COMMUNITIES" announcement](#): "SPREAD THE WORD – Mamdani's Win as NYC Mayor is being Rigged by the NYT & Other NY Press, Concealing his Corruption as a NYS Assemblyman – A Scandal He Cannot Survive" (August 24th);
- [NEWS TIP/ALERT](#): "Mamdani Can't Be Elected NYC Mayor, Because He Must Be Indicted & Will Be Convicted of Corruption, as a NYS Assemblyman" (Sept 4th).

Take your pick.

Kindly forward this e-mail to your fellow business leaders and financial titans so they can know the situation – and, with you, do their civic duty to use the bully pulpit that great wealth brings, and be leaders

of a patriotic non-partisan battle for honest, accountable, constitutional governance in NYS and NYC. As the EVIDENCE establishes, such governance does not remotely exist because of Mamdani and his fellow corrupters, abetted by a complicit and enabling “fake news”, election-rigging press.

I am available to answer your questions and invite you to call, *no matter how early or late*.

Thank you.

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