

CENTER for JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

Post Office Box 8101
White Plains, New York 10602

Tel: 914-421-1200

E-Mail: mail@judgewatch.org
Website: www.judgewatch.org

February 28, 2017

TO: Senate Records Access Officer/Secretary of the Senate Francis W. Patience

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

RE: FOIL/Records Request: The meaning, in dollars, of Senate Rule X, §8: "Staffing"

The Senate Rules for 2017-2018 state as follows in Rule X, §8 – replicating, *verbatim*, Rule X, §8 in the Senate Rules for 2015-2016:

“Staffing. All Senators shall receive the same base allocation of funds for staffing their offices. Additional funding for responsibilities associated with committees and leadership positions shall be allocated within amounts available for committee and leadership staff; such amounts shall include, at a minimum, a budget sufficient to appoint a staff member with expertise in the committee's subject matter. The funding for the Democratic conference central staff shall not be less than thirty percent of the funds allocated for all central staff on a per member basis.”

Pursuant to Senate Rule XV, “Freedom of Information”, this is to request records:

- (1) specifying, in dollars, the “base allocation of funds” that each senator will receive “for staffing their offices” in 2017 – and that each senator received “for staffing their offices” in 2015 and 2016;
- (2) specifying, in dollars, the “amounts available for committee...staff” in 2017 – and that were “available” in 2015 and 2016;
- (3) specifying, in dollars, the “additional funding” earmarked for senators chairing (and serving as ranking members of) the following committees to pay committee staff for 2017 – and that was earmarked and paid to the chairs and ranking members of those same committees to pay for committee staff for 2015 and 2016, *to wit*:

Senate Finance Committee
Senate Committee on Investigations and Government Operations
Senate Judiciary Committee
Senate Codes Committee
Senate Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction

Senate Committee on Local Government
Senate Committee on Ethics and Internal Governance –
formerly called the Senate Ethics Committee

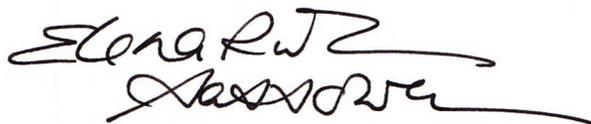
- (4) specifying, in dollars, the “additional funding” earmarked for, and being paid to, senators in “leadership positions” in 2017 for their “leadership staff” – these senators and their leadership positions being listed on the Senate’s website: <https://www.nysenate.gov/senate-leadership> (print-out attached);
- (5) specifying, in dollars, the “additional funding” earmarked for, and paid to, senators in “leadership positions” in 2015 and 2016 for their “leadership staff” – and, in particular, paid to Senator Andrew Lanza as “Deputy Majority Leader for Government Oversight and Accountability”;
- (6) specifying, in dollars, “the funds allocated for all central staff on a per member basis” for 2017 – and for 2015 and 2016;
- (7) specifying, in dollars, the “funding of the Democratic conference central staff” for 2017 – and its percentage “of the funds allocated for all central staff on a per member basis”;
- (8) specifying, in dollars, the “funding of the Democratic conference central staff” for 2015 and for 2016 – and, for each year, its percentage “of the funds allocated for all central staff on a per member basis”;
- (9) specifying, in dollars, the funding of the Republican conference central staff and the Independent Democratic conference central staff in 2017 – and in 2016 and 2015.

These dollar amounts are NOT laid out in the Legislature’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 and its proposed budgets for the three preceding fiscal years – although they might have been.

At very least, these dollar amounts – and the records reflecting them – should be “available through a searchable and sortable database on the Senate website”, pursuant to Senate Rule XV, §1(a) (“Publication of records relating to legislative and administrative records”). I will, therefore, be furnishing a copy of this FOIL/records request to the nine members of the Senate Committee on Ethics and Internal Governance so that they can each: (1) determine whether, and to what extent, they are able to find them; and (2) evaluate your response to the requested records, in discharge of their responsibilities pursuant to Senate Rule VIII, §3.

Thank you.

Enclosure & cc’s: see next page



Enclosure: print-out of Senate leadership list for 2017

cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Ethics and Internal Governance
All recipients of CJA's February 23, 2017 FOIL records request/misconduct-fraud complaint

Senate Leadership

- [John J. Flanagan \(/senator/john-j-flanagan\)](#), Temporary President and Majority Leader
- [John A. DeFrancisco \(/senator/john-defrancisco\)](#), Deputy Majority Leader for Legislative Operations
- [Catharine M. Young \(/senator/catharine-young\)](#), Chair, Senate Finance Committee
- [Kenneth P. LaValle \(/senator/kenneth-p-lavalle\)](#), Chairman, Senate Majority Conference
- [James L. Seward \(/senator/james-l-seward\)](#), Chair Majority Program Development Committee
- [Kemp Hannon \(/senator/kemp-hannon\)](#), Assistant Majority Leader on Conference Operations
- [William J. Larkin Jr \(/senator/william-j-larkin-jr.\)](#), Assistant Majority Leader for House Operations
- [Carl L. Marcellino \(/senator/carl-l-marcellino\)](#), Majority Whip
- [John J. Bonacic \(/senator/john-j-bonacic\)](#), Deputy Majority Leader for State/Federal Relations
- [Martin J. Golden \(/senator/martin-j-golden\)](#), Vice Chair, Majority Conference
- [Joseph E. Robach \(/senator/joseph-e-robach\)](#), Secretary of the Senate Majority Conference
- [Elizabeth Little \(/senator/elizabeth-little\)](#), Chair, Majority Steering Committee
- [Joseph Griffo \(/senator/joseph-griffo\)](#), Deputy Majority Whip
- [Andrew J. Lanza \(/senator/andrew-j-lanza\)](#), Assistant Majority Whip
- [Michael H. Ranzenhofer \(/senator/michael-h-ranzenhofer\)](#), Deputy Majority Leader for Economic Development
- [Patrick M. Gallivan \(/senator/pat-gallivan\)](#), Liason to the Executive Branch
- [Patricia Ritchie \(/senator/patty-ritchie\)](#), Deputy Majority Leader for Senate/Assembly Relations

Independent Democratic Conference

- [Jeffrey D. Klein \(/senator/jeffrey-d-klein\)](#), Independent Democratic Conference Leader
- [David J. Valesky \(/senator/david-j-valesky\)](#), Deputy Independent Democratic Conference Leader for Legislative Operations
- [David Carlucci \(/senator/david-carlucci\)](#), Independent Democratic Conference Whip
- [Diane J. Savino \(/senator/diane-j-savino\)](#), Independent Democratic Conference Liaison to the Executive Branch
- [Tony Avella \(/senator/tony-avella\)](#), Assistant Conference Leader for Policy and Administration of Independent Democratic Conference

Democratic Conference

- [Andrea Stewart-Cousins](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/andrea-stewart-cousins) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/andrea-stewart-cousins>), Democratic Conference Leader
- [Michael Gianaris](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/michael-gianaris) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/michael-gianaris>), Deputy Democratic Conference Leader
- [Liz Krueger](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/liz-krueger) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/liz-krueger>), Ranking Democratic Member of Senate Finance Committee
- [José M. Serrano](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/jose-m-serrano) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/jose-m-serrano>), Chair of Democratic Conference
- [Martin Malave Dilan](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/martin-malay-dilan) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/martin-malay-dilan>), Assistant Democratic Conference Leader for Policy and Administration
- [Timothy M. Kennedy](/senators/timothy-m-kennedy) (</senators/timothy-m-kennedy>), Assistant Democratic Conference Leader for Conference Operations
- [Neil D. Breslin](/senators/neil-d-breslin) (</senators/neil-d-breslin>), Assistant Democratic Conference Leader for Floor Operations
- [Kevin S. Parker](/senators/kevin-s-parker) (</senators/kevin-s-parker>), Democratic Conference Whip
- [Toby Ann Stavisky](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/toby-ann-stavisky) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/toby-ann-stavisky>), Vice Chair of Democratic Conference
- [Velmanette Montgomery](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/velmanette-montgomery) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/velmanette-montgomery>), Secretary of the Senate Democratic Conference
- [Bill Perkins](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/bill-perkins) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/bill-perkins>), Deputy Democratic Conference Whip
- [Daniel Squadron](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/daniel-l-squadron) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/daniel-l-squadron>), Assistant Democratic Conference Whip
- [Brad Hoylman](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/brad-hoylman) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/brad-hoylman>), Deputy Democratic Conference Floor Leader
- [Gustavo Rivera](https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/gustavo-rivera) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senator/gustavo-rivera>), Chair of Democratic Conference Program Development
- [Leroy Comrie](https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/leroy-comrie) (<https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/leroy-comrie>), Assistant Democratic Conference Leader for Intergovernmental Affairs

SHARE THIS PAGE

