

Transcribed by Elena Sassower
([VIDEO, at 1hr.59 mins – 2hrs/2mins](#))

**CJA’s Testimony at the February 8, 2024 Public Forum on the State Budget,
held by the Westchester State Senate Delegation**

*Elena Sassower, testifying before Temporary Senate President Andrea Stewart-Cousins,
Senator Shelley Mayer, Esq., Senator Jamaal Bailey, Esq., and Senator Pete Harckham*

Mayer: Ms. Sassower, #54

Sassower: *(indicating folders of materials to hand up)* May I?

Mayer: Sure.

Sassower: *(hands up folders to each of the four senators, stating to Senator Mayer that she has, additional, for her)*

(setting stopwatch on cellphone) I see you don’t have a clock, so I’m going to use my stopwatch. ... I know, but I can’t see it.

My name is Elena Ruth Sassower. I am director and cofounder of the nonpartisan, nonprofit citizens’ organization, Center for Judicial Accountability, based in White Plains, a constituent of Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins.

Our website is www.judgewatch.org and from the side panel “Testimony”, you can find a link to the documents I have handed up in substantiation of my presentation today.

As you know, the budget is off the constitutional rails, rife with constitutional, statutory, and rule violations. This has been the subject of lawsuits that CJA has brought against you and you have survived because you have been defended by litigation fraud of the Attorney General and rewarded by fraudulent judicial decisions.

The corruption that infests the judiciary, at trial, appellate, and supervisory levels, as to which all entities of oversight are dysfunctional and corrupted, makes the pay raises for judges unconstitutional.

As you know, in the budget this year, the legislative/judiciary budget bill, there’s 34.6 million dollars [for judicial pay raises]. I have furnished you with a report, an Opposition Report, demonstrating that the Report of the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation that is the basis for that appropriation is a false instrument and must be –

Timekeeper: Time. Your time is up.

Sassower: -- voided, stricken, and there must be investigation. I have –

.
Mayer: Thank you.

Sassower: Okay.

Mayer: We have your materials. Thank you very much.

Sassower: Excuse me, since you – *(leaves podium)*, there are two lawyers here, including the chair of the Codes Committee, Okay. *(hands an additional folder, plus the full Opposition Report, to Senator Mayer, and states, referring to the folder)* This is the Family Court case from Monroe County that you can familiarize yourself with. And Senator Bailey, you are a member of the Children and Families Committee.

Thank you.