

From: Senate Foil <foil@nysenate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:15 PM
To: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
Subject: RE: FOIL -- Appointments of Members to the Citizen Review Panels Required by Social Services Law §371-B, ¶12

Attachments: [rules and regulations relating to public inspection and copying of legislative records - january-2019 blue.pdf](#);
[Western NY CPS Panel -- John Treahy \(1\).pdf](#)

Dear Ms. Sassower,

This is to acknowledge your request dated February 12, 2024 pursuant to the Freedom of Information Law. You are requesting "...this is to request the following, spanning from the 1999 enactment of Social Services Law §371-B to date:

- (1) Records of appointments of members to the three Citizen Review Panels made by the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker;
- (2) Records of requests by members of the Citizen Review Panels to the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies;
- (3) Records of requests from the Office of Children and Family Services to the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies.
- (4) Records reflecting the number of candidate applications for appointment/"letters of interest" received by the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies – and the applications/"letters of interest".

- (1) Please be advised, that there is a fee of \$.25 (1 page at \$.25 per page) for the requested records. In light of the nominal cost, the fee is waived for this request at this time. Please see the attached document pertaining to this request.
- (2) Please be advised the records you request, if the records even exist, are not subject to disclosure pursuant to Senate Rules.
- (3) Please be advised the records you request, if the records even exist, are not subject to disclosure pursuant to Senate Rules.
- (4) Please be advised the records you request, if the records even exist, are not subject to disclosure pursuant to Senate Rules.

I have attached a copy of the Senate's Rules and Regulations Relating to the Public Inspection and Copying of Legislative Records for your information.

Sincerely,

Alejandra N. Paulino, Esq.
Secretary of the Senate

Senate FOIL-AR

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 9:09 AM
To: 'Records_Access' <Records.Access@exec.ny.gov>; Senate Foil <foil@nysenate.gov>;
whylandfm@nyassembly.gov

Subject: FOIL -- Appointments of Members to the Citizen Review Panels Required by Social Services Law §371-B, ¶12

**TO: Governor Hochul Records Access Officer Christopher Ritchey, Esq.
Senate Records Access Officer/Secretary of the Senate Alejandra Paulino, Esq.
Assembly Records Access Officer Fern Whyland**

[Social Services Law §371-B](#) establishes “at least three citizen review panels” to “evaluate the extent to which the state and the social services district(s) are discharging their child protection responsibilities”. Its ¶12 states, in pertinent part:

“Each citizen review panel shall consist of thirteen members, seven of whom shall be appointed by the governor, three of whom shall be appointed by the temporary president of the senate, and three of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly”.

Pursuant to [FOIL \[Public Officers Law VI\]](#), [Senate Rule XIV \[“Freedom of Information”\]](#), and [Assembly Rules VIII \[“Public Access to Records”\]](#), this is to request the following, spanning from the 1999 enactment of [Social Services Law §371-B](#) to date:

- (a) records of appointments of members to the three Citizen Review Panels made by the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker;
- (b) records of requests by members of the Citizen Review Panels to the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies;
- (c) records of requests from the Office of Children and Family Services to the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies.
- (d) records reflecting the number of candidate applications for appointment/“letters of interest” received by the Governor, Temporary Senate President, and Assembly Speaker to fill vacancies – and the applications/“letters of interest”.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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