

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

May 3, 2021

TO: New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams
New York City Council

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

RE: Annual Reports of the Public Advocate to the City Council for 2010 to 2020

Section 24 of the New York City Charter, entitled “Public advocate”, states as follows in its paragraph n:

“Not later than the thirty-first day of October of each year, the public advocate shall present to the council a report on the activities of the office during the preceding fiscal year. The report shall include: (1) a statistical summary of the complaints received during such fiscal year, categorized by agency, type of complaint, agency response, mode of resolution, and such other factors as the public advocate deems appropriate; (2) an analysis of recurring complaints and the public advocate’s recommendations for administrative, legislative or budgetary actions to resolve the underlying problems causing the complaints; (3) a summary of the findings and recommendations of the agency program reviews conducted during the fiscal year and a summary of the agency responses to such findings and recommendations; (4) a summary of the charter requirements which, in the opinion of the public advocate are not being implemented by the city agencies and officers subject to them, including a description of the nature and extent of the failure to comply and a summary of the responses of the agencies or officers to the public advocate’s conclusions; and (5) a summary of improvements in charter compliance since the public advocate’s last annual report. The public advocate shall include an assessment of the fiscal implications of any recommendations presented in this report.”

Pursuant to FOIL, this is to request pdfs of the public advocate’s annual reports to the city council for the 11 fiscal years from 2010 to 2020, as I am unable to locate them on the public advocate’s website: <https://www.pubadvocate.nyc.gov/>, or via a google search. Indeed, I have located only a single annual report of the public advocate, for 2009: https://a860-gpp.nyc.gov/concern/nyc_government_publications/5t34sm00c?locale=en, and this by a search on the “government publications portal” of the NYC FOIL website, <https://a860-openrecords.nyc.gov/>.¹

Thank you.

¹ Although the 2009 report indicates a December 2008 annual report for fiscal year 07-08, the hyperlink brings up a “Page Not Found”.