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

Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 8:31 AM **To:** 'natalie_korach@condenast.com'

Subject: BEHIND-THE-SCENES of the NPR & PBS defunding issue -- FRAUD &

POSTURING by ALL sides...

Attachments: cja-2-18-25-ltr-to-greene-carr.pdf

TO: Natalie Korach/Vanity Fair

RE: "Ex-NPR Chief Says Public Media Could Have Better Prepared for a Trump Gutting" (April 17, 2025, Vanity Fair)

"NPR and PBS Chiefs Defend Themselves During DOGE Grilling" (March 26, 2025, Vanity Fair)

"Why NPR Is "Vulnerable" in a New Trump Era" (March 7, 2025, Vanity Fair)

I am director and co-founder of the New York-based non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, <u>Center for Judicial Accountability</u>, <u>Inc.</u> (<u>CJA</u>) – and since February 18th, when I sent the above-attached letter to House DOGE Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene and Federal Communications Commission Chair Brendan Carr entitled "Defunding NPR, PBS – & Firing the CPB's Inspector General, for starter", have been a behind-the-scenes participant in what has been unfolding.

The February 18th letter chronicles "knowingly false, corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism" by NPR and PBS' local New York affiliates – the subject of <u>fully-documented complaints</u> to the NPR and PBS national entities, ignored, without response, by their public editors, presidents, boards of directors, and counsel and which the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Inspector General thereafter also ignored, without response. The letter is explosive for that reason, but also because it identifies that NPR's and PBS' "knowingly false, corruption-abetting, election-rigging" New York "local journalism" is NOT unique to them, but is how the gamut of New York's "local journalism" operates, from <u>The New York Times</u> on down. This includes – and the letter highlights – rigging the 2018 election and 2022 re-election of Letitia James as New York attorney general and the 2021 election of Alvin Bragg as Manhattan district attorney, each pivotally responsible for the corruption and unconstitutionality of New York state governance involving the massive, policy-filled, larcenous state budget and the "false instrument" pay raises for public officers it embeds, concealed, in toto, by New York's press so as to enable these two corrupt posturers to invidiously and selectively prosecute Mr. Trump on rhetoric that "no one is above the law".

Prior to the March 26th DOGE Subcommittee hearing "Anti-American Airwaves: Holding the Heads of NPR and PBS Accountable", I furnished the February 18th letter to a large swath of press, including to the very journalists who would thereafter report on the hearing and conceal it, totally. This has continued since.

CJA's website, www.judgewatch.org, posts everything, accessible from an evidentiary webpage, here. It posts the span of my e-mails transmitting the February 18th letter to Subcommittee Chair Greene, c/o the majority office of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to FCC Chair Carr, to DOGE Subcommittee Ranking Member Melanie Stansbury, to Rank-and-File Member Brandon Gill, and to NPR and PBS. The last is my below March 31st e-mail to Congressman Gill entitled "Questions about & for the Record of the March 26th DOGE Subcommittee Hearing..." – and it was preceded by my March 28th e-mail to Subcommittee Ranking Member Stansbury, inquiring about her absence from the March 26th hearing. I have received no responses.

As for my outreach to the press about the February 18th letter and what has been going on, here's its webpage – and from it you can draw your own conclusions about press performance, including by NPR, PBS, and The New York Times. Additionally noteworthy is the sequence of my e-mails to the journalism faculty of Hillsdale College and its journalist alum Casey Harper and then to its Senior Journalism Fellow Mollie Hemingway, my e-mail to Columbia Journalism Review that included the dean of the J-School and Margaret Sullivan, the executive director of its Craig Newmark Center for Journalism Ethics, my sequence of e-mails to The Free Press and, specifically, Uri Berliner and Bari Weiss, and the e-mails I sent to so many e-mail addresses at The Washington Post.

Can our democracy endure when this is how Congress and the press operate? And where are the scholars of the press whose scholarship is based on such primary-source, documentary evidence?

I look forward to speaking with you about all this – and answering your questions. I am available, no matter how early or late.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 8:31 AM

To: 'gill@mail.house.gov' <gill@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Questions about & for the Record of the March 26th DOGE Subcommittee Hearing "Anti-American Airwaves: Holding the Heads of NPR and PBS Accountable"

TO: House DOGE Subcommittee Rank-and-File Member Brandon Gill

At last week's March 26th DOGE Subcommittee hearing "Anti-American Airwaves: Holding the Heads of NPR and PBS Accountable", Subcommittee Chair Greene did not reveal that Ranking Member Stansbury was absent – and neither you nor anyone else at the hearing made any mention of my above-attached February 18th letter "Defunding NPR, PBS – & Firing the CPB's Inspector General, for starters". The letter, which by the below March 25th e-mails I sent first to Ranking Member Stansbury and then to you, requested that each of you ensure that it was furnished to all Subcommittee members – and I followed this with two further e-mails to you confirming my transmittal of the letter to NPR Presidents Maher and Kerger so that they would be ready for questioning about it at the hearing, here and here.

Please advise:

- whether, as my March 25th e-mail to you requested, you forwarded my <u>February 18th</u> <u>letter</u> to "all DOGE Subcommittee members";
- whether the "flash drive containing six feet worth of documents documenting NPR and PBS' political bias" that, at the hearing, you asked to "submit to the record" "with unanimous consent" and that Chair Greene "without objection, so-ordered" (at 2hrs/25 mins), included my February 18th letter, which I had repeatedly requested be made part of the record;
- whether, in response to Chair Greene's concluding announcement that "all members have five legislative days within which to submit materials and additional written questions for witnesses, which will be forwarded to the witnesses" (at 2 hrs/40 mins), you will be explicitly requesting responses from Presidents Maher and Kerger to my February 18th letter and submitting the letter for the record, if you have not already done so.

Suffice to add that Presidents Maher and Kerger, both by their oral testimony and written statements, here and here, made no mention of their respective NPR and PBS public editors, whose importance my February 18th letter highlights — and this is additionally telling as the written statement that President Maher submitted for last year's May 8, 2024 hearing "Examining Accusations of Ideological Bias at NPR" of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, at which, in her absence, she sent no one in her stead, such as, most reasonably, the NPR public editor, had stated:

"NPR is one of the only journalistic institutions in the country with a Public Editor. The public editor is a source of independent accountability who serves as an advocate for NPR listeners and readers, with complete autonomy to investigate complaints, address the quality of NPR journalism, and transparently share findings with the public." (at p. 3).

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 3:35 PM

To: 'gill@mail.house.gov' <gill@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Questions about Tomorrow's DOGE Subcommittee Hearing on NPR & PBS Bias

TO: House DOGE Subcommittee Rank-and-File Member Brandon Gill

This follow my phone conversation, a short time ago, with your efficient intern Alana, to whom I summarized the below – and who jumped on the "NEWS TIP – ALERT" webpage to which I directed her.

Below is my e-mail to DOGE Subcommittee Ranking Member Stansbury that I described to her. Kindly forward it to all DOGE Subcommittee members — as, meantime, I will be e-mailing the NPR and PBS presidents, etc. my FULLY-DOCUMENTED and DISPOSITIVE February 18th letter addressed to DOGE Subcommittee Chair Greene so that they can be prepared to answer questions about it at tomorrow's hearing. I will, thereafter, forward you the e-mails.

I am available to answer questions – no matter how late tonight or early tomorrow.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200 cell: 646-220-7987
elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 2:44 PM

To: 'repstansburypress@mail.house.gov' < repstansburypress@mail.house.gov>

Subject: Questions about Tomorrow's DOGE Subcommittee Hearing on NPR & PBS Bias

TO: House DOGE Subcommittee Ranking Member Melanie Stansbury

Are you aware of my above-attached February 18th letter to DOGE Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene entitled "Defunding NPR, PBS – & Firing the CPB's Inspector General, for starters"? I sent it three times to the e-mail address of the majority office of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, without response.

As I am unable to reach <u>Chair Greene's D.C. or Georgia offices by phone or e-mail</u>, can you confirm that my three e-mails were forwarded to her by the majority office? And was my <u>February 18th letter</u> furnished to you and to the 12 rank-and-file members of the DOGE Subcommittee? How about to the PBS and NPR presidents and public editors and to the CPB Inspector General, for their written responses. Was it forwarded to U.S. Attorney Pam Bondi, as requested? Will the DOGE Subcommittee be questioning the PBS and NPR presidents about the letter at tomorrow's hearing – and will it be included in the written record of the hearing, as requested?

Please advise – and, if my February 18th letter was not previously furnished to ALL DOGE Subcommittee members, please now forward it, with this e-mail.

Below is the "NEWS TIP – ALERT" I have been sending to the press today, raising the above questions.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org

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NEWS TIP -- ALERT:

Behind-the-Scenes of Tomorrow's House DOGE Subcommittee Hearing on NPR & PBS Bias

Why are the NPR and PBS presidents the only witnesses scheduled to testify at Wednesday's DOGE Subcommittee hearing on NPR and PBS bias? What about the NPR and PBS public editors, each responsible for complaints, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Inspector General, also responsible for complaints. And what about complainants who have filed complaints with all of them?

The importance of this was the subject of my above-attached <u>February 18th letter</u> to DOGE Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene and FCC Chair Brendan Carr entitled "Defunding NPR, PBS – & Firing the CPB's Inspector General, for starters". It opened with these two sentences:

"I am director and co-founder of the New York-based non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization <u>Center for Judicial Accountability</u>, <u>Inc. (CJA)</u> and applaud your efforts to expose the truth about NPR and PBS.^{fn1} I suggest you do so by examining how they handle complaints of biased and *knowingly* false journalism – and that you also examine how the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Inspector General handles complaints about NPR's and PBS' handling of complaints." (italics in the original).

Nine EVIDENCE-FILLED pages later—including as to the collusion of NPR, PBS, and other media in the corruption of New York state governance involving its massive, policy-filled state budget, pay raises, NY Attorney General Letitia James, and NY District Attorney Alvin Bragg—the letter concluded, stating:

"I am available to answer questions – including under oath. I would be honored to testify at such hearings as you will be holding. In any event, I ask that this statement be submitted for the record of the hearings. I affirm it all to be true, under penalties of perjury.

Kindly forward the letter to all who are committed to establishing the truth about NPR, PBS, and their collusion with other media in 'election interference' and other violations of First Amendment responsibilities. There is much defunding, firing, and prosecutions that need to take place.^{fn8}"

Three times I e-mailed the letter to the majority office of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and to FCC Chair Carr – February 18th, February 28th, and March 19th – without response. Why was that? And was the letter forwarded to DOGE Subcommittee Chair Greene and to all the Subcommittee members? Who else? Was it forwarded to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, as requested? How about to the NPR and PBS presidents and public editors and to the CPB Inspector General, for their written responses. Will it be part of the record, as requested? Will it be the subject of questioning, at all, at Wednesday's hearing?

The three transmitting e-mails are also below. CJA's EVIDENTIARY webpage for the letter is here.

I am available to answer your questions, no matter how early or late. Please call.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) www.judgewatch.org 914-421-1200 – cell: 646-220-7987

elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Friday, March 21, 2025 5:10 PM

To: 'oversight.committee@mail.house.gov' < oversight.committee@mail.house.gov;

'Brendan.Carr@fcc.gov' < Brendan.Carr@fcc.gov>

Subject: Feb 18, 2025 letter -- "Defunding NPR, PBS - & Firing the CPB's Inspector General, for starters"

TO: House DOGE Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene
(Delivering on Government Efficiency)
Federal Communications Commission Chair Brendan Carr

I have received no response to my below two e-mails with the above-attached February 18, 2025 letter.

As the <u>DOGE Subcommittee has now announced the scheduling of its hearing for March 26th</u>, I assume there is no objection to my freely circulating the letter, which – to assist you – I have withheld until now.

Kindly confirm that the letter will be included in the printed record.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Friday, February 28, 2025 3:32 PM

To: 'oversight.committee@mail.house.gov' < oversight.committee@mail.house.gov;

'Brendan.Carr@fcc.gov' < Brendan.Carr@fcc.gov>

Subject: STATUS? Defunding NPR, PBS - & Firing the CPB's Inspector General, for starters

TO: House DOGE Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene
(Delivering on Government Efficiency)
Federal Communications Commission Chair Brendan Carr

It is now ten days since I sent my below e-mail, with the above-attached letter, and I have received no response.

Kindly advise as to whether you wish me to continue to withhold dissemination of the letter and e-mail, as I have patiently done so as not to jeopardize your strategy decisions – and whether you have forwarded the letter to U.S. Attorney Bondi, as my e-mail requested.

A short time ago, in the hope that I might speak to knowledgeable staff, I called the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee majority office (202-225-5074), but only got a voice mail, on which I left a message. Thereafter, I called the FCC (1-888-225-5322), requesting to speak with Chairman Carr's executive secretary or other executive staff. Lois, from the call center, was not able to route my call, but kindly typed out an extensive message that she stated she would send on my behalf, which I greatly appreciate.

Meantime, NPR and PBS have continued their corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism, "fake news"/fraudulent journalism – and I have documented this in further devastating correspondence to them, without response.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org

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

Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 4:07 PM

To: 'oversight.committee@mail.house.gov' < oversight.committee@mail.house.gov;

'Brendan.Carr@fcc.gov' < Brendan.Carr@fcc.gov>

Subject: Defunding NPR, PBS - & Firing the CPB's Inspector General, for starters

TO: House DOGE Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene
(Delivering on Government Efficiency)
Federal Communications Commission Chair Brendan Carr

Attached is my letter of today's date addressed to you, furnishing a mountain of evidence for defunding NPR and PBS, which their presidents will <u>not</u> be able to defend against at your <u>upcoming March hearing</u>. Likewise, for firing the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Inspector General and her deputy and counsel, who will not be able to defend against the evidence the letter presents.

To afford you sufficient time to review the letter and make strategic decisions about when to forward it to the NPR and PBS presidents so that they can prepare themselves for questioning about it and, additionally, about requiring the NPR and PBS public editors to also testify at the hearing, with statistics as to the number of complaints they receive of biased, corruption-abetting, election-rigging, fraudulent journalism and how they handle them, indeed, whether you might want to issue subpoenas for their records, I will withhold sending my letter to them, or disseminating and publicizing it until I hear from you.

The final sentence of my letter states "There is much defunding, firing, and prosecutions that need to take place" – with an annotating footnote stating:

"...please forward this letter to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, as it will greatly assist her investigations of A.G. James and D.A. Bragg, reported by [New York Public News Network reporter] Han's February 6, 2025 article "U.S. Attorney General vows to investigate two of New York's top lawyers", to which I cited and linked by my February 7, 2025 e-mail to her entitled "A gift to welcome you to your new job, as a Capitol News Bureau reporter for the NY Public News Network – Explosive evidence, complete unreported, about the state budget, A.G. James, & D.A. Bragg".

I would appreciate if you will do this, as I know it will reach her more directly than my own efforts.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)
www.judgewatch.org
914-421-1200
elena@judgewatch.org