

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2025 7:53 AM
To: 'laustin@tru.ca'
Cc: 'josh7759@colorado.edu'; 'aperlman@uci.edu'

Subject: **CORRECTION REQUIRED: Your May 8, 2025 article in The Conversation: "The attack on public broadcasting is part of a growing threat to press freedom and democracy"**

Attachments: [cja-2-18-25-ltr-to-greene-carr.pdf](#)

TO: [Assistant Professor Lorry-Ann Austin/Thompson Rivers University](#)

I am director and co-founder of the New York-based non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, [Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. \(CJA\)](#) – and have a wealth of primary-source documentary evidence rebutting your May 8, 2025 article in *The Conversation*, "[The attack on public broadcasting is part of a growing threat to press freedom and democracy](#)" – and, presumably, [your dissertation "Polarization in the Era of News Media Metamorphosis: A Critical Exploration of Implications for Democracy and Human Rights" that you "will defend...in June 2025"](#).

Reflecting this goldmine of rebutting evidence is my above-attached February 18, 2025 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 starters". It chronicles the "*knowingly* false, corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism" of NPR and PBS local New York affiliates – the subject of [fully-documented complaints](#) 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 *The New York Times* on down. This includes – and the letter highlights – rigging the 2018 election and 2022 re-election of Letitia James as NYS attorney general and the 2021 election of Alvin Bragg as Manhattan district attorney, so as to enable these two corrupt posturers to invidiously and selectively prosecute Mr. Trump on rhetoric that "no one is above the law". The letter also links to, and quotes from, my outreach to then former President Trump, by a June 4, 2021 webpage message and a April 3, 2023 webpage message – including about CJA's lawsuits suing the *New York Times* and *Gannett*, aimed at securing media accountability, "'thrown' at trial and appellate levels by fraudulent judicial decisions of NY's state courts because there was NO legitimate defense to either lawsuit."

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, to which I have received no responses.

As for my outreach to the press and academia 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 whether U.S. democracy can endure when this is how Congress and the press operate – and when academia does not whistle-blow about it.

Meantime, below is my May 5th e-mail to another scholar-contributor to The Conversation, Associate Professor Josh Shepperd, who, with Associate Professor Allison Perlman, is “under contract to co-update the official history of public broadcasting...for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and Current”. Their scholarship is plainly germane to yours – and I am cc'ing them for that reason and as a “gentle reminder” that I am eager to hear from them.

I look forward to speaking with you about all this – and answering your questions so that you can discharge your duties as a scholar, starting with correcting your May 8th article, dramatically.

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, May 5, 2025 2:45 PM
To: 'josh7759@colorado.edu' <josh7759@colorado.edu>; 'aperlman@uci.edu' <aperlman@uci.edu>

Subject: Your update of "the official history of public broadcasting...for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and Current": NPR & PBS public editors & CPB's Inspector General

TO: Josh Shepperd/Associate Professor of Media Studies/University of Colorado Boulder

A *propos* of your May 2nd article "[Trump and many GOP lawmakers want to end all funding for NPR and PBS – unraveling a US public media system that took a century to build](#)" for The Conversation, including its [linked profile](#) that you are “under contract to co-update the official history of public broadcasting with Allison Perlman (University of California Irvine) for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) and Current”, below, with the above-attached, is my self-explanatory May 2nd e-mail to CPB, germane to your scholarship and journalism offshoots.

What does the “official history of public broadcasting” have to say about the establishment and functioning of the NPR and PBS public editors – and about the CPB’s Inspector General? Assuredly, such “update” as you have with respect to these vital safeguards will have to be revised, dramatically, based on the foregoing.

I look forward to discussing this with you and with [Associate Professor Allison Perlman](#), herein cc'd.

Please let me hear from you soon.

Thank you.

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

From: Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>
Sent: Friday, May 2, 2025 12:35 PM
To: 'eslavitt@cpb.org' <eslavitt@cpb.org>

Subject: CPB's Stewardship of Taxpayer Monies -- Halting Funding to Poynter Institute, NPR, PBS, & NY's Local "Public Media", & Firing the CPB Inspector General -- All Mandated by CJA's February 18, 2025 Letter

TO: [CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING](#)

ATT: [Board of Directors](#)

Chair Ruby Calvert
Vice-Chair Laura Ross, Esq.
Diane Kaplan
Tom Rothman, Esq.
Liz Sembler

[Corporate Officers & Senior Staff](#)

President/CEO Patricia Harrison
Executive Vice President/General Counsel Evan Slavitt

This follows up my brief phone conversation with Executive Vice President/General Counsel Slavitt, who promptly returned the voice mail message I had left for him, shortly before noon and furnished me with his e-mail address so that I could send him this e-mail, already written. He stated that he had no knowledge of my above-attached and below-described February 18, 2025 letter to House Doge Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene and FCC Chair Brendan Carr.

* * *

I am director and co-founder of the New York-based non-partisan, non-profit citizens' organization, [Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. \(CJA\)](#) – and am writing in response to your yesterday's press release "[Introducing the Public Media Executives Selected for 2025 Poynter/CPB Fellowship to Strengthen Editorial Leadership](#)".

Did your Inspector General Kimberly Howell not alert you that the Poynter Institute and particularly its vice president and chair of its Craig Newmark Center for Ethics and Leadership, Kelly McBride – who is also NPR's public editor – have been covering up and perpetuating "*knowingly* false, corruption-abetting,

election-rigging journalism” by NPR, PBS, and other “public media” – [the evidence of which I provided](#) to her, to her deputy, William Richardson, III, and, in the first instance, to IG Investigative Counsel Helen Mollick. This is recited by my above-attached February 18, 2025 letter to House DOGE Subcommittee Chair Marjorie Taylor Greene and FCC Chair Brendan Carr entitled “Defunding NPR, PBS – & Firing the CPB’s Inspector General, for starters”.

Did no one share the letter with you?

The letter is additionally germane to President Trump’s yesterday’s Executive Order “[Ending Taxpayer Subsidization Of Biased Media](#)” – and to your [today’s responding press release](#).

I look forward to speaking with you about all this – and about the [\\$42,556,210 in taxpayer monies that CPB is giving in “grants and allocations” to New York “public media”](#), whose “*knowingly* false, corruption-abetting, election-rigging journalism” has continued UNABATED, since I first reported it to NPR Public Editor McBride by a [May 8, 2023 complaint](#) and to PBS Public Editor Ricardo Sandoval-Palos by a [May 15, 2023 complaint](#), as recounted by my [February 18, 2025 letter](#). **What oversight and corrective action will you be taking to rectify this catastrophic, democracy-dooming situation – and will it include forwarding this e-mail to Attorney General Pam Bondi so that she can investigate the crimes to which I first alerted the CPB IG’s Office more than six months ago, before the November 5, 2024 election. Please deem this e-mail my express request for such forwarding.**

Feel free to call, no matter how early or late – and over the weekend.

Thank you.

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