

From: ellen chorba

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2011 11:08 AM

To: The Special Commission on Judicial Compensation

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Subject: Special Commission on Judicial Compensation

By copy of this email, I am asking members of the NYS Senate Judiciary Committee, as well as certain members of the House and Assembly to intervene and STOP this blatant injustice before it is too late!!!

The New York State Special Commission on Judicial Compensation will convene on Friday August 26th to make their final decision on this proposed salary increase for members of the Judiciary.

Good Morning Commissioners:

I am advised that on Monday, August 8, 2011, the members of the Special Commission on Judicial Compensation met to discuss the proposed pay raise for New York State Judges.

Upon information and belief, Commissioner Robert Fiske, Jr., made the following statements at that meeting:

"We're trying to correct a manifest injustice that has gone on for 12 years,"

"The state's ability to grant raises, and the overall tough economic climate, are among the factors that commissioners must consider"

"But in the end, I don't think a consideration of those factors should prevent us from doing what I think is the right thing for the judges,"

On May 18, 2011, three hundred eighty seven employees of the NYS Unified Court System were notified that their services would be terminated effective June 1st.

My husband, Glen Chorba, was a victim of that Workforce Reduction after twenty four years of service.

In reference to the overall economic climate, Fiske stated *"I don't think a consideration of those factors should prevent us from doing what I think is the right thing for the judges"*

How about doing "the right thing" for the 387 families whose lives were changed forever on May 18th??

I am certain that each of those families would be quite grateful to have their salary from the the Unified Court System reinstated **without** a raise!!!

The numbers proposed by Commission Fiske would result in an increase of just over \$59K for each of the 1200 judges.

IF the State of New York can suddenly afford to spend over **70 MILLION DOLLARS of TAXPAYER MONEY** on salary - I suggest that each of the employees affected by the recent Workforce Reduction be immediately reinstated.

THEN the balance of that **70 million dollars of taxpayer money** could be divided among the members of the Judiciary.

In this scenario....the Commission does "the right thing" for everyone, not just their select special interest group.

Thank you for your time and prompt response to this matter.

Very truly yours,

ELLEN CHORBA