

From: ellen chorba

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2011 4:23 PM

To: The Special Commission on Judicial Compensation; bonacic@nysenate.gov; jdefranc@nysenate.gov; dilan@nysenate.gov; espailla@nysenate.gov; gianaris@nysenate.gov; lavelle@nysenate.gov; little@nysenate.gov; nozzolio@nysenate.gov; omara@nysenate.gov; saland@nysenate.gov; squadron@nysenate.gov; zeldin@nysenate.gov; eadams@senate.state.ny.us; breslin@senate.state.ny.us; flanagan@senate.state.ny.us; fuschill@senate.state.ny.us; Hassell@senate.state.ny.us; lkrueger@senate.state.ny.us; lanza@senate.state.ny.us; perkins@senate.state.ny.us; ranz@senate.state.ny.us; serrano@senate.state.ny.us; stavisky@senate.state.ny.us; carlucci@nysenate.gov; skelos@nysenate.gov

Cc: theresa.hoffman@mail.house.gov; calhoun@assembly.state.ny.us; jlippman@courts.state.ny.us; apfau@courts.state.ny.us; jbarbo@news12.com; Baker, Rebecca E.; jennings@nysenate.gov

Subject: Special Commission on Judicial Compensation - Part 2

Good Afternoon Members of the NYS Special Commission on Judicial Compensation, and Ladies and Gentleman of the NYS Senate Judiciary Committee:

Further to my email this morning.....

Through my numerous FOIL request, I have ascertained a copy of the April 4, 2011 Memorandum from Chief Administrative Judge Ann Pfau related to the Workforce Reduction.

Judge Pfau, in her directive to Administrative Judges and Presiding Judge, Court of Claims, states:

*"As we have discussed, since we learned that the Judiciary budget for the 2011/2012 fiscal year would be reduced by \$170 million we have been carefully reviewing ways to reduce spending while at the same time ensuring that we continue to meet our constitutional obligation to provide essential services to the public. Although a large portion of the reduction can be met by eliminating or greatly reducing the cost of court system programs and otherwise cutting expenses, **unfortunately, a reduction in the court system's workforce is unavoidable**" (emphasis added)*

Further research seems to indicate that at the same time Judge Pfau was issuing directives for the Reduction in Workforce, Judge Pfau was also compiling statistics and detailed information for her report to the Special Commission on Judicial Compensation: <http://sbmblog.typepad.com/files/071211oca.pdf>

I think you will agree that it is an absolute travesty that while Ann Pfau was issuing directives that would devastate hundreds of families - she was preparing to ask that NEW YORK STATE RESIDENT TAX DOLLARS pay for raises that amount to MORE than the combined base salary of every employee who lost their job!

I am asking each of you to immediately intervene and STOP this blatant injustice !!!

Thank you for your courtesies and prompt action in this matter.

Very truly yours,

ELLEN CHORBA