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Castro Exposes “Pattern of Deception” by DiFiore
Document in DiFiore’s Own Hand Proves She Lied in 2005

Exposing a pattern of deception by District Attorney Janet DiFiore beginning in the 2005 campaign, Tony Castro today released a letter signed by Janet DiFiore, and with a note in her own handwriting, thanking former State Senator Guy J. Vellella, a felon who pled guilty to bribery charges, for a “generous” contribution to her campaign just a month before she flatly denied ever receiving a check from the disgraced politician.

The letter signed “Janet” is dated September 15, 2005, acknowledges a “generous contribution” and includes the following handwritten addendum: “Guy – thanks for the many things you are doing to support my campaign. You are a good friend.”

In a debate hosted on News12 on Wednesday, October 19, 2005, DiFiore responded to a question by Janine Rose as follows: “... I did not accept a check from Guy Vellella, that's no. 1 ... I did not accept a check from a convicted felon or anyone in that category; the check I received was from a Bronx Republican group.”

According to a news story by Bill Hughes published in The Journal News on October 21, 2005, DiFiore again denied on October 20, 2005 ever receiving a check from Vellella, saying unequivocally: “Guy Vellella never gave me a check, and I wouldn't accept a check from Guy Vellella.”

Castro said that DiFiore’s pattern of deception is troubling and shows a lack of integrity in someone who is now the county’s top prosecutor.

“We’ve already learned in this campaign that Janet DiFiore is either ignorant of certain laws or chooses to ignore them,” Castro said. “Now we know that Janet DiFiore has lied repeatedly in the pursuit of power. It’s not a good sign when an individual trusted with an elected position can’t or won’t admit a mistake.”

Castro also released documentation proving that DiFiore lied to cover up her role in the prosecution of Irma Marquez as well.

On May 31, 2008, DiFiore fended off press inquiries about the Marquez case and stated: “I have commenced an internal inquiry as to how this matter was handled by the Office of the District Attorney, and I have reassigned personnel pending completion of the inquiry.”

However, a letter from Gary T. Certain, the attorney representing Irma Marquez, dated six weeks earlier (April 10, 2008 with a “Track and Return” receipt from the USPS proving it was delivered on April 15, 2008) proves that DiFiore already knew the details

of the case. In fact, Certain spoke to DiFiore by telephone on April 16, 2008 at 4:17 PM – a call DiFiore initiated – and she promised to review the case and get back to him. DiFiore never followed up, Marquez was prosecuted anyway but was acquitted of all charges on May 9, 2008.

Last week, Republican D.A. candidate Dan Schorr released an analysis of a court transcript that proved DiFiore lied about whether her office permitted a plea bargain in the case of David Sanchez, convicted of beating his girlfriend.

In June of this year, DiFiore claimed to have the “unanimous” support of the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association. Less than half the membership was present and voted to endorse DiFiore.

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