NEW JERSEY SENATE



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November 6, 2019

Honorable Gurbir S. Grewal Attorney General RJ Hughes Justice Complex 25 Market Street, Box 080 Trenton, NJ 08625-0080

Dear Attorney General Grewal:

I write to you today seeking your attention on a matter that occurred yesterday in Jersey City that has been reported in the news.

As you may have read, Mayor Steven Fulop was recorded next to a voting machine as he was lobbying a resident to vote a certain way on the municipality's referendum question at a polling site in Jersey City's Ward F. Attached, for your reference, you will find a copy of the article in question. The online version of the article also has the video footage.

According to NJ 19:34-15, "electioneering" within or about polling place constitutes a disorderly persons offense:

19:34-15. If a person shall distribute or display any circular or printed matter or offer any suggestion or solicit any support for any candidate, party or public question within the polling place or room or within a distance of one hundred feet of the outside entrance to such polling place or room, he shall be guilty of a disorderly persons offense

As a legislator, and former election official, I am deeply concerned about this blatant disregard of the law and the sanctity of a polling site. The statute is clear with regard to electioneering in a polling place and therefore, I am asking your office to investigate this matter. Failure to act on this matter sends the message that electioneering is now permitted in polling sites. As I am sure you can appreciate, this is not the precedent that should be set for conduct as citizens exercise their right to vote without pressure.

I thank you in advance for your prompt attention and action on this very important matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kristin M. Corrado

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