

From: Tatiana Neroni <tatiana.neroni@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2016 11:50 AM
To: Jessica Cherry
Subject: additional written submission, request to invite to testify Ravi Batra to confirmation hearing of Janet DiFiore

Dear Ms. Cherry

I request the NYS Senate and its Judiciary Committee to invite Ravi Batra former commissioner of NYS Joint Commission for Public Ethics where Janet DiFiore was a Chair, to testify at the confirmation hearing of Janet DiFiore for the position of NYS Chief Judge

I include the link describing the scandal involving support of Governor Cuomo by the gambling industry.

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2012/06/new_york_ethics_commissioner_i.html

I also draw the Committee's attention to the book "The Contender: Andrew Cuomo, a Biography", by Michael Shnayerson. A Kindle edition of the book is available on Amazon.com and is easily word-searchable for the Committee's convenience.

On pages 350-353 of the book Mr. Batra is being quoted for the description of questionable donors of Andrew Cuomo and of unlawful conduct of Janet DiFiore aimed helping Andrew Cuomo, her benefactor, who supported her for her elections as a Westchester County DA, and who nominated her for the position of a Chief Judge, in concealing the names of his anonymous private donors, including likely foreign donations, and to make possible that Andrew Cuomo, through organizations that supported him, would receive more anonymous donations that would not have to be disclosed.

The book quotes Ravi Batra's contention that it was Janet DiFiore who proposed the shifting of disclosure of identity of donors and amounts of donations from January 1, 2012, as it was required by law governing the Commission, to July 1, 2012.

Such a shift concealed the names of donors to Cuomo's lobbying group "Committee to Save New York" (CSNY) and allowed it to accept more donations backing up Cuomo for six more months without disclosure of sources, where sources, as the press started to verify, could have come from foreign companies and thus Cuomo was supported by foreign capital.

Ravi Batra reportedly reported this corruption in the Commission of Public Ethics (obviously, including Janet DiFiore's misconduct) to federal authorities.

It is apparent that Ravi Batra is an important witness of corruption orchestrated by Janet DiFiore in order to help her benefactor Andrew Cuomo conceal his donors, get more questionable anonymous donations and obscure the connection between Cuomo's "decision to push Gentings \$4 billion convention center in his State of the State speech"? (p. 350).

Janet DiFiore corrupt behavior, as described in the book, raises the issue whether Cuomo nominated her to the Committee for public ethics in order to guard his interests rather than to do a job enforcing ethics in the government. If Janet DiFiore acted not as a public servant on the Commission for Public Ethics, but as her

benefactor Cuomo's emissary, nothing can or will prevent her from acting in the same manner once she is put at the head of New York court system.

It is obvious that Andrew Cuomo did not forget the favor Janet DiFiore secured for him by breaking the law and influencing the Commission for public ethics to have six extra months of donations to Cuomo's lobbying group blocked from public scrutiny.

Promoting Janet DiFiore to the position of the Chief Judge is apparently how Andrew Cuomo pays his debt to Janet DiFiore for her corrupt conduct.

I demand that Ravi Batra is called as a witness to testify regarding Janet DiFiore's fitness to be the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, and that Janet DiFiore is asked question at her confirmation hearing as to her behavior to unlawfully push forward the disclosure date of donors for CSNY.

I also request that, if the Senate and the Committee does not have enough time to investigate this possible corrupt scheme between Cuomo and DiFiore, the confirmation hearing should be delayed until full investigation into this issue is had.

It is a disgrace that New York cannot clean up its own corruption in the government and that the only people who can do it are the feds. We do not need Preet Bharara to descend upon Cuomo and DiFiore after she is confirmed by the NYS Senate (that just lost a leader of Assembly and the leader of the Senate to convictions for corruption) and to drag them into prison for corruption.

Investigation of corruption of this proportion must certainly take time, and not enough time is left before the confirmation hearing, and the hearing itself is scheduled for just one hour and, most likely, what is scheduled is some congratulatory speeches and some brown-nosing by bar associations.

I will certainly go public with this apparent quid pro quo and I will certainly notify the feds as to the connection that is traceable between Janet DiFiore unlawful conduct in the Ethics Commission and her nomination by Cuomo in return for that.

It is apparent that if Janet DiFiore is shifting the law for the benefit of her promoters even as a Chair of a Commission of Public Ethics, she lacks any integrity and should be impeached from her position as the Westchester County District Attorney, disbarred and criminally prosecuted for corruption, not elevated to the position of Chief Judge of New York State Court system. It is a disgrace that she was nominated. It is a disgrace that she was endorsed by bar associations.

I insist that Mr. Ravi Batra is called to testify at the confirmation hearing. He can bring a lot of light as to Janet DiFiore's behavior. I insist that the Committee contact federal authorities to verify the extent of their investigations into DiFiore's and Cuomo's corruption as reported by Ravi Batra.

And, of course, I insist on posting this submission on the Senate's website before the confirmation hearing.

Thank you.

Tatiana Neroni

Center for Judicial Accountability

From: Tatiana Neroni <tatiana.neroni@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2016 12:53 PM
To: Jessica Cherry
Subject: Additional written submission toward confirmation hearing of Janet DiFiore - request to ADJOURN the confirmation hearing and conduct investigation of Janet Difiore's potential criminal conduct

Ms. Cherry

Please, find enclosed a link to my blog where I published additional concerns about clear unfitness of nominee Janet DiFiore to become New York Chief Judge (or even to keep her current position, law license and remain free from incarceration). Apparently, there is a lot of information that the NYS Senate was supposed to investigate before it even scheduled the confirmation hearing. The information I provided in that blog post, is obtained from public sources. I also point out how many witnesses of Janet DiFiore's likely criminal conduct that went on for years, are available, including those who were intimidated during the "nanny investigation", which was quashed by such intimidation, and thus, the results of such investigation may not be valid. NYS Senate has the power to conduct the necessary investigations, invite or subpoena necessary witnesses in order to make sure that the individual NYS Senate is putting on top of New York Court system, a system greatly suffering from judicial corruption, cronyism and nepotism, would come there to help resolve these problems, not contribute to them, as Janet DiFiore undoubtedly will, given her record of participation in what looks like multiple corrupt acts.

If NYS Senate did not, will not and/or would not conduct this elementary due diligence before confirming Janet DiFiore for the position of Chief Judge of New York State court system, there will be a clear appearance that the confirmation process is rigged, and rigged for personal reasons of Senator Bonacic and other Senators-attorneys whose livelihood and private businesses depend on keeping the good graces of the judiciary, while Janet DiFiore has ties to NY Corrupt court system and is supported by many high-standing officials within NY corrupt court system. Janet DiFiore did not contest claims in the press that she got her previous promotion within the judiciary system to oversee criminal courts in the 9th Judicial District, through social connections with the Administrative judge who appointed her. The same is happening here. Governor Cuomo is, most likely, promoting DiFiore because she appears to have saved him from criminal corruption investigation and, possibly, conviction, when she moved the time of disclosure for donors to his organization as the Chair of Commission for Judicial Ethics.

Janet DiFiore's family has already been rewarded by Governor Cuomo for her corrupt behavior as Chief of Judicial Ethics Commission by having her husband appointed to the casino and racetrack-siting board, which appointment should also be investigated for corruption. The second favor, by putting Janet DiFiore at the top of New York State Court, after Governor Cuomo fought to vacate that position for her against the previous Judge Lippman in preventing his efforts to extend his retirement age, is simply too much of even an appearance of corruption to be tolerated.

Parties and litigants in New York court cases are entitled to have the highest court of the state deciding their cases not to be presided over by a likely criminal who escaped criminal prosecution only because of the nature of favors she provided to high-standing officials.

<http://attorneyindependence.blogspot.com/2016/01/did-cuomo-nominate-criminal-to-head-new.html>

I insist that this e-mail be posted on NY Senate's website as opposition to confirmation of Janet DiFiore before the confirmation hearing.

I stand by each word I said in that blog and request to incorporate that blog post as my statement to the NYS Senate against confirmation of Janet DiFiore.

I insist that, before even considering to confirm DiFiore, NYS Senate should ADJOURN the confirmation hearing and use its resources and power to conduct a thorough investigation of the following episodes of Janet DiFiore's history and background, for which multiple witnesses and documentary evidence is available:

1) welfare fraud with her nanny, including, but not limited to:

(a) employing an illegal alien in 1980s for her 3 children - for which multiple witnesses should be available, as described in the blog post interlinked above;

(b) having that illegal alien, and then resident alien, apply for welfare benefits while being employed by Janet DiFiore and her husband;

(c) having Janet diFiore's husband submit a perjured affidavit that the nanny was employed by DiFiore and Glazer only since 2009;

(d) misusing the power of her office to intimidate the DSS Department, remove from her position the DSS investigator who commenced and handled the investigation into welfare fraud, and to ultimately quash the investigation;

(2) the history of DiFiore's referrals of police shootings to the culprit police departments to be investigated, and thus gaining the loyalty of local police departments not to investigate her own criminal conduct and criminal conduct of her husband and employee;

(3) the history of misconduct of DiFiore as Westchester County DA in obtaining the highest rate of felony convictions through coerced waivers of grand jury indictments, proceeding without evidence and hiding lack of evidence through coerced pleas, and coercing such pleas through court-ordered self incrimination through the TASC program in violation of criminal defendants' 5th Amendment rights;

(4) promotion to the position of supervising judge over criminal courts of the 9th Judicial District through the use of her friendship with the Administrative judge;

(5) providing a favor to Governor Cuomo as the Chair of Join Commission for Public Ethics, for which favor her husband was given an appointment to the casino and racetrack-siting board;

(6) appointment of Janet DiFiore's husband to the casino and racetrack-siting board after DiFiore's favor to Cuomo through the Commission for Public Ethics.

(7) whether DiFiore got support for this nomination from Washington D.C. through the lobbying help and connections of powerful father-in-law and mother-in-law of her daughter Alexandra Murphy.

This information is sent to you as a written submission, because this is the only avenue left to me by you, since you and your employer refused to let me testify at the confirmation hearing. The fact that I sent you any written statements because you refused to let me testify does not constitute a concession or waiver of my intent to testify.

Tatiana Neroni

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