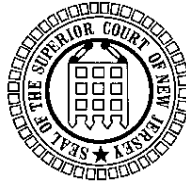


**SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
UNION VICINAGE**

2 Broad Street - Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207  
908-787-1650



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TO: David L. Minchello, Esq.

FAX #: 732-791-1555

PHONE #

FROM:

DATE: 5/2/2019 12:22:08 PM

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REMARKS:

05/02/2019 08:46 LINDEN MAYOR'S OFFICE

(732)908 474 8497

P.001/002

***8<sup>th</sup> Ward Democratic Club  
Linden, New Jersey***

May 1, 2019

Honorable Katherine R. Dupuis  
Superior Court of New Jersey  
Union County Courthouse  
2 Broad Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor New Annex  
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07207

RE: Linden Democratic Committee, et. al. v. City of Linden, et. al.  
Docket No.: UNN-C-19-19

Dear Judge Dupuis:

We are writing to you regarding the above-referenced case. I would like to start off with a brief history of our Ward Club. The 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Democratic club has roots going back to the 1930's when it started out as the FDR Club to get then Democratic candidate Franklin D. Roosevelt and other Democrats elected (at that time, Linden was a "Republican town"). The main purpose of the Club was to get local Democratic candidates elected but it also took on a social component over the years, supporting local residents in school functions, holiday parties, etc. It was the first Democratic Ward Club in the city, eventually renaming itself the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Democratic Club. As of 2019, we still meet monthly and promote and support candidates in the Ward. To us as a group, this is significant. We take elections very seriously, mirror our by-laws off the City Democratic Club, etc.

After our Councilwoman of thirteen years, Michele Yamakaitis, was elected Council President, our Ward Club started to do its due diligence and seek a replacement. According to the City and County Democratic Committee by-laws, our club was supposed to submit three names to the chairman for the Committee to vote on, which we did. Seven of the duly -elected committee people for the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward are also members in good standing in our club and were part of this selection process to submit a name to the Chairman. I will not take your time and rehash this whole saga but it is very disheartening that by-laws are allowed to be violated, people the residents of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward (our 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Committee People) elected two years ago for this sole purpose were not notified properly of the meeting to vote on the replacement, their recommendations were not heard, etc.

That being said, as of today, we are approximately one month away from the June primary in which local Democrats will cast their votes to select the candidate that they, the voters, choose to

05/02/2019 08:46 LINDEN MAYOR'S OFFICE

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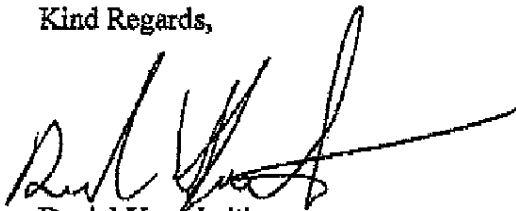
P.002/002

represent them as their Democratic candidate in the November election. As can be seen from all the evidence presented in this case, by-laws, procedures, notifications, etc. have all been violated. We are told that a settlement agreement will be presented in which the city council will be presented with the same three names, totally disregarding our recommendations. Furthermore, two of the candidates that were selected by Chairman Scutari said they are not interested in the position. How can this be fair? In this case, there are no winners.

As members of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward Democratic Club, we are asking for a settlement that will be in the best interest of the residents of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ward. We ask that you consider ordering that the winner of the June 4 primary be seated on June 5.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Kind Regards,



Daniel Yamakaitis  
President  
8<sup>th</sup> Ward Democratic Club