

## STATE OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

# SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK <u>GREETINGS</u>

TO: Steven M. Cohen

**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED,** under Executive Law § 63(8) and N.Y. Civil Practice Law and Rules § 2302(a), and/or other statutes, to deliver and turn over to the Special Deputies to the First Deputy Attorney General, on *the 9th day of April, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.*, or any agreed upon adjourned date or time, at One Liberty Plaza, 38th Floor, New York, New York 10006, all documents and information requested in the attached Schedule in accordance with the instructions and definitions contained therein.

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Attorney General deems the documents and information commanded by this Subpoena to be relevant and material to an investigation and inquiry undertaken in the public interest.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that Your disobedience of this Subpoena, by failing to deliver the documents and information requested in the attached Schedule on the date, time and place stated above or on any agreed upon adjourned date or time, <u>may subject</u> <u>You to penalties and other lawful punishment</u> under § 2308 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules and other statutes.



**WITNESS, The Honorable Letitia James,** Attorney General of the State of New York, this 30th day of March, 2021.

By:

Joon H. Kim Jennifer Kennedy Park Abena Mainoo Special Deputies to the First Deputy Attorney General @ag.ny.gov ag.ny.gov

By: <u>/s/ Anne L. Clark</u> Anne L. Clark Yannick Grant Special Deputies to the First Deputy Attorney General @ag.ny.gov

#### **SCHEDULE**

#### A. General Definitions and Rules of Construction

- 1. "<u>All</u>" means each and every.
- 2. "<u>Any</u>" means any and all.
- 3. "<u>And</u>" and "<u>or</u>" shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of the Subpoena all information or Documents that might otherwise be construed to be outside of its scope.
- 4. "<u>Communication</u>" means any conversation, discussion, letter, email, call, text message, instant message, memorandum, meeting, note or other transmittal of information or message, whether transmitted in writing, orally, electronically or by any other means, and shall include any Document that abstracts, digests, transcribes, records or reflects any of the foregoing.
- 5. "<u>Concerning</u>" means, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, relating to, referring to, describing, evidencing or constituting.
- 6. "<u>Custodian</u>" means any Person or Entity that, as of the date of this Subpoena, maintained, possessed, or otherwise kept or controlled such Document.
- 7. "Document" is used herein in the broadest sense of the term and means all records and other tangible media of expression of whatever nature however and wherever created, produced or stored (manually, mechanically, electronically or otherwise), including without limitation all versions whether draft or final, all annotated or nonconforming or other copies, electronic mail ("email"), instant messages, text messages, Blackberry or other wireless device messages, voicemail, calendars, date books, appointment books, diaries, books, papers, files, notes, confirmations, accounts statements, correspondence, memoranda, reports, records, journals, registers, analyses, code (e.g., C/C++/C#, SQL, JavaScript), algorithms, code repositories (e.g., GitHub), commit messages, audit logs, data or databases (e.g., Oracle, postgres or other SQL or non-SQL systems), plans, manuals, policies, telegrams, faxes, telexes, wires, telephone logs, telephone messages, message slips, minutes, notes or records or transcriptions of conversations or Communications or meetings, tape recordings, videotapes, disks, and other electronic media, microfilm, microfiche, storage devices, press releases, contracts, agreements, notices and summaries. Any non-identical version of a Document constitutes a separate Document within this definition, including without limitation drafts or copies bearing any notation, edit, comment, marginalia, underscoring, highlighting, marking, commit messages, or any other alteration of any kind resulting in any difference between two or more otherwise identical Documents. In the case of Documents bearing any notation or other marking made by highlighting ink, the term Document means the original version bearing the highlighting ink, which original must be produced as opposed to any copy

thereof.

- 8. "<u>Entity</u>" means without limitation any corporation, company, limited liability company or corporation, partnership, limited partnership, association, or other firm or similar body, or any unit, division, agency, department, or similar subdivision thereof.
- 9. "<u>Identify</u>" or "<u>Identity</u>," as applied to any Document means the provision in writing of information sufficiently particular to enable the Attorney General to request the Document's production through subpoena or otherwise, including but not limited to: (a) Document type (letter, memo, etc.); (b) Document subject matter; (c) Document date; and (d) Document author(s), addressee(s) and recipient(s). In lieu of identifying a Document, the Attorney General will accept production of the Document, together with designation of the Document's Custodian, and identification of each Person You believe to have received a copy of the Document.
- 10. "<u>Identify</u>" or "<u>Identity</u>," as applied to any Entity, means the provision in writing of such Entity's legal name, any d/b/a, former, or other names, any parent, subsidiary, officers, employees, or agents thereof, and any address(es) and any telephone number(s) thereof.
- 11. "<u>Identify</u>" or "<u>Identity</u>," as applied to any natural person, means and includes the provision in writing of the natural person's name, title(s), position(s), any aliases, place(s) of employment, telephone number(s), email address(es), mailing addresses and physical address(es).
- 12. "<u>Person</u>" means any natural person, or any Entity.
- 13. "<u>Sent</u>" or "<u>received</u>" as used herein means, in addition to their usual meanings, the transmittal or reception of a Document by physical, electronic or other delivery, whether by direct or indirect means.
- 14. "<u>Subpoena</u>" means this subpoena and any schedules or attachments thereto.
- 15. The use of the singular form of any word used herein shall include the plural and vice versa. The use of any tense of any verb includes all other tenses of the verb.

#### **B.** Particular Definitions

1. "<u>Complainant</u>" means Jessica Bakeman, Charlotte Bennett, Lindsey Boylan, Karen Hinton, Ana Liss, Alyssa McGrath, Anna Ruch, Sherry Vill, and any other individual who has made any Complaints known to You, any other member of the Executive Chamber, or the public. For the avoidance of doubt, to the extent additional allegations come to light following the issuance of this Subpoena, individuals who make such allegations should be included in this definition.

- 2. "<u>Complaint</u>" means any and all complaints, allegations, comments, accusations, or other statements of workplace misconduct, sexual harassment, sex- or gender-based misconduct, or other behavior or comments of a sexual, abusive or otherwise inappropriate or uncomfortable nature, whether made formally or informally.
- 3. "<u>Executive Chamber</u>" means the Executive Chamber of the State of New York, including but not limited to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, and all other officers, directors, supervisors, personnel, employees, secretaries, interns, fellows, agents, contractors, consultants, representatives, and attorneys of the Executive Chamber, or any other Persons associated with or acting on behalf of the foregoing, or acting on behalf of any predecessors, successors, or affiliates of the foregoing at any point during the relevant time.
- 4. "<u>Governor</u>" means the New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo.
- 5. "<u>New York Attorney General</u>" or "<u>Attorney General</u>" means the New York State Office of the Attorney General, including Letitia James.
- 6. "<u>Respondent</u>," "<u>You</u>," or "<u>Your</u>" means Steven M. Cohen, in either an official or individual capacity.
- 7. "<u>State</u>" or "<u>New York</u>" means the State of New York.

#### C. Instructions

- 1. Preservation of Relevant Documents and Information; Spoliation. You are reminded of Your obligations under law to preserve Documents and information relevant or potentially relevant to this Subpoena from destruction or loss, and of the consequences of, and penalties available for, spoliation of evidence. No agreement, written or otherwise, purporting to modify, limit or otherwise vary the terms of this Subpoena, shall be construed in any way to narrow, qualify, eliminate or otherwise diminish Your aforementioned preservation obligations. Nor shall You act, in reliance upon any such agreement or otherwise, in any manner inconsistent with Your preservation obligations under law. No agreement purporting to modify, limit or otherwise vary Your preservation obligations under law shall be construed as in any way narrowing, qualifying, eliminating or otherwise diminishing such aforementioned preservation obligations, nor shall You act in reliance upon any such agreement, unless a Special Deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General confirms or acknowledges such agreement in writing, or makes such agreement a matter of record in open court.
- 2. <u>Possession, Custody, and Control.</u> The Subpoena calls for all responsive Documents or information in Your possession, custody or control. This includes, without limitation, Documents or information possessed or held by You or any of Your officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, divisions, affiliates, subsidiaries or Persons from whom You could request

Documents or information. If Documents or information responsive to a request in this Subpoena are in Your control, but not in Your possession or custody, You shall promptly Identify the Person with possession or custody and notify that Person of the Person's obligation to preserve such Documents and provide them to You for production.

- 3. <u>Documents No Longer in Your Possession.</u> If any Document requested herein was formerly in Your possession, custody or control but is no longer available, or no longer exists, You shall submit a statement in writing under oath that: (a) describes in detail the nature of such Document and its contents; (b) Identifies the Person(s) who prepared such Document and its contents; (c) Identifies all Persons who have seen or had possession of such Document; (d) specifies the date(s) on which such Document was prepared, transmitted or received; (e) specifies the date(s) on which such Document became unavailable; (f) specifies the reason why such Document is unavailable, including without limitation whether it was misplaced, lost, destroyed or transferred; and if such Document has been destroyed or transferred, the conditions of and reasons for such destruction or transfer and the Identity of the Person(s) requesting and performing such destruction or transfer; and (g) Identifies all Persons with knowledge of any portion of the contents of the Document.
- 4. <u>No Documents Responsive to Subpoena Requests.</u> If there are no Documents responsive to any particular Subpoena request, You shall so state in writing under oath in the Affidavit of Compliance attached hereto, identifying the paragraph number(s) of the Subpoena request concerned.
- 5. <u>Format of Production.</u> You shall produce Documents and information responsive to this Subpoena in the format requested by the Office of the New York State Attorney General, as set out in Attachments 1 and 2 or as otherwise agreed upon.
- 6. <u>Databases.</u> To the extent that any data responsive to the requests herein is maintained in an electronic repository of records, such as a detailed transcription report, such information should be produced by querying the database for responsive information and generating a report or a reasonably usable and exportable electronic file (for example, \*.csv and/or \*.xls formats) for review. If it is not possible to export data in this format, You must make the database available to the undersigned for meaningful inspection and review of the information.
- 7. <u>Existing Organization of Documents to be Preserved.</u> Regardless of whether a production is in electronic or paper format, each Document shall be produced in the same form, sequence, organization or other order or layout in which it was maintained before production, including but not limited to production of any Document or other material indicating filing or other organization. Such production shall include without limitation any file folder, file jacket, cover or similar organizational material, as well as any folder bearing any title or legend that contains no Document. Likewise, all Documents that are physically attached

to each other in Your files shall remain so attached in any production; or if such production is electronic, shall be accompanied by notation or information sufficient to indicate clearly such physical attachment.

- 8. <u>Manner of Compliance Custodians/Search Terms/Technology-Assisted Review.</u> Prior consultation with the Special Deputies to the First Deputy Attorney General is required concerning selection of custodians for document searches (whether electronic or otherwise) or for use of search term filters, predictive coding or other forms of technology-assisted review. The Office of the Attorney General reserves the right to approve, disapprove, modify or supplement any proposed list of custodians, search terms, and/or review methodology. The selection or use of custodians, search term filters, and/or technology-assisted review in no way relieves You of Your obligation to fully respond to these requests for Documents or information.
- 9. <u>Document Numbering.</u> All Documents responsive to this Subpoena, regardless of whether produced or withheld on ground of privilege or other legal doctrine, and regardless of whether production is in electronic or paper format, shall be numbered in the lower right corner of each page of such Document, without disrupting or altering the form, sequence, organization or other order or layout in which such Documents were maintained before production. Such number shall comprise a prefix containing the producing Person's name or an abbreviation thereof, followed by a unique, sequential, identifying document control number.
- 10. <u>Privilege Placeholders.</u> For each Document withheld from production on ground of privilege or other legal doctrine, regardless of whether a production is electronic or in hard copy, You shall insert one or more placeholder page(s) in the production bearing the same document control number(s) borne by the Document withheld, in the sequential place(s) originally occupied by the Document before it was removed from the production.
- 11. <u>Privilege.</u> If You withhold or redact any Document responsive to this Subpoena on ground of any privilege or other legal doctrine, You shall submit with the Documents produced a statement in writing under oath, stating: (a) the document control number(s) of the Document withheld or redacted; (b) the type of Document; (c) the date of the Document; (d) the author(s) and recipient(s) of the Document; (e) the general subject matter of the Document; and (f) the legal ground for withholding or redacting the Document. If the legal ground for withholding or redacting the Document is attorney-client privilege, You shall indicate the name of the attorney(s) whose legal advice is sought or provided in the Document.
- 12. <u>Your Production Instructions to Be Produced.</u> You shall produce a copy of all written or otherwise recorded instructions prepared by You concerning the steps taken to respond to this Subpoena. For any unrecorded instructions given, You shall provide a written statement under oath from the Person(s) who gave such

instructions that details the specific content of the instructions and any Person(s) to whom the instructions were given.

- 13. <u>Cover Letter, Index, and Identifying Information.</u> Accompanying any production(s) made pursuant to this Subpoena, You shall include a cover letter that shall at a minimum provide an index containing the following: (a) a description of the type and content of each Document produced therewith; (b) the paragraph number(s) of the Subpoena request(s) to which each such Document is responsive; (c) the Identity of the Custodian(s) of each such Document; and (d) the document control number(s) of each such Document. As further set forth in Attachment 2, information must also be included in the metadata and load files of each production concerning the identity of each Document's custodian, as well as information identifying the particular Document requests and/or information to which each document is responsive.
- 14. <u>Affidavit of Compliance.</u> A copy of the Affidavit of Compliance provided herewith shall be completed and executed by all natural persons supervising or participating in compliance with this Subpoena, and You shall submit such executed Affidavit(s) of Compliance with Your response to this Subpoena.
- 15. <u>Identification of Persons Preparing Production.</u> In a schedule attached to the Affidavit of Compliance provided herewith, You shall Identify the natural person(s) who prepared or assembled any productions or responses to this Subpoena. You shall further Identify the natural person(s) under whose personal supervision the preparation and assembly of productions and responses to this Subpoena occurred. You shall further Identify all other natural person(s) able to competently testify: (a) that such productions and responses are complete and correct to the best of such person's knowledge and belief; and (b) that any Documents produced are authentic, genuine and what they purport to be.
- 16. <u>Continuing Obligation to Produce.</u> This Subpoena imposes a continuing obligation to produce the Documents and information requested. Documents located or created, and information learned, acquired or created, at any time after Your response is due shall be promptly produced at the place specified in this Subpoena.
- 17. <u>No Oral Modifications.</u> No agreement purporting to modify, limit or otherwise vary this Subpoena shall be valid or binding, and You shall not act in reliance upon any such agreement, unless a Special Deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General confirms or acknowledges such agreement in writing, or makes such agreement a matter of record in open court.
- 18. <u>Time Period.</u> Unless otherwise specified, the time period covered by this Subpoena shall be from January 1, 2013 forward.

#### **D.** Documents to Be Produced

1. Any and all Documents related to any Complaint concerning the Governor, including any investigation thereof.

2. Any and all Documents concerning Communications with or about a Complainant.

3. Any and all Documents reflecting Communications between the Governor and any Complainant.

4. Any and all Documents concerning a Complainant's attendance at an event, appointment, or meeting at which the Governor was or would be present, including any at the Executive Offices or the Governor's Mansion.

5. Any and all Documents concerning any change in the position, title, employment, or office of any Complainant.

6. Any and all Documents concerning Communications with the media or public and other public statements about the Complainants or Complaints concerning the Governor.

7. Any and all Documents relating to how to respond to Complaints concerning the Governor, including the nature of any investigation to be conducted about such Complaints.

8. Any and all Documents concerning retention or deletion of records within the Executive Chamber, including but not limited to Communications between members or policies regarding the deletion of emails, use of Blackberry instant messaging, and other means of communication.

9. Documents sufficient to identify Your employment history, beginning with Your employment by the Executive Chamber and up to the present day, including but not limited to the time period of Your employment, Your title(s), Your position(s), Your responsibilities, and Your direct supervisor(s) for each position.

10. A list of all Your electronic devices used for any Communication related

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to the Executive Chamber or the Governor, whether personally owned or supplied to you by the Executive Chamber, the State, or otherwise.

11. A list of all Your email addresses or phone numbers used for any Communication related to the Executive Chamber or the Governor.

#### <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> Electronic Document Production Specifications

Unless otherwise specified and agreed to by the Office of Attorney General, all responsive documents must be produced in LexisNexis® Concordance® format in accordance with the following instructions. Any questions regarding electronic document production should be directed to the Special Deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General whose telephone number appears on the subpoena.

- 1. <u>Concordance Production Components</u>. A Concordance production consists of the following component files, which must be produced in accordance with the specifications set forth below in Section 7.
  - A. *Metadata Load File.* A delimited text file that lists in columnar format the required metadata for each produced document.
  - B. *Extracted or OCR Text Files.* Document-level extracted text for each produced document or document-level optical character recognition ("OCR") text where extracted text is not available.
  - C. *Single-Page Image Files.* Individual petrified page images of the produced documents in tagged image format ("TIF"), with page-level Bates number endorsements.
  - D. *Opticon Load File.* A delimited text file that lists the single-page TIF files for each produced document and defines (i) the relative location of the TIF files on the production media and (ii) each document break.
  - E. *Native Files.* Native format versions of non-printable or non-print friendly produced documents.
- 2. <u>Production Folder Structure</u>. The production must be organized according to the following standard folder structure:
  - data\ (contains production load files)
  - images\ (contains single-page TIF files, with subfolder organization) \0001, \0002, \0003...
  - native\_files\ (contains native files, with subfolder organization) \0001, \0002, \0003...
  - text\ (contains text files, with subfolder organization) \0001, \0002, \0003...
- 3. <u>De-Duplication</u>. You must perform global de-duplication of stand-alone documents and email families against any prior productions pursuant to this or previously related subpoenas.
- 4. <u>Paper or Scanned Documents</u>. Documents that exist only in paper format must be scanned to single-page TIF files and OCR'd. The resulting electronic files should

be pursued in Concordance format pursuant to these instructions. You must contact the Special Deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General whose telephone number appears on the subpoena to discuss (i) any documents that cannot be scanned, and (ii) how information for scanned documents should be represented in the metadata load file.

- 5. <u>Structured Data</u>. Before producing structured data, including but not limited to relational databases, transactional data, and xml pages, you must first speak to the Special Deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General whose telephone number appears on the subpoena. Structured data is data that has a defined length and format and includes, but is not limited to, relational databases, graphical databases, JSON files, or xml/html pages.
  - A. Relational Databases

1. Database tables should be provided in CSV or other delimited machine-readable, non-proprietary format, with each table in a separate data file. The preferred delimiter is a vertical bar "|". If after speaking with the Special Deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General and it is determined that the data cannot be exported from a proprietary database, then the data can be produced in the proprietary format so long as the Office of the Attorney General is given sufficient access to that data.

2. Each database must have an accompanying Data Dictionary.

3. Dates and numbers must be clearly and consistently formatted and, where relevant, units of measure should be explained in the Data Dictionary.

4. Records must contain clear, unique identifiers, and the Data Dictionary must include explanations of how the files and records relate to one another.

5. Each data file must also have an accompanying summary file that provides total row counts for the entire dataset and total row counts.

#### B. Compression

1. If Documents are provided in a compressed archive, only standard lossless compression methods (e.g., gzip, bzip2, and ZIP) shall be used. Media files should be provided in their original file format, with metadata preserved and no additional lossy encoding applied.

6. <u>Media and Encryption</u>. All documents must be produced on CD, DVD, or harddrive media. After consultation with the Special Deputy to the First Deputy Attorney General, Documents may also be produced over a secure file transfer protocol (FTP) or a pre-approved cloud-based platform (*e.g.*, Amazon Web Services S3 bucket). All production media must be protected with a strong, randomly generated password containing at least 16 alphanumeric characters and encrypted using Advanced Encryption Standard with 256-bit key length (AES-256). Passwords for electronic documents, files, compressed archives and encrypted media must be provided separately from the media.

#### 7. <u>Production File Requirements</u>.

#### A. *Metadata Load File*

- Required file format:
  - ASCII or UTF-8
  - Windows formatted CR + LF end of line characters, including full CR + LF on last record in file.
  - $\circ$  .dat file extension
  - Field delimiter: (ASCII decimal character 20)
  - Text Qualifier: b (ASCII decimal character 254). Date and pure numeric value fields do not require qualifiers.
  - Multiple value field delimiter: ; (ASCII decimal character 59)
- The first line of the metadata load file must list all included fields. All required fields are listed in Attachment 2.
- Fields with no values must be represented by empty columns maintaining delimiters and qualifiers.
- *Note:* All documents must have page-level Bates numbering (except documents produced only in native format, which must be assigned a document-level Bates number). The metadata load file must list the beginning and ending Bates numbers (BEGDOC and ENDDOC) for each document. For document families, including but not limited to emails and attachments, compound documents, and uncompressed file containers, the metadata load file must also list the Bates range of the entire document family (ATTACHRANGE), beginning with the first Bates number (BEGDOC) of the "parent" document and ending with the last Bates number (ENDDOC) assigned to the last "child" in the document family.
- Date and Time metadata must be provided in separate columns.
- Accepted date formats:
  - o mm/dd/yyyy
  - o yyyy/mm/dd
  - o yyyymmdd
- Accepted time formats:
  - hh:mm:ss (if not in 24-hour format, you must indicate am/pm)

o hh:mm:ss:mmm

## B. Extracted or OCR Text Files

- You must produce individual document-level text files containing the full extracted text for each produced document.
- When extracted text is not available (for instance, for image-only documents) you must provide individual document-level text files containing the document's full OCR text.
- The filename for each text file must match the document's beginning Bates number (BEGDOC) listed in the metadata load file.
- Text files must be divided into subfolders containing no more than 500 to 1000 files.

#### C. Single-Page Image Files (Petrified Page Images)

- Where possible, all produced documents must be converted into single-page tagged image format ("TIF") files. See Section 7.E below for instructions on producing native versions of documents you are unable to convert.
- Image documents that exist only in non-TIF formats must be converted into TIF files. The original image format must be produced as a native file as described in Section 7.E below.
- For documents produced only in native format, you must provide a TIF placeholder that states "Document produced only in native format."
- Each single-page TIF file must be endorsed with a unique Bates number.
- The filename for each single-page TIF file must match the unique page-level Bates number (or document-level Bates number for documents produced only in native format).
- Required image file format:
  - CCITT Group 4 compression
  - 2-Bit black and white
  - o 300 dpi
  - Either .tif or .tiff file extension.
- TIF files must be divided into subfolders containing no more than 500 to 1000 files. Where possible documents should not span multiple subfolders.

#### D. Opticon Load File

- Required file format:
  - o ASCII
  - $\circ$  Windows formatted CR + LF end of line characters
  - Field delimiter: , (ASCII decimal character 44)
  - No Text Qualifier
  - o .opt file extension

- The comma-delimited Opticon load file must contain the following seven fields (as indicated below, values for certain fields may be left blank):
  - ALIAS or IMAGEKEY the unique Bates number assigned to each page of the production.
  - VOLUME this value is optional and may be left blank.
  - RELATIVE PATH the filepath to each single-page image file on the production media.
  - DOCUMENT BREAK defines the first page of a document. The only possible values for this field are "Y" or blank.
  - FOLDER BREAK defines the first page of a folder. The only possible values for this field are "Y" or blank.
  - BOX BREAK defines the first page of a box. The only possible values for this field are "Y" or blank.
  - PAGE COUNT this value is optional and may be left blank.
- Example:

ABC00001,,IMAGES\0001\ABC00001.tif,Y,,,2 ABC00002,,IMAGES\0001\ABC00002.tif,,, ABC00003,,IMAGES\0002\ABC00003.tif,Y,,,1 ABC00004,,IMAGES\0002\ABC00004.tif,Y,,,1

## E. *Native Files*

- Non-printable or non-print friendly documents (including but not limited to spreadsheets, audio files, video files and documents for which color has significance to document fidelity) must be produced in their native format.
- The filename of each native file must match the document's beginning Bates number (BEGDOC) in the metadata load file and retain the original file extension.
- For documents produced only in native format, you must assign a single document-level Bates number and provide an image file placeholder that states "Document produced only in native format."
- The relative paths to all native files on the production media must be listed in the NATIVEFILE field of the metadata load file.
- Native files that are password-protected must be decrypted prior to conversion and produced in decrypted form. In cases where this cannot be achieved the document's password must be listed in the metadata load file. The password should be placed in the COMMENTS field with the format Password: <PASSWORD>.
- You may be required to supply a software license for proprietary documents produced only in native format.

FIELD NAME	FIELD DESCRIPTION	FIELD VALUE EXAMPLE <sup>1</sup>
DOCID	Unique document reference (can be used for de-duplication).	ABC0001 or ###.#########
BEGDOC	Bates number assigned to the first page of the document.	ABC0001
ENDDOC	Bates number assigned to the last page of the document.	ABC0002
BEGATTACH	Bates number assigned to the first page of the parent document in a document family ( <i>i.e.</i> , should be the same as BEGDOC of the parent document, or PARENTDOC).	ABC0001
ENDATTACH	Bates number assigned to the last page of the last child document in a family ( <i>i.e.</i> , should be the same as ENDDOC of the last child document).	ABC0008
ATTACHRANGE	Bates range of entire document family.	ABC0001 - ABC0008
PARENTDOC	BEGDOC of parent document.	ABC0001
CHILDDOCS	List of BEGDOCs of all child documents, delimited by ";" when field has multiple values.	ABC0002; ABC0003; ABC0004
DOCREQ	List of particular Requests for Documents to be Produced in the subpoena	1; 2; 3
INTERROG	List of particular Requests for Information or interrogatories in the subpoena	1; 2; 3
COMMENTS	Additional document comments, such as passwords for encrypted files.	

## <u>ATTACHMENT 2</u> Required Fields for Metadata Load File

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Examples represent possible values and not required format unless the field format is specified in Attachment 1.

NATIVEFILE	Relative file path of the native file on the production media.	.\Native_File\Folder\\BE GDOC.ext
SOURCE	For scanned paper records this should be a description of the physical location of the original paper record. For loose electronic files this should be the name of the file server or workstation where the files were gathered.	Company Name, Department Name, Location, Box Number
CUSTODIAN	Owner of the document or file.	Firstname Lastname, Lastname, Firstname, User Name; Company Name, Department Name
FROM	Sender of the email.	Firstname Lastname < FLastname @domain >
ТО	All to: members or recipients, delimited by ";" when field has multiple values.	Firstname Lastname < FLastname @domain >; Firstname Lastname < FLastname @domain >; 
CC	All cc: members, delimited by ";" when field has multiple values.	Firstname Lastname < FLastname @domain >; Firstname Lastname < FLastname @domain >; 
BCC	All bcc: members, delimited by ";" when field has multiple values	Firstname Lastname < FLastname @domain >; Firstname Lastname < FLastname @domain >; 
SUBJECT	Subject line of the email.	
DATERCVD	Date that an email was received.	mm/dd/yyyy, yyyy/mm/dd, or yyyymmdd
TIMERCVD	Time that an email was received.	hh:mm:ss AM/PM or hh:mm:ss
DATESENT	Date that an email was sent.	mm/dd/yyyy, yyyy/mm/dd, or yyyymmdd

TIMESENT	Time that an email was sent.	hh:mm:ss AM/PM or hh:mm:ss
CALBEGDATE	Date that a meeting begins.	mm/dd/yyyy, yyyy/mm/dd, or yyyymmdd
CALBEGTIME	Time that a meeting begins.	hh:mm:ss AM/PM or hh:mm:ss
CALENDDATE	Date that a meeting ends.	mm/dd/yyyy, yyyy/mm/dd, or yyyymmdd
CALENDTIME	Time that a meeting ends.	hh:mm:ss AM/PM or hh:mm:ss
CALENDARDUR	Duration of a meeting in hours.	0.75, 1.5
ATTACHMENTS	List of filenames of all attachments, delimited by ";" when field has multiple values.	AttachmentFileName.; AttachmentFileName.doc x; AttachmentFileName.pdf; 
NUMATTACH	Number of attachments.	1, 2, 3, 4
RECORDTYPE	General type of record.	IMAGE; LOOSE E- MAIL; E-MAIL; E-DOC; IMAGE ATTACHMENT; LOOSE E-MAIL ATTACHMENT; E- MAIL ATTACHMENT; E-DOC ATTACHMENT
FOLDERLOC	Original folder path of the produced document.	Drive:\Folder\\
FILENAME	Original filename of the produced document.	Filename.ext
DOCEXT	Original file extension.	html, xls, pdf
DOCTYPE	Name of the program that created the produced document.	Adobe Acrobat, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Corel WordPerfect
TITLE	Document title (if entered).	
AUTHOR	Name of the document author.	Firstname Lastname; Lastname, First Name; FLastname
REVISION	Number of revisions to a document.	18

DATECREATED	Date that a document was created.	mm/dd/yyyy, yyyy/mm/dd, or yyyymmdd
TIMECREATED	Time that a document was created.	hh:mm:ss AM/PM or hh:mm:ss
DATEMOD	Date that a document was last modified.	mm/dd/yyyy, yyyy/mm/dd, or yyyymmdd
TIMEMOD	Time that a document was last modified.	hh:mm:ss AM/PM or hh:mm:ss
FILESIZE	Original file size in bytes.	128, 512, 1024
PGCOUNT	Number of pages per document.	1, 2, 10, 100
IMPORTANCE	Email priority level if set.	Low, Normal, High
TIFFSTATUS	Generated by the Law Pre-discovery production tool (leave blank if inapplicable).	Y, C, E, W, N, P
DUPSTATUS	Generated by the Law Pre-discovery production tool (leave blank if inapplicable).	Р
MD5HASH	MD5 hash value computed from native file (a/k/a file fingerprint).	BC1C5CA6C1945179FE E144F25F51087B
SHA1HASH	SHA1 hash value	B68F4F57223CA7DA358 4BAD7ECF111B8044F86 31
MSGINDEX	Email message ID	

#### AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPOENA

State of	)
County of	}

- I, \_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, state as follows:
- 1. I am employed by Respondent in the position of \_\_\_\_\_\_;
- 2. Respondent's productions and responses to the Subpoena of the Attorney General of the State of New York, dated \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_ (the "Subpoena") were prepared and assembled under my personal supervision;
- 3. I made or caused to be made a diligent, complete and comprehensive search for all Documents and information requested by the Subpoena, in full accordance with the instructions and definitions set forth in the Subpoena;
- 4. Respondent's productions and responses to the Subpoena are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief;
- 5. No Documents or information responsive to the Subpoena have been withheld from Respondent's production and response, other than responsive Documents or information withheld on the basis of a legal privilege or doctrine;
- 6. All responsive Documents or information withheld on the basis of a legal privilege or doctrine have been identified on a privilege log composed and produced in accordance with the instructions in the Subpoena;
- 7. The Documents contained in Respondent's productions and responses to the Subpoena are authentic, genuine and what they purport to be;
- 8. Attached is a true and accurate record of all persons who prepared and assembled any productions and responses to the Subpoena, all persons under whose personal supervision the preparation and assembly of productions and responses to the Subpoena occurred, and all persons able competently to testify: (a) that such productions and responses are complete and correct to the best of such person's knowledge and belief; and (b) that any Documents produced are authentic, genuine and what they purport to be; and

9. Attached is a true and accurate statement of those requests under the Subpoena as to which no responsive Documents were located in the course of the aforementioned search.

Signature of Affiant		Date
Printed Name of Affiant		
* *	*	
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	_day of	, 20
, Notary Pu	ıblic	
My commission expires:		

## COMPLIANCE WITH SUBPOENA

I hereby affirm that I have complied to the best of my ability with the subpoena issued to

me on March 30, 2021.

Steven Cohen

New York, New York June 22, 2021



Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:03 PM	
Subject:	[Chat #9894]	
From:	Rich Azzopardi	
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Dani Lever]; [Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen];	
Attachments:	IMG_6898.jpeg; IMG_6903.jpeg; IMG_6902.jpeg; IMG_6899.jpeg; IMG_6901.jpeg; IMG_6900.jpeg; IMG_6897.jpeg	

## -----METADATA INFORMATION-----

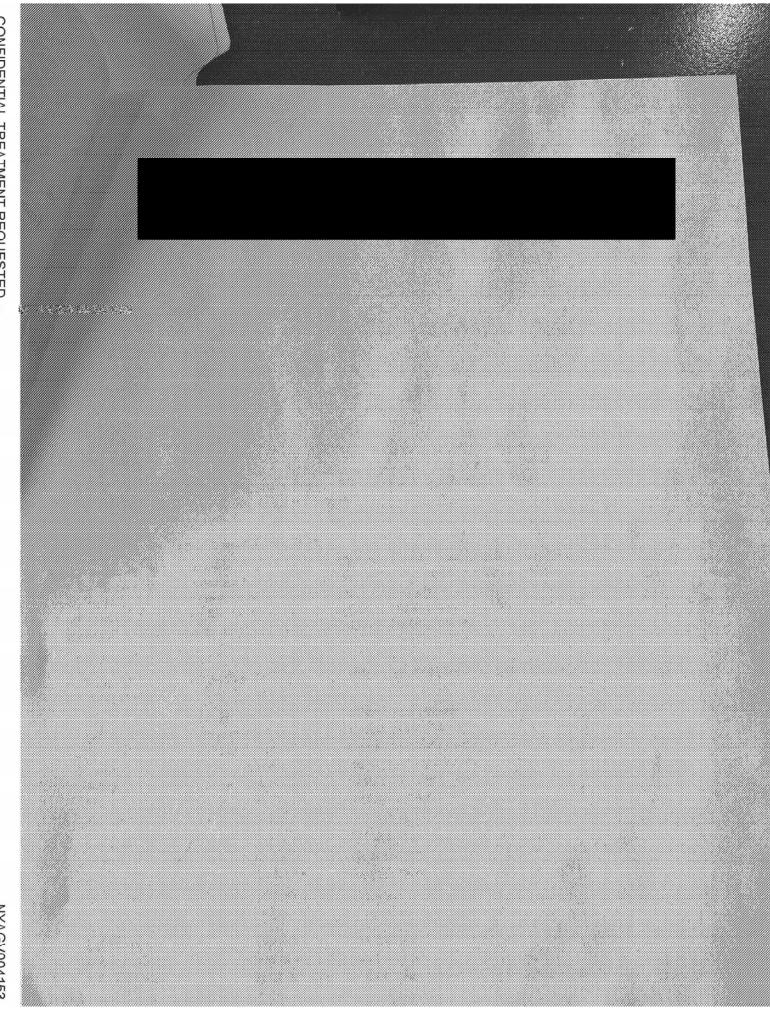
Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

ICCID:





CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED = Exempt from Disclosure Under FOIL, N. Y. Pub. Off. Law § 87(2)



Further, she has notified practically all state

employees and many external stakeholders of her voluntary resignation, which was accepted. We will need to think about whether that issue can be effectively managed. I advised her I would get back to her with a formal response to her request.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED Exempt from Disclosure Under FOIL, N. Y. Pub. Off. Law § 87(2)

1988 N. 2017 (A. 1977) (A. 1977)

NYAGV004154

From: Sent: To: Subject: Alphoneo David Sunday, September 30, 2018 12:29 PM Julia Kupiec; Camille Varlack Lindsey Boyland Follow-up

Privileged and confidential Attorney client communication Attorney work product

1

	confidential - Attorney		
		Callment Breezeward	and Communication
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	apprendiated a AHOINEY	A HEIL FILLER	
Draft privilegell dill	CONTROLING A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A		
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Intra-Agency Comm	373403110312		
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s x . 1011 a			
Memo to File			

# MEMORANDUM TO FILE

To:	Alphonso David, Counsel to the Governor
From:	Julia Pinover Kupice, Assistant Counsel and Chamber Ethics Officer
Date:	September 26, 2018
Subject:	Employment Counseling for Lindsay Boylan
I. Pur	pose

1

During the course of this counseling

session, Ms. Boylan tendered her resignation voluntarily.

2875

Draft, privileged and confidential - Attorney Client Privileged Communication Intra-Agency Communication Memo to File

## 3 Ms. Boylan's Resignation

During the meeting Mr. David was clear that she was not being asked to resign, fired, or pushed out in any way. In no uncertain terms he said that she was simply being counseled in response to the complaints that have been made about her from multiple sources.

Towards the close of this meeting Ms. Boylan voluntarily tendered her resignation, indicated that she would be leaving the office for the day and consulting with her own counsel regarding her next steps in Executive Chamber. She was clear that she intended to resign but she wished to think through the timing of her departure. Ms. Boylan expressed that she did not feel she could be effective in the Executive Chamber and as a result wished to move on. She expressed that her main priority was to leave her team – consisting of the two deputies she had hired – to be left in good stead in the Executive Chamber and suggested that they be elevated in position and rank here. Mr. David asked that Ms. Boylan advise him when she wished her resignation to be effective and offered the new year as a possibility.

Within four hours of the meeting, Ms. Boylan sent an email to staff within and outside of the Executive Chamber indicating that she had resigned and that her resignation was effective immediately.

I wrote this memorandum on September 26, 2018 based on contemporaneous notes taken during my personal attendance at the above descried meeting on September 26, 2018.

/\$

Julia Pinover Kupiec Executive Chamber Ethics Officer

61 18 2 #1 52

Draft, mixileged and confidential - Attorney Client Privileged Communication Intra-Agency Communication Memo to File

2

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	Memorandum	
To:	Alphonso David, Counsel to the Governor	
From:	Camille Joseph Varlack, Deputy Director of State Operations, Chief Risk Officer and Special Counsel	
Re:	Confidential Personnel Matter	
Date:	September 20, 2018	

.......

On September 20, 2018, I spoke with

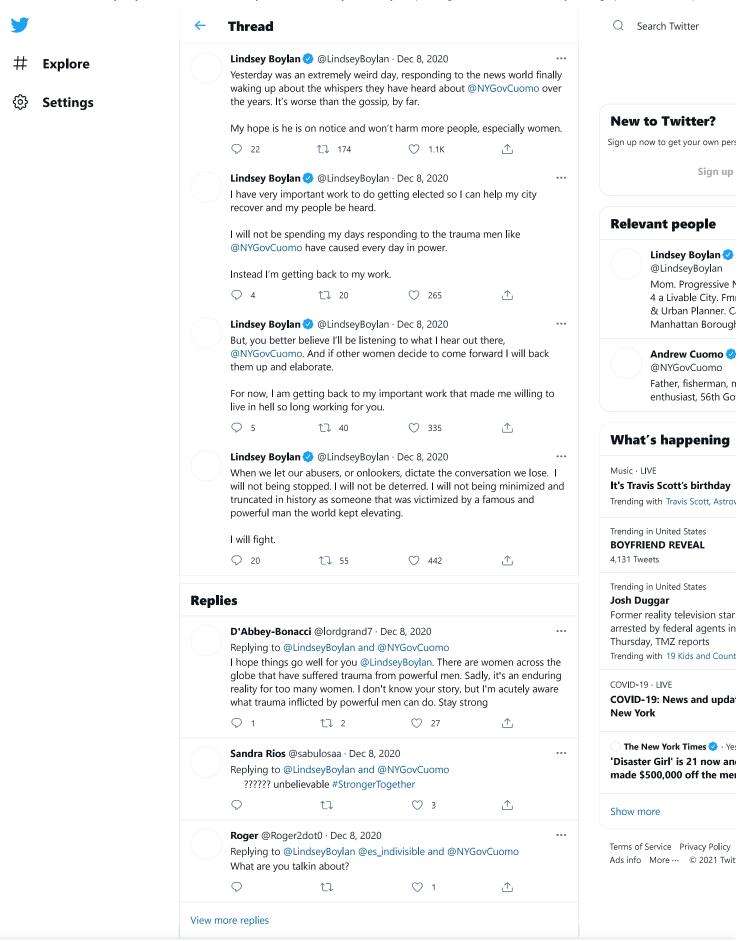
of Empire State Development (ESD). respectively. Below please find a summary of my conversation.

<b>y</b>	← Thread	Q Search Twitter
# Explore	Lindsey Boylan 📀 @LindseyBoylan	New to Twitter?
Section of		Sign up now to get your own pers
Settings     Settings	Most toxic team environment? Working for @NYGovCuomo.	Sign up
	Jerry Avenaim 🤣 @avenaim • Dec 5, 2020 Name the worse job you've ever had.	Relevant people
	Name the worse job you ve even had.	Relevant people
	1:00 PM · Dec 5, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone	<b>Lindsey Boylan 🤣</b> @LindseyBoylan
	1,252 Retweets 311 Quote Tweets 9,293 Likes	Mom. Progressive N 4 a Livable City. Fm
		& Urban Planner. C Manhattan Borougl
	Lindsey Boylan 🔗 @LindseyBoylan - Dec 5, 2020 ···· Replying to @LindseyBoylan	Andrew Cuomo 🤡 @NYGovCuomo
	I've had many jobs. Waitressing at @Friendlys as a teenager was an infinitely more respectful environment. Even when I had bad customers who tipped poorly.	Father, fisherman, n enthusiast, 56th Go
	Q 24 1↓ 54 ♡ 884 ①	Jerry Avenaim 🤣 @avenaim
	<b>Lindsey Boylan ?</b> @LindseyBoylan • Dec 5, 2020 If people weren't deathly afraid of him, they'd be saying the same thing and you'd already know the stories.	Award winning pho Fashion, Celebrity, A -Chicago Native -Lo Mental Health Advo
	♀ 26 1, 85 ♥ 1K 1,	
	<b>Lindsey Boylan</b> @LindseyBoylan • Dec 5, 2020              Seriously, the messages and texts I receive when I speak the truth about	What's happening
	thisit's a whole book of people who have been harmed. $\bigcirc$ 9 $\bigcirc$ 53 $\bigcirc$ 860 $\bigcirc$	Entertainment - LIVE Happy birthday, Tom Holla Trending with Tom Holland
	Lindsey Boylan 🤣 @LindseyBoylan - Dec 5, 2020 ····	
	Don't be surprised that it's the same small group of white people sitting alongside him at every presser. The same group that he has had by him the whole time, doing his dirty work. If you're not one of those handful, your life working for him is endlessly dispiriting.	Music - Trending JUST ANNOUNCED 17K Tweets
	Q 13 12 70 ♥ 914 ①	Trending in United States HELP THE BEAR
	<b>Lindsey Boylan</b> < @LindseyBoylan - Dec 5, 2020 I tried to quit three times before it stuck. I've worked hard my whole life. Hustled - fake it till you make it style.	People react to a viral TikTok fearlessly pushing a bear awa before running inside to pro- 4,843 Tweets
	That environment is beyond toxic. I'm still unwrapping it years later in therapy!	COVID-19 · LIVE New York: COVID-19: New
	♀ 20 tl 39 ♡ 776 1.	updates for New York
	<b>Lindsey Boylan</b> (2) @LindseyBoylan - Dec 5, 2020 And I'm a privileged person. I could opt out and eventually did. I shudder to think what happens to others. It pisses me off so much.	Holidays · 1 hour ago <b>Pride Month celebrations b</b> across the world
Exhibit		Trending with #pride 🛃 LGBTQ
Exhibit	Lindsey Boylan 🤣 @LindseyBoylan · Dec 5, 2020 ···· Yes I did not sign whatever they told me to sign when I left. Nope!	Show more
<b>4.</b> P.B. 06.30.21	₽ ♀ 29 ℃ 30 ♡ 936 ①	Terms of Service Privacy Policy Ads info More ···· © 2021 Twit

Marcella L. Simonetta @marcellalaluna · Dec 5, 2020

**Don't miss what's happening** People on Twitter are the first to know. ÷...

Lindsey Boylan on Twitter: "Yesterday was an extremely weird day, responding to the news world finally waking up about the whispers th...



**Don't miss what's happening** People on Twitter are the first to know.

Log in

S

## **Explore**

Settings

#### Thread

Lindsey Boylan @LindseyBoylan

My first experience of workplace sexual harassment was when my mom got her first real office job after graduating from college when I was in high school.

She was so excited to be taken "seriously." Her bossed isolated her and kissed her. She never had that type of job again.

8:49 AM · Dec 13, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

1,085 Retweets 375 Quote Tweets 7,614 Likes  $\bigcirc$ 止 1J  $\bigcirc$ Lindsey Boylan 🕗 @LindseyBoylan · Dec 13, 2020 Replying to @LindseyBoylan It was then how I learned how hard it is for women. How hard this world can be for us when we are trying to be taken seriously and help our community. How easily jerks can destroy the lives of women. **O** 58 1 327 ♥ 3.7K <u>\_</u> Lindsey Boylan 🤣 @LindseyBoylan · Dec 13, 2020 And I promised myself I would never let those kind of guys win. I would work hard my whole life to put myself in positions of power to change things. To end the violence & corruption. Give voice to the voiceless. I am not stopping. I refuse. I will never give up. Q 110 1 378 ♡ 3.8K ⚠ Lindsey Boylan 🤣 @LindseyBoylan · Dec 13, 2020 Yes, @NYGovCuomo sexually harassed me for years. Many saw it, and watched.

I could never anticipate what to expect: would I be grilled on my work (which was very good) or harassed about my looks. Or would it be both in the same conversation? This was the way for years.

Q 2.5K 13.8K ♥ 27.6K <sub>`</sub>↑

Lindsey Boylan 🕗 @LindseyBoylan · Dec 13, 2020 Not knowing what to expect what's the most upsetting part aside from knowing that no one would do a damn thing even when they saw it.

No one.

And I \*know\* I am not the only woman.

Q 203 ♡ 7.5K 1J 1K 仚

Lindsey Boylan 🕗 @LindseyBoylan · Dec 13, 2020 I'm angry to be put in this situation at all. That because I am a woman, I can work hard my whole life to better myself and help others and yet still fall victim as countless women over generations have. Mostly silently.

I hate that some men, like @NYGovCuomo abuse their power. Q 714 1] 2K 💙 11.1K 企

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#### **Relevant people**

Lindsey Boylan @LindseyBoylan Mom. Progressive N 4 a Livable City. Fm & Urban Planner. C. Manhattan Borougł

#### What's happening

World news · Yesterday

Chinese government says t first human case of H10N3 flu is unlikely to spread

Trending in United States Concorde

1,700 Tweets

Music · Trending

Olamide 24.2K Tweets

COVID-19 · LIVE

New York: COVID-19: New: updates for New York

BuzzFeed News 🤣 · Last nig Tulsa Raised Millions of Do To Memorialize The 1921 Massacre. Not Much Went The Black Community.

#### Show more

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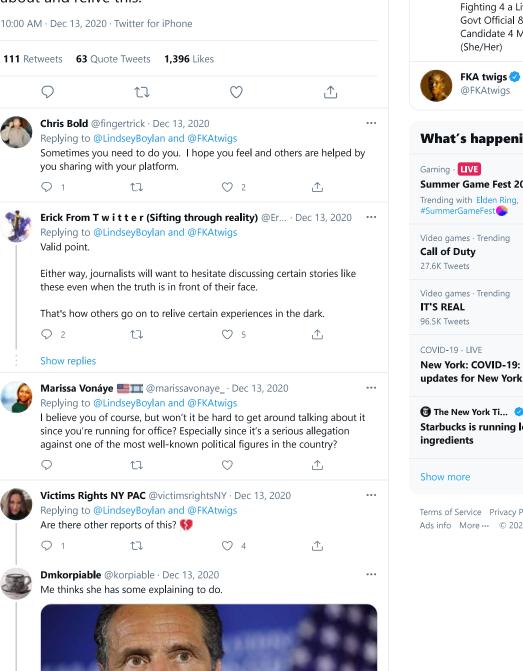


Lindsey Boylan @LindseyBoylan

To be clear: I have no interest in talking to journalists.

I am about validating the experience of countless women and making sure abuse stops.

My worst fear is that this continues. And as @FKAtwigs said yesterday, my second worst fear is having to talk about and relive this.



Don't miss what's happening



Search Twitter

...

Video games · Trending IT'S REAL 96.5K Tweets

COVID-19 · LIVE New York: COVID-19: News

🔞 The New York Ti... 🥝 · 2 ha Starbucks is running low or ingredients

Show more

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Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:06 PM
Subject:	[Chat#9897]
From:	Dani Lever
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen]; [Rich Azzopardi];

Do we have additional details of complaints made against her

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner:

Josh Vlasto

ICCID:



Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:07 PM
Subject:	[Chat#9898]
From:	Dani Lever
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen]; [Rich Azzopardi];

This just mentions them but doesn't explain what they were

# ----METADATA INFORMATION-----

Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

ICCID:

Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:07 PM
Subject:	[Chat#9899]
From:	Rich Bamberger
To:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Dani Lever]; [Steven M. Cohen]; [Rich Azzopardi];

Dani Are you calling Dana with these?

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner:

Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:08 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9900]
From:	Rich Azzopardi
To:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen];
Attachments:	.vcf

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto



Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:08 PM
Subject:	[Chat#9901]
From:	Dani Lever
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen]; [Rich Azzopardi];

Ignore my text didn't see the messages above

# ----METADATA INFORMATION-----

Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

 Date:
 Sunday, December 13 2020 12:09 PM

 Subject:
 [Chat #9902]

 From:
 Joshua Vlasto

 To:
 [Dani Lever]; [Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen]; [Rich Azzopardi];

Do we have exhibit a?

# -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner:

Josh Vlasto

Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:10 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9903]
From:	Rich Azzopardi
To:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen];

I do but it's emails that are frankly hard to follow

# ----METADATA INFORMATION-----

Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:10 PM
Subject:	[Chat#9904]
From:	Joshua Vlasto
То:	[Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen]; [Rich Azzopardi];
Ok	

## ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

Date: Subject:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:13 PM [Chat #9905]
From:	Steven M. Cohen
To:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"[[Dani Lever]; [[Dani Lever]; [[Rich Bamberger]; [[Rich Azzopardi];
Why	?

METADATA	INFORMATION
<b>Device Owner:</b>	
Josh	Vlasto
ICCID:	

Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:16 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9906]
From:	Rich Azzopardi
To:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen];

Different than I think you're thinking of Steve. She was esd press Secretary. Lindsey trreated her badly

# -----METADATA INFORMATION- ----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:17 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9907]
From:	Steven M. Cohen
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Dani Lever]; [Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Rich Azzopardi];

Ok. Good.

#### -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

To:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Steven M. Cohen];	[Dani Lever];	[Rich Bamberger];
From:	Rich Azzopardi		
Subject:	[Chat #9908]		
Date:	Sunday, December 13 2020 12:17 PM		

And she's willing to talk about that

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner:

Josh Vlasto

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 12:59 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9688]
From:	Melissa DeRosa
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Dani Lever]; [Rich Bamberger]; [Steven M. Cohen]; [Linda Lacewell]; [Rich Azzopardi]; [Peter Ajemian];
Attachments:	Screenshot 2020-12-14 at 12.59.15 PM.jpeg

Thoughts?





Yes I heard about the tweet about comments supposedly made and there is just no truth to it.

OR

Yes I heard about the tweet and there is just no truth to it.

Did you comment on her appearance?

There is just no truth to the tweets

I support women having the opportunity to speak out – I believe in transparency but there was nothing inappropriate that happened here

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:00 PM		
Subject:	: [Chat #9689]		
From:	Rich Azzopardi		
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Steven M. Cohen]; + [Peter Ajemian];	[Dani Lever]; + [Linda Lacewell]; +	[Rich Bamberger]; [Melissa DeRosa];
Yes			

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner:

Josh Vlasto

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:00 PM							
Subject:	[Chat#9690]							
From:	Joshua Vlasto							
То:	+       [Dani Lever]; +       [Rich Bamberger]; +       [Steven M. Cohen];         +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];							

At the end "...but there is no truth in those statements."

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:02 PM						
Subject:	[Chat #9691]						
From:	Melissa DeRosa						
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; +       [Dani Lever]; +       [Rich Bamberger];         "+       [Steven M. Cohen]; +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];						
Attachments:	Screenshot 2020-12-14 at 1.01.43 PM.jpeg						

#### -----METADATA INFORMATION-----



Yes I heard about the tweet about comments supposedly made and there is just no truth to it.

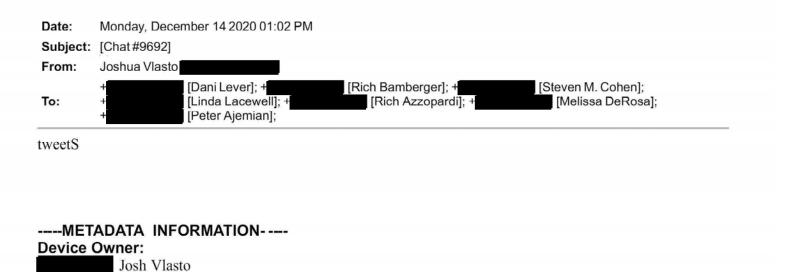
OR

Yes I heard about the tweet and there is just no truth to it.

Did you comment on her appearance?

There is just no truth to the tweets

I support women having the opportunity to speak out – I believe in transparency but there is just no truth to the tweet



Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:02 PM							
Subject:	[Chat #9693]							
From:	Dani Lever							
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; +       [Rich Bamberger]; +       [Steven M. Cohen];         +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];							
I'd do the	e second							

-----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:03 PM						
Subject:	[Chat #9694]						
From:	Dani Lever						
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; +       [Rich Bamberger]; +       [Steven M. Cohen];         +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];						

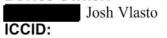
The first gives her too much room to define "inappropriate"

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:03 PM							
Subject:	[Chat #9695]							
From:	Melissa DeRosa							
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; +       [Dani Lever]; +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Steven M. Cohen]; +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];							

But which one in this group

#### -----METADATA INFORMATION-----**Device Owner:**



Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:04 PM							
Subject:	[Chat #9696]							
From:	Joshua Vlasto							
То:	+ [Dani Lever]; + + [Linda Lacewell]; + + [Peter Ajemian];	[Rich Bamberger]; + [Rich Azzopardi]; +	[Steven M. Cohen]; [Melissa DeRosa];					

I think both are fine so he has either he can use

## -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:09 PM						
Subject:	[Chat #9697]						
From:	Steven M. Cohen						
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; +       [Dani Lever]; +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];						

I think both are fine. The second is more fluid and less likely to cause a trip.

## -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:20 PM							
Subject:	[Chat #9698]							
From:	Linda Lacewell							
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; +       [Dani Lever]; +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Steven M. Cohen]; +       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];							

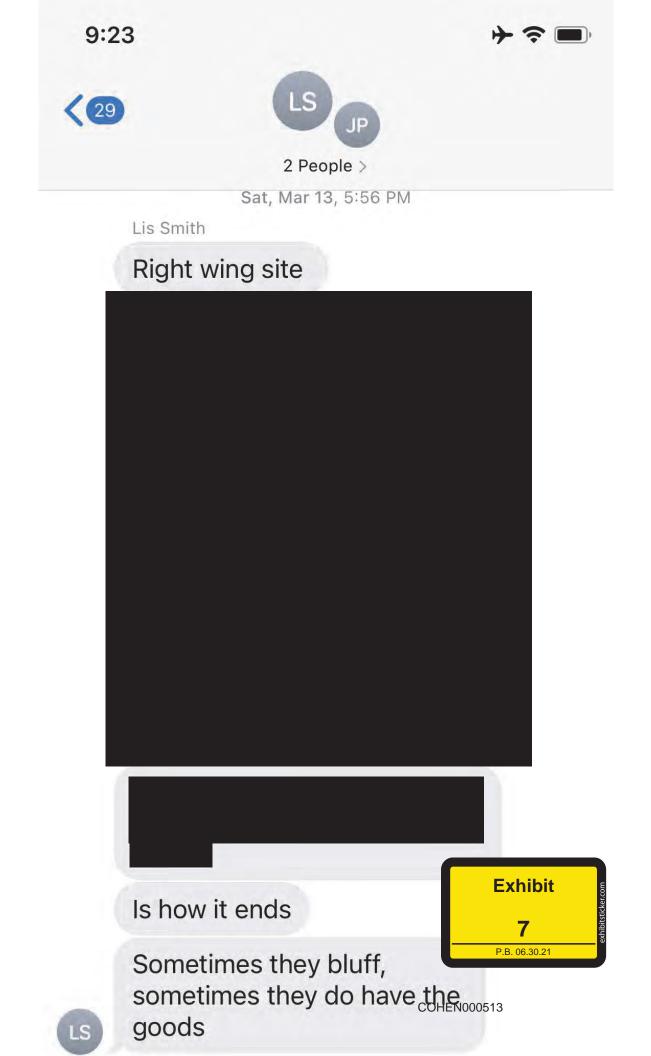
Does he get away with not answering if he commented on her appearance

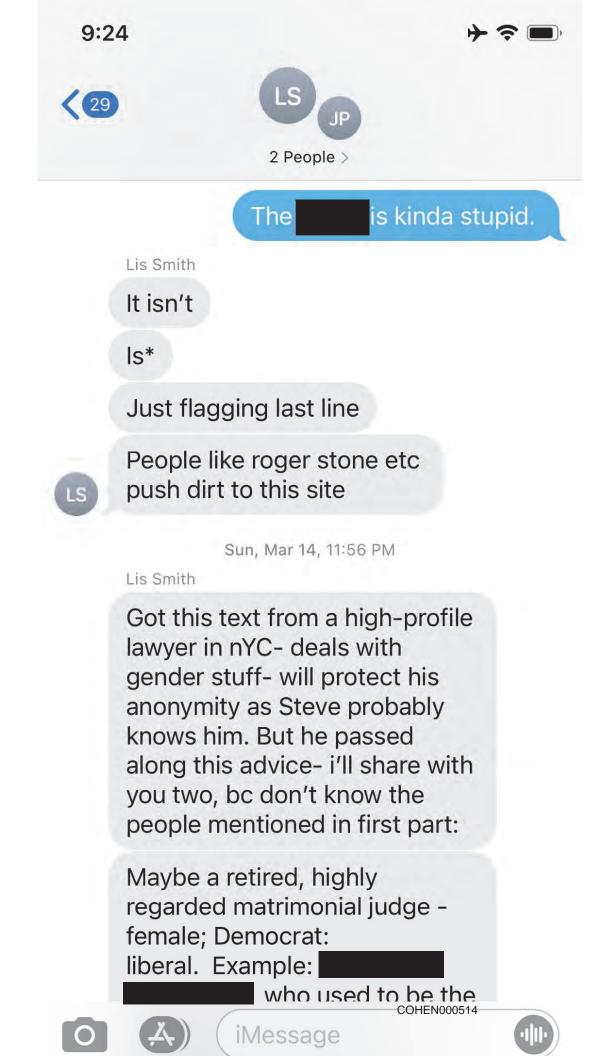
### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Monday, December 14 2020 01:27 PM							
Subject:	[Chat #9699]							
From:	Steven M. Cohen							
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; +       [Dani Lever]; +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];							

I think going down that path doesn't end cleanly. "No" doesn't make sense. "Yes" invites another Q and sounds funky. And a "I often comment" seems similarly weird. The problem is LB doesn't mean what she says. she must mean "he made a comment that was an inappropriate sexual innuendo". To that the answer is a strong "it didn't happen". But youre forced to unpack it to get to the direct NO.

## -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:





Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 04:03 PM					
Subject:	Fwd: Privileged & Confidential - Filings					
From:	Linda Lacewell < @gmail.com >					
To:	Melissa DeRosa @gmail.com >; Josh Vlasto @gmail.com >; Steve Cohen @yahoo.com >;					
Attachments:	image001.png; ATT00002.bin; Lindsay Boylan Campaign Finance History.docx; ATT00004.bin					

Sent from my iPhone Begin forwarded message:

 From:
 @andrewcuomo.com >

 Date:
 December 15, 2020 at 3:51:31 PM EST

 To:
 Judith Mogul

 @gmail.com >, Linda Lacewell

 Subject:
 RE:

 Privileged & Confidential - Filings

Here are the full notes. There were no independent expenditures made on her behalf in the 2020 House race, and there haven't been any so far in the 2021 borough president race. Added some notable expenses to the doc.

From: Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:19 PM To: Judith Mogul @gmail.com>; Linda Lacewell @gmail.com> Subject: Privileged & Confidential - Filings

No state or city filings uploaded yet for the borough president race. Combing through federal expenses now. Also attached is a DRAFT of notable contributions and expenses. I'm still combing through the expenses spreadsheet and researching the people/companies.

Compliance and Research Coordinator Andrew Cuomo for New York



#### Lindsay Boylan Campaign Finance History

#### Manhattan Borough President 2021 (aka Lindsey for New York)

- No committee filings in State BOE.
  - o No independent expenditures reported in BOE
- No committee filings in City CFB
  - o No independent expenditures reported in CFB

#### US Congressional District 10 2020 (aka Lindsey Boylan for Congress)

Top Lines

- Total Receipts: \$1,147,954.65
  - Contributions: \$817,924.65
    - Individuals: \$729,500.36
      - Itemized: \$657,410.60
      - Unitemized: \$72,089.76
    - Other committees: \$2,900
    - Candidate Contributions: \$85,524.29
    - o Loans made by candidate: \$330,000.00
- Total Disbursements: \$903,966.82
  - Contribution Refunds: \$215 (all unitemized)
- Cash Summary
  - o Cash on Hand: \$243,987.83
  - Debts Owed by Committee: \$330,000.00

## - \*No reported federal Independent Expenditures on Boylan's behalf.

Notable Contributors

- International Union of Painters and Allied Trades PAC: \$2,500
- (IAC): \$2,800
  - (Uber): \$5,600
  - (Mack Real Estate): \$2,800
- (Peloton, co-founder): \$2,800
- (Tusk Ventures): \$2,800
- (Facebook, CFO): \$2,800
  - (Taurus Capital): \$2,800
  - Mispelled as
    - (Rockefeller family): \$5,600
- (LinkedIn, chairman): \$2,800
- (Google, VP Engineering): \$2,800
- (Google, Senior Project Manager): \$2,800
- (McKinsey & Co, Senior Partner): \$2,800
- (YouTube, VP Product Management): \$2,800
  - (McDonald's, Chief Marketing Officer): \$1,000
- (Citi Private Bank North American Regional Head): \$1,000

- (NYS Special Counsel of Ethics to DFS): \$1,000
  - (Warner Bros, EVP & GM of Film): \$1,000
  - (Oracle, VP Business Operations): \$1,000
- (spouse of ): \$500
  - (former CO gov): \$250

Notable Expenses

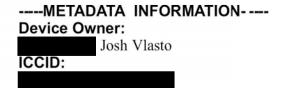
-

- Advocates for Justice Chartered Attorneys: \$9,985.50
  - Legal fees
- AKN Advisors LLC: \$25,000
  - Communications Consulting
  - Fort Lauderdale, FL
  - o Registered to Metropolitan Public Strategies
- American Airlines: \$383.30
  - o Date: 9/25/19
- BJC Technology LLC: \$27,500
  - Digital Consulting
- Lindsay Boylan: \$24,805.79
  - o Reimbursement for Campaign Expenses: \$9,695.96
  - Reimbursement for Campaign Expenses: \$2,292.77
  - o Reimbursement for Campaign Expenses: \$2,292.77
  - o In-Kind: \$8,500
  - o United Airlines Flights: \$1,129.60 (12/10/19)
  - o In-Kind Office/Campaign Supplies: \$849.69
    - : \$44,842.26
  - o Chief of Staff to Boylan
  - o Formerly at Allen & Company
    - Allen & Co. employees contributed \$83,900 to LB4C
  - o Currently at Dashline
    - Tech company Password Protection application
- Delta Airlines: \$712.90
  - o 9/24/19: \$383.30
  - o 1/7/20: \$329.60
- Facebook: \$61,682.08
  - o Direct digital advertising
- Google: \$1,461.24
  - Direct digital advertising
  - Hannah Media Inc: \$18,950
    - o Videography/Media Consulting
      - : \$46,280
    - Communications Director
    - Previously political
      - Dawn for NY Public Advocate
      - Adem for Congress

- Non-political
  - Vocativ (VP Marketing)
  - Huffington Post (VP Brand Strategy)
  - Wall Street Journal (Director, Product Marketing)
- JMP Verdant Communications: \$10,000
  - Consutling
    - : \$1,589.40
    - o Video Editing
    - o LinkedIn: Empire State Development
- Prime New York: 2,149.26
  - o New York State Gaming Commission
- Underdog Strategies: \$84,900.74
- Seven Gables Inn: \$352.67
  - o Hotel, St. Louis, MO
- Triangle Advisers, LLC [sic]: \$46,500
  - Also a vendor for Lauren Ashcraft for Congress, who ran against Carolyn Maloney in 2020.

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 09:53 PM						
Subject:	[Chat#9797]						
From:	Melissa DeRosa						
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": +       [Dani Lever]: +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Steven M. Cohen]; +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];						
Attachments:	Screenshot 2020-12-15 at 21.51.44.jpeg						

Lindsey sent this to rob





CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED Exempt from Disclosure Under FOIL, N. Y. Pub. Off. Law § 87(2) 21:51

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2	×.,		~~~			



Lindsey Boylan >

NEWS: The safety of NYers is our top priority.

I'm signing an Executive Order to reduce the # of Petition Signatures to 30% of the statutory threshold; Petition period will end at 5PM, Tues 3/17.

This will ensure our electoral process goes on while safeguarding public health.



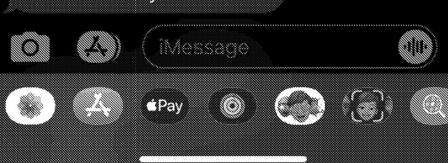
Andrew Cuomo

Absolutely not helpful please relay that while we are ok, I see what the point is here and I will find ways to respond.

Life is long.

And so is my memory.

And so are my resources.



Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 09:53 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9798]
From:	Melissa DeRosa
	"+ [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": + [Dani Lever]: + [Rich Bamberger];
То:	+ [Steven M. Cohen]; + [Linda Lacewell]; + [Rich Azzopardi]; + [Peter Ajemian];

He just found it

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

ICCID:

CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED Exempt from Disclosure Under FOIL, N. Y. Pub. Off. Law § 87(2)

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 09:54 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9799]
From:	Rich Azzopardi
	"+ [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": + [Dani Lever]: + [Rich Bamberger];
То:	+ [Steven M. Cohen]; + [Linda Lacewell]; + [Melissa DeRosa]; + [Peter Ajemian];

Seems like Gartland fodder

# -----METADATA INFORMATION- ----

Device Owner:			
ICCID:	Josh	Vlasto	

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 09:55 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9800]
From:	Melissa DeRosa
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": +       [Dani Lever]: +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Steven M. Cohen]; +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];

We are idiots if we don't get this out there

# ----METADATA INFORMATION-----

Device Owner:		
	Josh Vlasto	
ICCID:		

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 09:55 PM
Subject:	[Chat#9801]
From:	Melissa DeRosa
То:	"+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": +       [Dani Lever]: +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Steven M. Cohen]; +       [Linda Lacewell]; +       [Rich Azzopardi];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];

This is motive

#### -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

ICCID:

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 09:57 PM
Subject:	[Chat #9802]
From:	Linda Lacewell
То:	'+       [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": +       [Dani Lever]; +       [Rich Bamberger];         +       [Steven M. Cohen]; +       [Rich Azzopardi]; +       [Melissa DeRosa];         +       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];       [Peter Ajemian];

Mixed motive. To help her campaign and vindictive to boot

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner:

	50511	Vlasto	
ICCID:			

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 10:06	PM		
Subject:	: [Chat#9803]			
From:	Joshua Vlasto			
То:	+ [Dani Lever]; + + [Linda Lacewell]; + + [Peter Ajemian];	[Rich Bamberger]; + [Rich Azzopardi]; +	[Steven M. Cohen]; [Melissa DeRosa];	
Ok				

----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 10:06 PM		
Subject:	[Chat#9804]		
From:	Steven M. Cohen		
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": + + [Linda Lacewell]; + + [Peter Ajemian];	[Dani Lever]: + [Rich Azzopardi]; +	[Rich Bamberger]; [Melissa DeRosa];

Absolutely. She is a narcissist and delusional.

### -----METADATA INFORMATION- ----

Device Owner:					
	Josh Vlasto				
ICCID:					

Date:	Tuesday, December 15 2020 10:09 PM		
Subject:	[Chat#9805]		
From:	Peter Ajemian		
То:	"+ [Joshua Vlasto (owner)]": + + [Steven M. Cohen]; + + [Melissa DeRosa];	[Dani Lever]: + [Linda Lacewell]; +	[Rich Bamberger]; [Rich Azzopardi];

She found it personally offensive that we were trying to protect the public health during a pandemic.

#### -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner:

	Josh Vlasto	
ICCID:		

From:	Melissa DeRosa	@gmail.com]			
Sent:	12/15/2020 9:14:05 PM				
To:	Steven Cohen	@yahoo.com]; Linda Lacewell	@	gmail.com]; Judith Mogul	
	@gmail.com]	-			
Attachments:	Document1 (004).docx				



We are former employees of Governor Cuomo's Office now working in other jobs and pursuits. Collectively, we have served more than 20 years with the Governor. Dani Lever served as Director of Communications, Cathy Calhoun as State Director of Operations, and Alphonso David as Counsel. We have each worked with Ms. Boylan and have each been in the company of Ms. Boylan and the Governor on many occasions. Mr. David, as Counsel, was deeply involved in handling the Human Resources complaints against Ms. Boylan that led to her departure. We are also passionate and devoted supporters of civil rights and women's rights. We have spent years working to pass the most progressive state laws in the nation to protect women.

Ms. Boylan's time serving as an advisor to the Governor was marked by a series of actions and behaviors deemed by her coworkers to be abusive, disrespectful and inappropriate. Ms. Boylan served as an advisor to the Governor for nine months while she was an employee of and located at the Empire State Development Agency. In those nine months, there were no less than six women who lodged official complaints against Ms. Boylan including, African-American and white women, peers and subordinates. The official complaints stated that Ms. Boylan was "abusive", "disrespectful", "XXX," and had inappropriately fired a subordinate. The number and substance of the complaints (including ethical improprieties) were so troubling that the Empire State Development Authority went so far as to send a memo to Mr. David concerning the accusations.

In response to that memo, Mr. David met with Ms. Boylan with a female ethics counsel present, raised the complaints, and suggested counseling for Ms. Boylan, at which point Ms. Boylan became irate. She announced later that day that she was quitting. Several days after that, Ms. Boylan contacted Mr. David and said she had changed her mind and wanted her job back. Mr. David said that he thought that was not possible. Ms. Boylan then contacted the Governor's Office, saying that she "loved him" and needed to talk to the Governor. The Governor

was advised by Mr. David not to have any further contact with Ms. Boylan.

We understand that Ms. Boylan may be upset about the complaints made against her and losing her position in the Cuomo administration. That is to be expected. We also have no doubt that the Governor questioned her about her work. The Executive Chamber is a high-pressure, demanding organization which prides itself on integrity and performance. But during the extensive conversations about Ms. Boylan's behavior, she never once mentioned anything inappropriate about the Governor's interactions with her. Indeed, the Governor has always treated us with dignity and respect.

Indeed, Ms. Boylan's inappropriate behavior was not limited to female colleagues. As professional women, we observed her interactions with male colleague and it was often unprofessional as well: sitting on people's laps and kissing them in public. Indeed, Ms. Boylan at one point had to apologize to one male staff member, who was highly offended by her behavior.

Ms. Boylan has recently announced her intention to run for political office. We do not believe that it is a coincidence that she makes these accusations at this time in order to draw attention to her campaign and obtain coverage in the press. We understand from credible sources that female members on her campaign team quit when they learned she would make such claims for purely political advantage.

We are not naive. We understand that politics, especially in the current environment, can be a nasty business. But claims like Ms. Boylan's motivated by political opportunism diminishes the rights and claims of all women, something we have fought to elevate and protect our entire careers.

--

Melissa D. DeRosa

From:	Steven Cohen	@yahoo.com]
Sent:	12/16/2020 11:39:17 AM	
To:	Melissa DeRosa	@gmail.com]; Roberta Kaplan @kaplanhecker.com]; Linda Lacewell
	@gmail.com]	
Subject:	Attorney Client Privileged Co	mmunication
Attachments:	Response by former staffer.d	locx



We are former senior staff members of Governor Andrew Cuomo's Office. Collectively, we served for over 20 years with the Governor and worked at the highest level of State government. Dani Lever served as Director of Communications. Cathy Calhoun as State Director of Operations. Alphonso David served as Counsel.

We are writing in response to the claims made on twitter by Lindsay Boylan. We do so reluctantly. Each of us is a longtime and active supporter of civil rights and women's engagement. We believe women must be heard and that allegations of workforce misconduct must be taken seriously. However, when an accusation is unfounded and seemingly launched to gain a political advantage, standing by silently is not an option. To do otherwise, risks delegitimizing the rights of survivors of workplace abuse.

We each know Ms. Boylan personally; we served with her when she was an advisor to the Governor both in the Governor's Office and at Empire State Development Authority. It is likely that almost every interaction between the Governor and Ms. Boylan took place in either our presence of the presence of another Senior Staff member. Indeed, Ms. Boylan says as much herself. What we witnessed was a forceful and demanding Chief Executive requiring his staff do their best at all time. It was challenging, hard work and at times it was bruising. In other words, it is what you would expect in a high-pressure environment where the accomplishments matter and failures have consequences. It isn't for everyone. What we did not see was any kind of sexual harassment suggested by Ms. Boylan's summary and unsubstantiated assertion.

Unfortunately, we are also aware that during Ms. Boylan's relatively brief tenure, no less than six complaints were raised about her conduct. The complaints came from peers and subordinates, from men and woman. We are not here to castigate Ms. Boylan. But it is relevant to assessing Ms. Boylan's claim, to understand that she left State employment after being formally confronted by repeated complaints that she "treats [subordinates] like children" and made them feel like a "punching bag", was "degrading", "insulting", and "harassing". As a consequence of inappropriately firing a subordinate, Ms. Boylan was formally counseled about her conduct by Mr. David. In response, Ms. Boylan resigned. Several days later Ms. Boylan contacted Mr. David and said she changed her mind and wanted to return to her position. Mr. David said that was not possible.

During her tenure, at the time of her departure and after her departure, Ms. Boylan praised the Governor and the staff for his work and accomplishments. [ADD COMMENTS]. No complaint – formal or informal – was ever raised about the Governor. And, while we are fully aware of the all too frequent phenomenon where those are subject to abuse do not come forward and even deny the abuse they have endured, we think it is significant to note that Ms. Boylan only began raising complaints about her experience when she launched a Congressional campaign. And even as she complained that the Governor's Office was an abusive environment (an assertion we dispute), the claim of sexual harassment was never mentioned. Indeed, the accusation did not occur until she launched a campaign for Manhattan Borough President. We do not know Ms. Boylan's motivation but the timing is not lost on us.

[Option: Also, her political campaign consultant is also a consultant to a political opponent of the Governor, Jumaane Williams, who has said he is considering running against the Governor. Ms. Boylan is supported by lawyers and financial backers of Donald Trump: an active opponent of the Governor. We understand from credible sources that female members on her campaign team were offended and actually quit when they heard she and her campaign planned to make such claims for purely political advantage.]

[Note: I would give this piece to a reporter rather than include in the letter] The political retribution against the Governor by Ms. Boylan comes as no surprise and was directly forecasted by her. In March, during the Weight of the COVID crisis, the Governor issued an Executive Order truncating the petitioning period and reducing the number of signatures mandated to run for public office. The order effected every political race in the state. However, Ms. Boylan assumed it was a personal attack on her and believed the change was not helpful for her candidacy for Congress challenging Congressman Nadler. Immediately thereafter, Ms. Boylan texted Robert Mujica, State Budget Director, "Absolutely not helpful please relay that while we are ok, I see what the point is here and I will find ways to respond. Life is Long. And so is my memory. And so are my resources." She texted Dani Lever, Director of Communications, at the same time. "Absolutely not helpful specific response to a tragedy but please relay that while we are ok, I see what the point is here and I will find ways to respond to the message. The future is coming after assholes." Ms. Boylan's political motivation against the Governor was clearly premediated and purposeful.

We are not naive. We understand politics, especially in the current environment, can be a nasty and dirty business. We know the Governor understands that one must endure the slings and arrows to be in the public arena. But it demeans all women when allegations of harassment are made for political *[or extortive]* purposes.

We encourage all women to come forward with valid complaints of harassment. But weaponizing a claim of sexual harassment for personal political gain or to achieve notoriety cannot be tolerated. False claims demean the veracity of credible claims.

[I don't think we need this. Too sanctimonious. *It is sad that political opportunism takes precedence over true political aspirations for progressive public service and advances designed to protect women in the workplace can be abused for unethical purposes.*]

[Note: I'd remove the following: The Governor always treated us and every woman with whom we saw him interact with respect. Indeed, Ms. Boylan was right when she tweeted three weeks before her departure, "I'm proud to work for a Governor who takes women seriously". And another tweet, X weeks before her departure, "So proud of my boss Andrew Cuomo and all of Team Cuomo". She was also right when she tweeted, after she left, "Governor Cuomo is the best choice for Governor".]

From:	Melissa DeRosa	@gmail.com]	
Sent:	12/17/2020 11:22:35 AM		
To:	Steven Cohen	@yahoo.com]; Linda Lacewell	@gmail.com]; Alphonso David
	@hotmail.c	om]; Josh Vlasto @gmail.com	n]

#### Subject: Letter on Tom Brokaw

As professional women, we fully endorse the conversation around abuse of power in the workplace. In the context of that conversation, we would like to share our perspectives on working with Tom Brokaw. We are current and former colleagues of Tom's, who have worked with him over a period spanning four decades. We are producers, correspondents, anchors, directors, executives, researchers, personal assistants, editors and technical staff.

Tom has treated each of us with fairness and respect. He has given each of us opportunities for advancement and championed our successes throughout our careers. As we have advanced across industries — news, publishing, law, business and government — Tom has been a valued source of counsel and support. We know him to be a man of tremendous decency and integrity.



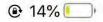
### Chats

Chat #	From	То	Participants Timestamps	Body	Timestam p: Date	Timestam p: Time	Attachme nt #1	Attachment #1 - Details
599	Melissa Derosa	judith mogul (owner) Steve M. Cohen Linda Lacewell @gm ail.com judith mogul (owner)	+ judith mogul (owner) - Read: 1/31/2021 1:38:27 PM(UTC-5) + Steve M. Cohen + Linda Lacewell @gmail.co m judith mogul (owner)		1/31/2021	1/31/2021 1:37:45 PM(UTC-5)	<u>~/Library/</u> <u>SMS/Atta</u>	Screenshot 2021- 01-31 at 1.37.33
599	Linda Lacewell	+ judith mogul (owner) + Melissa Derosa + Steve M. Cohen Steve M. Cohen @gm ail.com judith mogul (owner)	mogul (owner) - Read: 1/31/2021 1:42:29 PM(UTC-5) + Melissa Derosa + Steve	Really dumb to loop you and rich into her hatred of AMC.	1/31/2021	1/31/2021 1:42:11 PM(UTC-5)		
599	+ Steve M. Cohen	+ judith mogul (owner) + Melissa Derosa + Linda Lacewell @gm ail.com judith mogul (owner)	+ judith mogul (owner) - Read: 1/31/2021 1:44:35 PM(UTC-5) + Melissa Derosa + Linda Lacewell @gmail.co m judith mogul (owner)	The depth of her nastiness and self delusion is bottomless.	1/31/2021	1/31/2021 1:44:10 PM(UTC-5)		



Il Verizon LTE

1:37 PM



....

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Tweet

Lindsey Boylan Retweeted



Lindsey Boylan 🤣 @LindseyBoylan

Can confirm. And we will have her back. There's no bottom with @NYGovCuomo @melissadderosa @RichAzzopardi

Aaron Carr @aaronAcarr · 26m Sunday thoughts: There's a 100% chance Governor Cuomo tries to exact revenge on Tish James for the nursing home report and it will be important for us to have her back when he does.

Show this thread

1:27 PM · 1/31/21 · Twitter for iPhone

 10 Retweets
 18 Likes

 ♀
 ↓↓
 ♥

 ↓↓
 ♥
 ↓

 Tweet your reply
 ↓

### Chats

Chat #	From	То	Participants Timestamps	Body	Timesta mp: Date
599	+ <b>Example</b> Steve M. Cohen	+ judith mogul (owner) + Melissa Derosa + Linda Lacewell @gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	+ judith mogul (owner) - Read: 2/9/2021 7:46:08 AM(UTC-5) + Melissa Derosa + Linda Lacewell (@gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	At this point it's hard to follow what she's saying. She's becoming L-Anon with no following.	2/9/2021
599	+ <b>Linda</b> Lacewell	+ judith mogul (owner) + Melissa Derosa + Steve M. Cohen @gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	+ judith mogul (owner) - Read: 2/9/2021 7:48:28 AM(UTC-5) + Melissa Derosa + Steve M. Cohen @gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	She has really lost it and it only hurts herself. Threatening the press and lobbyists is not a winning strategy	2/9/2021
599	+ <b>Melissa Derosa</b>	+ judith mogul (owner) + Steve M. Cohen + Linda Lacewell @gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	+ judith mogul (owner) - Read: 2/9/2021 8:29:38 AM(UTC-5) + Steve M. Cohen + Linda Lacewell @gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	We are tracking/saving all of these tweets, yes?	2/9/2021
599	+ <b>Linda</b> Lacewell	+ judith mogul (owner) + Melissa Derosa + Steve M. Cohen (@gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	+ judith mogul (owner) - Read: 2/9/2021 8:29:38 AM(UTC-5) + Melissa Derosa + Steve M. Cohen @gmail.com judith mogul (owner)	Yes	2/9/2021
599		+ judith mogul (owner) + Melissa Derosa + Steve M. Cohen Cohen judith mogul (owner)	+ judith mogul (owner) - Read: 2/9/2021 8:29:38 AM(UTC-5) + Melissa Derosa + Steve M. Cohen Cohen judith mogul (owner)	Judy says it's done daily	2/9/2021
				Exh 14	exhibitstickerd
				P.B. 06.	30.21

Date:	Sunday, February 21 2021 06:08 PM : Re: Lindsey.
From:	Josh Vlasto @gmail.com>
To:	Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov>;
CC:	Elkan Abramowitz @maglaw.com>; Judith Mogul @exec.ny.gov>; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov) @dfs.ny.gov>; Peter Ajemian @exec.ny.gov>; Richard Azzopardi @exec.ny.gov>; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov) @esd.ny.gov>;
Please c	lon't send this please please
	Feb 21, 2021 at 6:03 PM Melissa DeRosa (@exec.ny.gov > wrote:
Adding	people
Sent fro	om my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.
Sent: S To: Stev Cc: Meli	Richard Azzopardi unday, February 21, 2021 5:35 PM ven Cohen ( <u>esd.ny.gov</u> ) ssa DeRosa; Peter Ajemian
Subjec	t: Re: Lindsey.
	not. He read it to me om my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.
From: 0 Sent: S To: Rich Cc: Meli	Cohen, Steven (ESD) unday, February 21, 2021 5:35 PM lard Azzopardi ssa DeRosa; Peter Ajemian t: Re: Lindsey.
D	She is a disgruntled former employee who quit after BEING COUNSELED AS A RESULT OF MULTIPLE OCUMENTED INCIDENTS OF harassment and ABUSE OF HER co-workers and subordinates. She later sked to return to the chamber, A REQUEST THAT WAS DENIED, AND NOW SEEMS INTENT ON RAISING PURIOUS ALLEGATIONS TO FURTHER HER OWN RUN FOR OFFICE."
tl	hat request was not granted."
	Exhibit 15 P.B. 06.30.21
C	on Feb 21, 2021, at 5:17 PM, Richard Azzopardi
	She is is disgruntled former employee who quit after being counseled on multiple harassment omplaints against co-workers and subordinates. She later asked to return to the chamber and that request

was not granted."

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

IMPORTANT: This e-mail message and any attachments contain information intended for the exclusive use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is proprietary, privileged, confidential and/or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any viewing, copying, disclosure or distribution of this information may be subject to legal restriction or sanction. Please immediately notify the sender by electronic mail or notify the System Administrator by telephone or e-mail control or e-mail control of the sender by and delete the message. Thank you.

## My story of working with Governor Cuomo

🚯 🛛 Lindsey Boylan Feb 24 🕐 8 min read

"Let's play strip poker."

I should have been shocked by the Governor's crude comment, but I wasn't.

We were flying home from an October 2017 event in Western New York on his taxpayer-funded jet. He was seated facing me, so close our knees almost touched. His press aide was to my right and a state trooper behind us.

"That's exactly what I was thinking," I responded sarcastically and awkwardly. I tried to play it cool. But in that moment, I realized just how acquiescent I had become.

Governor Andrew Cuomo has created a culture within his administration where sexual harassment and bullying is so pervasive that it is not only condoned but expected. His inappropriate behavior toward women was an affirmation that he liked you, that you must be doing something right. He used intimidation to silence his critics. And if you dared to speak up, you would face consequences.

That's why I panicked on the morning of December 13.

While enjoying a weekend with my husband and six-year-old daughter, I spontaneously decided to share a small part of the truth I had hidden for so long in shame and never planned to disclose. The night before, a former Cuomo staffer confided to me that she, too, had been the subject of the Governor's workplace harassment. Her story mirrored my own. Seeing his name floated as a potential candidate for U.S. Attorney General — the highest law enforcement official in the land — set me off.

In a few tweets, I told the world what a few close friends, family members and my therapist had known for years: Andrew Cuomo abused his power as Governor to sexually harass me, just as he had done with so many other women.

Exhibit 16 P.B. 06.30.21 As messages from journalists buzzed on my phone, I laid in bed unable to move. I finally had decided to speak up, but at what cost?

Parts of a supposed confidential personnel file (which I've never seen) were leaked to the media in an effort to smear me. The Governor's loyalists called around town, asking about me.

Last week, Assemblymember Ron Kim spoke out publicly about the intimidation and abuse he has faced from Governor Cuomo and his aides. As Mayor de Blasio remarked, "the bullying is nothing new." There are many more of us, but most are too afraid to speak up.

I'm compelled to tell my story because no woman should feel forced to hide their experiences of workplace intimidation, harassment and humiliation — not by the Governor or anyone else.

I expect the Governor and his top aides will attempt to further disparage me, just as they've done with Assemblymember Kim. They'd lose their jobs if they didn't protect him. That's how his administration works. I know because I was a part of it.

I joined state government in 2015 as a Vice President at Empire State Development. I was quickly promoted to Chief of Staff at the state economic development agency. The news of my appointment prompted a warning from a friend who served as an executive with an influential civic engagement organization: "Be careful around the Governor."

My first encounter with the Governor came at a January 6, 2016, event at Madison Square Garden to promote the new Pennsylvania Station-Farley Complex project. After his speech, he stopped to talk to me. I was new on the job and surprised by how much attention he paid me.

My boss soon informed me that the Governor had a "crush" on me. It was an uncomfortable but all-too-familiar feeling: the struggle to be taken seriously by a powerful man who tied my worth to my body and my appearance.

Stephanie Benton, Director of the Governor's Offices, told me in an email on December 14, 2016 that the Governor suggested I look up images of Lisa Shields — his

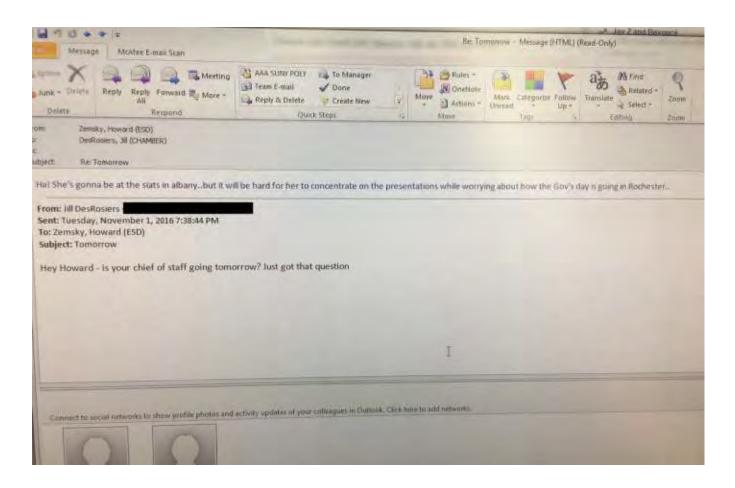
rumored former girlfriend — because "we could be sisters" and I was "the better looking sister." The Governor began calling me "Lisa" in front of colleagues. It was degrading.

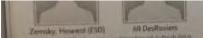
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Thanks for all of y relay my thanks t again.						
Hope to see you	one of these days afte	r work				



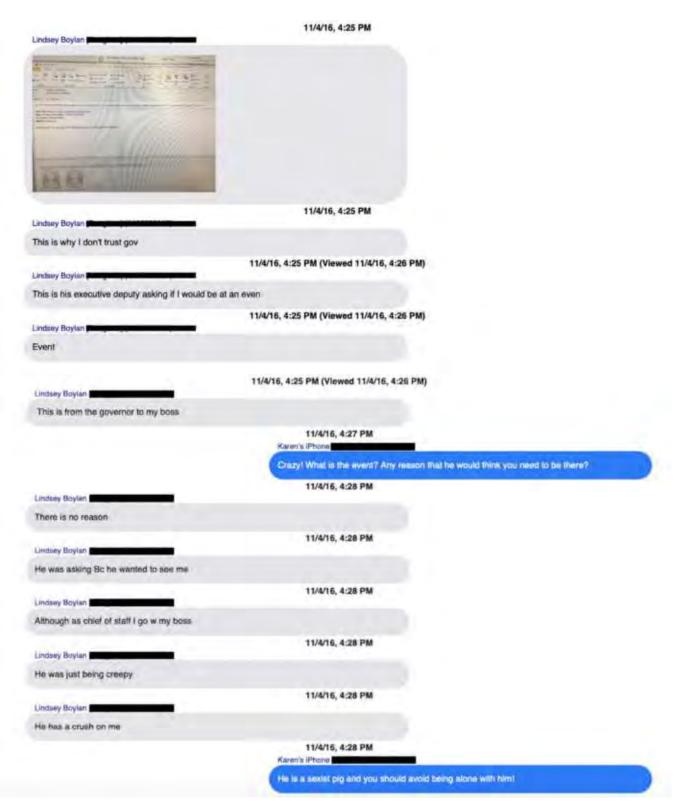
The Governor's staff was directed to tell me I looked like his rumored former girlfriend.

I had complained to friends that the Governor would go out of his way to touch me on my lower back, arms and legs. His senior staff began keeping tabs on my whereabouts. "He is a sexist pig and you should avoid being alone with him!" my mother texted me on November 4, 2016.





The Governor's senior staff member emailed my supervisor about my whereabouts.



I shared my concern with my mother at the time.

The Governor's behavior made me nervous, but I didn't truly fear him until December 2016. Senior State employees gathered at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany to celebrate the holidays and our year's work. After his remarks, the Governor spotted me in a room filled with hundreds of people waiting to shake his hand. As he began to approach me, I excused myself from coworkers and moved upstairs to a more distant area of the party.

Minutes later, I received a call from an unlisted number. It was the Governor's body person. He told me to come to the Capitol because the Governor wanted to see me.

I made my way through the underground connection that linked the Plaza to the Capitol. As the black wrought-iron elevator took me to the second floor, I called my husband. I told him I was afraid of what might happen. That was unlike me. I was never afraid.

I exited the elevator to see the body person waiting for me. He walked me down the Hall of Governors. "Are there cameras here?" I asked him. I remembered my mother's text warning the month before. I worried that I would be left alone with the Governor. I didn't know why I was there. Or how it would end.

I was escorted into the Governor's office, past the desks of administrative assistants and into a room with a large table and historical artifacts. The door closed behind me. It was my first time in his Albany office. The Governor entered the room from another door. We were alone.

As he showed me around, I tried to maintain my distance. He paused at one point and smirked as he showed off a cigar box. He told me that President Clinton had given it to him while he served as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. The twodecade old reference to President Clinton's affair with Monica Lewinsky was not lost on me.

The Governor must have sensed my fear because he finally let me out of the office. I tried to rationalize this incident in my head. At least he didn't touch me. That made me feel safer.

His inappropriate gestures became more frequent. He gave roses to female staffers on Valentine's Day and arranged to have one delivered to me, the only one on my floor. A

signed photograph of the Governor appeared in my closed-door office while I was out. These were not-so-subtle reminders of the Governor exploiting the power dynamic with the women around him.

In 2018, I was promoted to Deputy Secretary for Economic Development and Special Advisor to the Governor. I initially turned the job down — not because I didn't want the responsibility or work but because I didn't want to be near him. I finally accepted the position at the Governor's insistence with one requirement — I would keep my old agency office and remain on a separate floor from him and his inner circle.

The Governor's pervasive harassment extended beyond just me. He made unflattering comments about the weight of female colleagues. He ridiculed them about their romantic relationships and significant others. He said the reasons that men get women were "money and power."

I tried to excuse his behavior. I told myself "it's only words." But that changed after a one-on-one briefing with the Governor to update him on economic and infrastructure projects. We were in his New York City office on Third Avenue. As I got up to leave and walk toward an open door, he stepped in front of me and kissed me on the lips. I was in shock, but I kept walking.

I left past the desk of Stephanie Benton. I was scared she had seen the kiss. The idea that someone might think I held my high-ranking position because of the Governor's "crush" on me was more demeaning than the kiss itself.

After that, my fears worsened. I came to work nauseous every day. My relationship with his senior team — mostly women — grew hostile after I started speaking up for myself. I was reprimanded and told to get in line by his top aides, but I could no longer ignore it.

On September 26, 2018, I sent a mass email informing staff members of my resignation.

There is a part of me that will never forgive myself for being a victim for so long, for trying to ignore behavior that I knew was wrong. The Governor exploited my weaknesses, my desire to do good work and to be respected. I was made to believe this was the world I needed to survive in.

It was all so normalized — particularly by Melissa DeRosa and other top women around him — that only now do I realize how insidious his abuse was.

After my tweets about the Governor in December, two women reached out to me with their own experiences. One described how she lived in constant fear, scared of what would happen to her if she rejected the Governor's advances. The other said she was instructed by the Governor to warn staff members who upset him that their jobs could be at risk. Both told me they are too afraid to speak out.

I know some will brush off my experience as trivial. We are accustomed to powerful men behaving badly when no one is watching. But what does it say about us when everyone is watching and no one says a thing?

Telling my truth isn't about seeking revenge. I was proud to work in the Cuomo Administration. For so long I had looked up to the Governor. But his abusive behavior needs to stop.

I am speaking up because I have the privilege to do so when many others do not. No one should have to be defined or destroyed by this kind of sexual harassment. Nor should they be revictimized if they decide to speak their own truth.

I hope that sharing my story will clear the path for other women to do the same.

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NEW YORK POLITICS POLITICS NEWS

# **Former Cuomo aide** defends gov. as celebs, lawmakers call for investigation into sexual harassment claims

**By DENIS SLATTERY** NEW YORK DAILY NEWS | FEB 25, 2021





ALBANY — A longtime adviser and ally of Gov. Cuomo defended his old boss Thursday as someone who "demands excellence" and said he has "never seen anything of the like" when asked about allegations of sexual harassment made by a former aide.

Steve Cohen, the current chairman of the Empire State Development Corp., stood by Cuomo a day after Lindsey Boylan dropped bombshell accusations against the governor, alleging he once kissed her on the mouth against her will.

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"I can tell you never in my time working with the governor, the former attorney general, private citizen Andrew Cuomo, I have never seen anything of the like of what Ms. Boylan has described," he said during a call with reporters. "His conduct has always been in my presence

with the members of other staff, appropriate, not that it is always fun-loving and a good time, but it is always appropriate and he pushes to get results."

Cohen has been in the governor's inner circle for decades and was brought out Thursday to back up the administration's handling of nursing home COVID-19 deaths.

But the former federal prosecutor faced several questions about Boylan's claims, outlined in a lengthy online essay, as the likes of actress Rose McGowan, a quintet of Republican state lawmakers and even Mayor de Blasio called for investigations into the governor's behavior.

Boylan alleges Cuomo subjected her to "pervasive harassment" when she worked for him, including numerous inappropriate comments and touches as well as an unwanted kiss.

Cohen declined to say whether he believes the allegations should be reviewed by Attorney General Letitia James's office, instead insisting that the accusations don't match with the Cuomo he's known for more than 30 years.

"Strive for perfection, accept excellence' is essentially his motto," he said. "But to get that out of people means you push, you demand, and you are blunt at times and it can be bruising for some people."



Former Cuomo advisor Lindsey Boylan (left) and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (right)

Meanwhile, McGowan, who has been at the forefront of the #MeToo movement, joined calls for an investigation into Cuomo.

The "Charmed" star said during a Fox News interview that she believes Boylan's claims.

"I completely stand by Lindsey Boylan," she said. "It's truth leaks from every word on the screen that she wrote. She, none of us, should endure what she endured."

Five Republican women in the state Senate asked James to appoint a special prosecutor to conduct an investigation into the allegations.

Sen. Alessandra Biaggi (D-Bronx), who briefly worked in the governor's office, also backed Boylan's claims.



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"I have no doubt that this is true," she tweeted on Wednesday. "I've witnessed similar behavior, and it's unacceptable."

Boylan first came forward with claims of inappropriate behavior against Cuomo in December, but did not provide details or speak to the press about her statements.

Her essay, published online Wednesday, included several emails and screenshots of texts backing up her claims of unwanted sexual advances.

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Both Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D-Yonkers) and Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie (D-Bronx) released statements on Wednesday calling the accusation "disturbing" and

"serious."

White House press secretary Jen Psaki, asked about the harassment allegations, said every person who comes forward deserves to have "their voice heard" while confirming Cuomo would be attending the National Governors Association meeting at the White House on Thursday.

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"The president has been consistent in his position. When a person comes forward — they deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. Their voice should be heard, not silenced. And any allegation should be reviewed," Psaki said.

### The New York Times

https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/27/nyregion/cuomo-charlotte-bennett-sexual-harassment.html

### Cuomo Is Accused of Sexual Harassment by a 2nd Former Aide

The woman, 25, said that when they were alone in his office, Gov. Andrew Cuomo asked if she "had ever been with an older man."



By Jesse McKinley

Published Feb. 27, 2021 Updated March 16, 2021

ALBANY, N.Y. — A second former aide to Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo is accusing him of sexual harassment, saying that he asked her questions about her sex life, whether she was monogamous in her relationships and if she had ever had sex with older men.

The aide, Charlotte Bennett, who was an executive assistant and health policy adviser in the Cuomo administration until she left in November, told The New York Times that the governor had harassed her late last spring, during the height of the state's fight against the coronavirus.

Ms. Bennett, 25, said the most unsettling episode occurred on June 5, when she was alone with Mr. Cuomo in his State Capitol office. In a series of interviews this week, she said the governor had asked her numerous questions about her personal life, including whether she thought age made a difference in romantic relationships, and had said that he was open to relationships with women in their 20s — comments she interpreted as clear overtures to a sexual relationship.

Mr. Cuomo said in a statement to The Times on Saturday that he believed he had been acting as a mentor and had "never made advances toward Ms. Bennett, nor did I ever intend to act in any way that was inappropriate." He said he had requested an independent review of the matter and asked that New Yorkers await the findings "before making any judgments."

Ms. Bennett said that during the June encounter, the governor, 63, also complained to her about being lonely during the pandemic, mentioning that he "can't even hug anyone," before turning the focus to Ms. Bennett. She said that Mr. Cuomo asked her, "Who did I last hug?"



Ms. Bennett said she had tried to dodge the question by responding that she missed hugging her parents. "And he was, like, 'No, I mean like really hugged somebody?'" she said.

Mr. Cuomo never tried to touch her, Ms. Bennett said, but the message of the entire episode was unmistakable to her.

"I understood that the governor wanted to sleep with me, and felt horribly uncomfortable and scared," Ms. Bennett said. "And was wondering how I was going to get out of it and assumed it was the end of my job."

Ms. Bennett said she had disclosed the interaction with Mr. Cuomo to his chief of staff, Jill DesRosiers, less than a week later and was transferred to another job, as a health policy adviser, with an office on the opposite side of the Capitol, soon after that. Ms. Bennett said she had also given a lengthy statement to a special counsel to the governor, Judith Mogul, toward the end of June.

Ms. Bennett said she ultimately decided not to insist on an investigation because she was happy in her new job and "wanted to move on." No action was taken against the governor.

In his statement, Mr. Cuomo called Ms. Bennett a "hard-working and valued member" of his staff with "every right to speak out." He said that Ms. Bennett had spoken to him about being a sexual assault survivor — an experience about which she had been open in the past — and he had tried to be supportive and helpful. "The last thing I would ever have wanted was to make her feel any of the things that are being reported," the governor said.

The governor did not deny that he asked Ms. Bennett personal questions; he said in the statement that he would have no further comment until the review concluded.

Ms. Bennett's account follows another detailed accusation published on Wednesday by Lindsey Boylan, a former state economic development official who said that Mr. Cuomo had harassed her on several occasions from 2016 to 2018, at one point giving her an unsolicited kiss on the lips at his Manhattan office.



Lindsey Boylan has accused Mr. Cuomo of harassing her on several occasions while she was employed by the state government. Rob Latour/Shutterstock

Mr. Cuomo's office has called Ms. Boylan's accusations untrue, but they have nonetheless prompted calls for investigations into her claims. In addition to the two women's harassment allegations, the governor, a third-term Democrat, is confronting significant political fallout over his handling of the state's nursing homes during the pandemic.

After seeing Ms. Boylan detail her accusations against Mr. Cuomo, Ms. Bennett shared Ms. Boylan's account on Twitter, suggesting that people read it if they wanted a true picture of "what it's like to work for the Cuomo" administration.

The Times contacted Ms. Bennett, and she agreed to relate her own account of harassment. She said she felt an obligation to other victims of sexual harassment and wanted to counter the way Mr. Cuomo "wields his power."

Ms. Bennett said she had told her parents and friends about the exchange with the governor around the time that it happened, as well as about her growing discomfort with having to work closely with him, and had kept text messages from that period.

The Times reviewed the messages and confirmed their contents with those who received them. Ms. Bennett also retained text messages from Ms. DesRosiers and Ms. Mogul that alluded to their meetings in June, but did not mention the subject matter. "I have no problem with what they did," Ms. Bennett said of Ms. DesRosiers and Ms. Mogul, describing both women as sympathetic to her concerns. "I have a problem with what the governor did."

Ms. Bennett was hired by the administration in early 2019, working out of the governor's Manhattan office as a briefer, an entry-level position. She had graduated from Hamilton College in 2017, where she was active in women's issues and founded a sexual misconduct task force. She said her own experience in surviving a sexual attack had prompted her to "help sexual assault survivors be heard and enforce victims' rights," according to a bulletin on the college's website.

By mid-2019, Ms. Bennett had been promoted to senior briefer and executive assistant after an interview with Mr. Cuomo. The two became friendly, she said, and they bonded over shared connections with Westchester County: At the time, he was living with Sandra Lee, a celebrity chef, in Mount Kisco; Ms. Bennett was living with her parents in a neighboring hamlet. She mentioned to Mr. Cuomo that she had played middle-school soccer against one of his daughters, who are also in their mid-20s.

"We got along really well," she said of the governor. Mr. Cuomo, she said, would sometimes ask questions about her dating life that she said seemed inappropriate but not necessarily unmanageable.

"I saw him more as a father figure," she said. "I wasn't thinking about it as anything sexual."

The accusations against Mr. Cuomo come as he faces fierce criticism over his handling of New York's nursing homes amid the pandemic. Spencer Platt/Getty Images

In January 2020, Ms. Bennett sent her mother a text. "Had a really long convo with Gov today," she wrote, outlining a two-hour conversation about numerous topics, including her career goals.

"He had a lot to say and was very emotional and serious but also asked a lot of questions," she wrote, adding, "He got emotional. Not me."

Ms. Bennett's mother, Jessica, confirmed the text, and her feeling, at the time, that it was reassuring that the governor seemed to be taking on the role of a mentor.

Ms. Bennett said she was asked in late March to begin working in Albany as part of the state's Covid-19 response effort. Two months later, in mid-May, the governor's perception of their relationship seemingly began to change, she said.

On May 15, she said she arrived at the Capitol around 7 a.m. to find Mr. Cuomo already at work. Ms. Bennett was there to drop off some briefing papers, but Mr. Cuomo was chatty, asking about her love life and, in a gossipy way, whether she was involved with other members of the governor's staff. She memorialized the exchange in several texts to another Cuomo staff member that The Times reviewed.

Ms. Bennett said she had mentioned a speech she was scheduled to give to Hamilton students about her experience as a survivor of sexual assault. She said she had been taken aback by Mr. Cuomo's seeming fixation on that element of her life experience.

"The way he was repeating, 'You were raped and abused and attacked and assaulted and betrayed,' over and over again while looking me directly in the eyes was something out of a horror movie," she wrote in a second text to her friend. "It was like he was testing me."

In retrospect, Ms. Bennett said, she viewed the May 15 meeting "as the turning point in our relationship."

"Anything before it I now see differently," she said. "I now understand that as grooming."

Three weeks later, Ms. Bennett said, she was summoned to Mr. Cuomo's second-floor office and was asked to take dictation with another aide.

After the second aide left, Mr. Cuomo and Ms. Bennett continued their work. When they finished, she said, he asked her to turn off her recorder, and he began a winding conversation that touched on the Black Lives Matter protests and his daily news conferences.

But, Ms. Bennett said, the governor also started to ask questions about her personal life, including whether she was romantically involved, whether she was monogamous in her relationships and whether she had ever had sex with older men.

A series of text exchanges with a female friend from that afternoon, June 5, comported with Ms. Bennett's recounting of the story this week. In the texts, she told her friend that she was shaken and upset by the episode and worried about even writing it down.

"Something just happened and I can't even type it out or put it in a video," Ms. Bennett wrote.

Ms. Bennett went on to say to her friend, who confirmed the texts' content and validity but asked not to be identified for fear of retribution, that she and the governor had just spoken "about age differences in relationships."

When her friend asked whether Mr. Cuomo had done anything physical to Ms. Bennett, she responded: "No but it was like the most explicit it could be."

The next day, the women continued to discuss the episode via text. Ms. Bennett wrote that the governor had asked her whether she was having sex with other people "while in my recent relationships."

In the interview, Ms. Bennett said Mr. Cuomo told her he was lonely, particularly since the end of his relationship with Ms. Lee in 2019. He said Ms. Lee was "out of the picture," according to Ms. Bennett, adding that he referred to "wanting a girlfriend, preferably in the Albany area."

Ms. Bennett, who had just turned 25 at the time, said Mr. Cuomo had also asked about her feelings about age differences in relationships, saying "age doesn't matter," according to a text she sent to her friend.

"He asked me if I believed if age made a difference in relationships and he also asked me in the same conversation if I had ever been with an older man," Ms. Bennett reiterated in an interview with The Times.

At one juncture, Ms. Bennett said, the governor also noted that he felt "he's fine with anyone above the age of 22," a point that came up after they discussed her speech at Hamilton on what was her 25th birthday.

Asked if she felt Mr. Cuomo's questions and comments were an entreaty to a sexual relationship, Ms. Bennett said: "That's absolutely how it felt."

Ms. Bennett said that she had felt deeply uncomfortable with Mr. Cuomo's comments and had tried to shift the conversation into more neutral territory — something "not about my sex life," she recalled — like intellectual theories about monogamy and power dynamics, and even a tattoo she was considering getting.

She said Mr. Cuomo had suggested that perhaps she should put the tattoo on her buttocks, so people would not see it when she wore a dress.

A friend of Ms. Bennett's, a former Cuomo administration official, said he had spoken to her shortly after the June 5 episode. He confirmed the contours of her account, saying that she had made it clear to him that she believed the governor wanted to have sex with her.

Ms. Bennett told her parents about the encounter within days, her mother recalled, saying her daughter had made a special visit home to do so. "She was obviously upset," Ms. Bennett's mother said.

Ms. Bennett said she spoke to Mr. Cuomo's chief of staff, Ms. DesRosiers, on June 10, five days after the episode.

She said the meeting, in Ms. DesRosiers's office, had lasted about 10 minutes. Ms. Bennett said she had recounted her interaction with Mr. Cuomo and she recalled that Ms. DesRosiers had asked a few questions, been apologetic and asked to speak to her again in two days.

In a text message sent to a friend after the meeting, Ms. Bennett said Ms. DesRosiers had said: "How can we do this?," asking whether she wanted to stay in the executive branch or move to another part of the state government.

When Ms. Bennett's friend asked what that meant, Ms. Bennett explained that an outside job would still be with the administration, but "just not interacting with him."

She also told her friend, in the same series of texts, that she trusted Ms. DesRosiers but was worried about Mr. Cuomo's reaction: "I just said I didn't want him to find out and get mad."

Two days later, on June 12, Ms. DesRosiers told Ms. Bennett she would be transferred to a new position as a health policy adviser, still working in the executive branch, but in a different part of the Capitol. Her new job was announced in a June 17 email to Department of Health officials. "Welcome Charlotte!" it concluded.

Later that month, Ms. Bennett met with Ms. Mogul, a special counsel to the governor, and repeated her claims. She said, however, that she soon decided to "let this go and move on."

In a statement on Saturday, Beth Garvey, another special counsel to the governor, said that "Ms. Bennett's concerns were treated with sensitivity and respect and in accordance with applicable law and policy." She characterized the transfer to a health policy position as fulfilling "a longstanding interest" of Ms. Bennett's.

Of Ms. Bennett, Ms. Garvey said, "she was consulted regarding the resolution, and expressed satisfaction and appreciation for the way in which it was handled." Barbara S. Jones, a former federal judge in Manhattan, will lead the outside review into the matter, Ms. Garvey said.

Ms. Bennett left state government last fall and she now lives and works in a neighboring state. She said that her anger about what had happened had continued to percolate and had led to her departure.

"His presence was suffocating," she said. "I was thinking that I could recover and have distance but that is so naïve."

She added that she had been committed to her job in the administration, even after her interactions with Mr. Cuomo, and had tried to "not have him ruin this for me."

But, she said, "I learned that's not how that works."

From:	Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov]		
Sent:	2/26/2021 12:32:21 AM		
Го:	Stephanie Benton @@exec.ny.gov]; Judith Mogul @@exec.ny.gov]; Josh Vlasto @@gmail.com]; Jefrey Pollock @@globalstrategygroup.com]; Lis Smith [; Dani Lever @@gmail.com]; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov) @@dfs.ny.gov]; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov) @@esd.ny.gov]; Peter Ajemian @@exec.ny.gov]; Richard Azzopardi @@exec.ny.gov]; Maggie Moran [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group		
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Please review - i'll set a call to go through this at everyone's earliest convenience

From: Stephanie Benton Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 7:06 PM To: Melissa DeRosa; Judith Mogul Subject: Privileged.

Draft.

. .

Let me address the situation with Ms. Boylan and let me start by establishing the facts. I never contacted her inappropriately. There was never a discussion about strip poker on the plane. There were four people on the plane, all within earshot, and no one heard the comment because it was not said. There are not even any cards on the plane. As far as knees or feet or legs making contact during the flight, anyone who has been on the very small state plane knows that you are sitting across from each other and facing each other, making it virtually impossible not to be in incidental physical contact. There are also people sitting two feet across the aisle from you.

In my conference room which is where Ms. Boylan says I showed her artifacts, I often show people artifacts including gifts from Bill Clinton, Native Americans and my father, and historical mementos. It is, if you will, a standard tour. Many of you have seen it. The articles' significance is not beyond that which is apparent. The door is always open to my conference room because Stephanie sits about 10 feet away and this way she can hear me and I can hear her so we can communicate. I can hear her on the phone so I know who is calling. The only time the door is ever closed is basically when we are having a leaders meeting or a large staff meeting.



The door of my office in New York City is always open also for the same reason, whoever is sitting outside is always about 10 feet away and can relay calls, etc. In some ways I do this for my protection also. If anyone says anything inappropriate, I have a witness.

Ms. Boylan held an important position and I always thought I had a good, professional and mutually friendly relationship with her. I would have said we were on very good terms. She showed talent. Ultimately, she had issues with a number of female staff members which were beyond my control and resolved by the counsel and HR office. They ultimately decided not to offer Ms. Boylan continued employment. At no time in discussions with anyone, including the HR staff, did Ms. Boylan suggest any inappropriate behavior by me.

Ms. Boylan asked me to intervene on her behalf to get her job back and I could not. I did not speak to Ms. Boylan since she left 3 (?) years ago. She did, unsolicited, tweets that she supported my reelection. Later she did email my staff complaining that election rule changes the state made negatively impacted her campaign for Congress at the time. The implication was the staff directed them at her. That was not true. They were statewide reforms.

Ms. Boylan says I touched her back and arm. I don't remember it but this may very well have been incidental. In general, my customary behavior is to greet people hello or say goodbye with a hug or a kiss. I kiss women hello or goodbye, I kiss men hello or goodbye. I often greet staff and friends this way. I did an event in Queens the other day. I hugged the Assemblymembers and the pastors. In truth it is my usual custom. I've kissed Speaker Heastie and Senate Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins hello. I have a picture hanging in my office kissing Al Gore. You can go online and find pictures of me kissing and hugging hundreds of people. At least prior to OCVID. A hug does make contact with and arm and back. I never had anyone say that my behavior was inappropriate. Sometimes I get a sense when people are standoffish and I respect that.

At work sometimes I am playful and make jokes that I think are funny. Some people do not find them funny. I do, on occasion, tease people in a good natured way and I do use nicknames. I call Robert Mujica the Sphinx. I call **Constitution**, I say Dr. Malatras is not really a doctor, I call Beth Bethesda. I do it in public and in private. You have seen me do it at briefings hundreds of times. I have teased people about getting married or not getting married, I've teased men about their choice of ties. I mean no offense and only attempt to add some levity.

I also understand that customs change and that humor has changed, and that sensitivity has changed and that what might be usual custom in the past is now found by some to be insensitive. I understand that. I want to be hyper vigilant and exemplify that change.

I never meant any disrespect to Ms. Boylan and I am sorry if I made her feel uncomfortable. I am also sorry the relationship with the staff in the office did not work out.

People have commented on my office and staff. There are women who say that I am a demanding boss and my team is demanding and expects excellence. There are men who say that I am a demanding boss and that my team is demanding and expects excellence. They are right. There are ex-employees who say they worked in my office and found it difficult and stressful and they couldn't take it. I understand that. It is a high pressure environment and we work seven days a week. The majority of my senior staff are females – but male or female, it is a very intense, serious, grueling environment. And we believe the people of the State of New York deserve the best possible service, and we work obsessively to deliver the best service.

My staff are tough, motivated and top quality. My office is not for the faint of heart or those who are uncomfortable with high pressure and difficult circumstances. It certainly is not for everyone and, at the same time, my team won't accept working with just anyone. They want a high performing, high producing team. For these people who didn't like working with my team, I understand it. It is very hard.

At the same time, I doubt you will find an elected official who has a longer serving staff of higher quality people. Just look at the situation during COVID. Larry Schwartz, former Secretary to the Governor, I've worked with for 30 years. Steve Cohen, former Secretary to the Governor – 30 years, **Secretary** ..... Linda Lacewell came back from California. Jim Malatras, 14 years. **Secretary**, **Secretary**, Rich Azzopardi. People have left positions in the republican bodies to come join my team, Robert Mujica, Kelly Cummings and Beth Garvey.

#### ##

In terms of conversations with legislators and politicians, I have a different attitude. Government is a serious business. The stakes are very high and making progress is often a fight and I believe I was elected to fight for the people. That's what I told them I would do. Indeed, that was my slogan. There is no change without a fight. Overturning the status quo is hard, but people demand change and I promised to deliver it. Marriage equality doesn't pass without a fight. The \$15 minimum wage doesn't pass without a fight. A woman's right to choose doesn't pass without a fight. Passing a budget doesn't happen without a fight. Building an airport is a fight. Defeating COVID is a fight. I find some politicians are more interested in preserving the status quo or their own political careers and that some politicians are more interested in making headlines than headway. Conflict between politicians is inevitable if you actually want to get something done.

I also hold politicians responsible. A politician who lies or attacks my integrity or accuses my administration of a crime, I will not take lightly. Nor should I. Nor should society. It is illegal. It is defamation.

Politicians who are incompetent, self-serving or lazy at their jobs are hurting people, I believe they should be called out. I believe that is my job. These situations can get heated. That is the nature of the business. These are elected officials who are go along and get along but then no changes will be made and I believe that brand of politics fails their public duty.

Theodore Roosevelt said,

"Aggressive fighting for the right is the noblest sport the world affords."

"No man is worth calling a man who will not fight rather than submit to infamy or see those that are dear to him suffer wrong."

"It is the doer of deeds who actually counts in the battle for life, and not the man who looks on and says how the fight ought to be fought, without himself sharing the stress and the danger."

Barack Obama said,

"Hope is not blind optimism." Hope is that thing inside us that something better awaits us if we have the courage to reach for it, and to work for it, and to fight for it.

And to be totally frank, yes I challenge the press. When you are misleading the people, I call you on it.

Also, as far as judgement of my leadership is concerned, New Yorkers watched it for 10 years and for hundreds of hours last year. Good, impatient – annoyed. They watched it all. I'm not perfect and they know it. But they know who I am – truly, and who I fight for.

This is not to say rudeness is ever acceptable. One can be direct and straightforward, but not rude. For any person who felt my staff or myself was rude to them, or for anyone who was offended, I apologize.

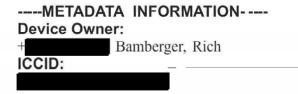
These issues today do not operate in a vacuum but rather a vortex. Presidential politics, political extremism, many ongoing campaigns, COVID fatigue, lack of legislative involvement, economic stress.

It is all in the mix. COVID is politicized. The March 25 memo and nursing homes is politicized. Medical professionals' endorsements of the strategy are dismissed by political operatives. Party politics is politicized with extremes on both sides. I will work hard to bring down the temperature and focus on what we are elected to do – manage COVID, vaccinate New Yorkers and rebuild New York.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

Date:	Friday, February 26 2021 09:54 AM		
Subject:	[Chat#2739]		
From:	Rich Bamberger		
То:	+ [Josh Vlasto]; + [Steve Cohen];		

Maria sent me below. Hi - what is the status with surrogates? Can steve Cohen get booked ? Can any of the staff who were on the plane speak with press denying Boyland claim? Can we help with having professional and social media friends to post corrections and proactively get his case out there. ? Friend have been posting comments on stories but they don't have talking points.





Date:	Friday, February 26 2021 10:10 AM		
Subject:	[Chat#2740]		
From:	Rich Bamberger >		
To:	+ [Josh Vlasto]; + [Steve Cohen];		

More How about a story about the falsehoods in reporting Boylan and nursing home stories? You don't have to answer these messages just downloading . :) Can Steve Cohen letter be shaped into a letter to the editor at the NYT another publication

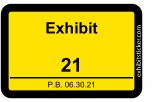
### -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: + Bamberger, Rich ICCID:

From:	Josh Vlasto @gmail.com]	
Sent:	2/27/2021 11:32:58 AM	
To:	Lis Smith @gmail.com]	
CC:	Dani Lever @gmail.com]; Jefrey Pollock @globalstrategygroup.com]; Mogul, Judith (CHAMBER)	
	@exec.ny.gov]; Lacewell, Linda A (DFS) @dfs.ny.gov]; DeRosa, Melissa (CHAMBER)	
	@exec.ny.gov]; Ajemian, Peter (CHAMBER) @exec.ny.gov]; Azzopardi, Richard (CHAMBER)	
	@exec.ny.gov]; Benton, Stephanie (CHAMBER) @exec.ny.gov]; Cohen, Steven	
	(ESD) @esd.ny.gov]	
Subject:	Re: Sorry - most up to date for the 9am	

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Her meaning the independent counsel

On Sat, Feb 27, 2021 at 11:21 AM Lis Smith WY to much I @gmail.com> wrote:



And who is her team?

On Sat, Feb 27, 2021 at 10:49 AM Josh Vlasto < @gmail.com> wrote: Recent claims that I made sexual advances toward women in the workplace are untrue.

I have nothing but respect for Ms. Bennet and the work she did for the state. In addition, understanding what she survived previously in her life, I would only want her to feel supported and valued. I never meant to be anything but supportive and constructive and I am sorry and deeply regret that she felt anything otherwise.

I have a different perspective on the dynamics of our interactions however I absolutely respect a woman's right to speak out.

I believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full, thorough and independent investigation to review these matters. We will fully comply with her team on all matters and I am directing all state employees to do the same.

On Sat, Feb 27, 2021 at 10:28 AM Melissa DeRosa < @exec.ny.gov> wrote:

We have nothing but respect for Ms Bennett and the work she did for the state. Understanding what she survived previously in her life, we would only want her to feel supported and valued. The Governor never meant to be anything but supportive and constructive and he is sorry if he

in any way aggravated her situation. I have a different perspective on the dynamic presented here and believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full, fact-based and independent investigation by an outside.

From: Peter Ajemian Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 10:22 AM To: Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov); Melissa DeRosa Cc: Jefrey Pollock; Josh Vlasto; Judith Mogul; Lis Smith; Richard Azzopardi; Stephanie Benton; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Dani Lever Subject: Re: Sorry - most up to date for the 9am

Plus Dani

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Lacewell, Linda A (DFS) Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 9:05 AM To: Melissa DeRosa Cc: Jefrey Pollock; Josh Vlasto; Peter Ajemian; Judith Mogul; Lis Smith; Richard Azzopardi; Stephanie Benton; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov) Subject: Re: Sorry - most up to date for the 9am

Another approach from Judy

I respect and appreciate people who dedicate their lives to public service and people who work for the state of NY. The recent claims that I made sexual advances or engaged in sexual harassment - are unfounded and untrue. I have been in public service for years. I believe that the people have a right to know the truth. I am going to be hiring an independent law firm to conduct a review and these and any other related allegations. In the interim, I would request that people refrain from jumping to conclusions and wait until the review is complete.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 27, 2021, at 9:04 AM, Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov> wrote:

During Ms. Bennett's time in the office, she told the Governor that she had been a victim of sexual assault and then started an organization to promote awareness of sexual assault. She explained that her alma mater had denied her allegations of sexual assault after an investigation and that her family was not fully supportive of her exposing the allegations. Ms. Bennett said she came to the Governor's office because of his work protecting sexual assault victims, especially against universities. The Governor sensed she was still suffering from the trauma and tried to be supportive; as Ms Bennett says, he was 'paternalistic' and they had a 'mentor-mentee' relationship.

At one point Ms Bennett said she would be giving a keynote speech on the issue of sexual assault; the Governor said he would happy to help her with it. He thought it could be cathartic and encouraged her to own what happened to her and use her voice to proclaim her truth. The Governor tried to be supportive and suggested developing real friendships and healthy loving and positive emotional relationships, exercise

and therapy to help her in moving forward. The Governor tried to lighten her spirits. At one point, Ms Bennett said she was thinking of getting a tatoo. The Governor said his opinion was that she would find it was a mistake later in life and that she should at least do it where it would be hidden. Ms. Bennett said she was reviewing the Governor's incoming mail and many women were interested in dating him, and he joked that he was lonely and ready for a girlfriend and that she should screen the mail and find him good candidates.

At one point Ms Bennett approached an aid and requested to be transferred to a position she previously expressed interest in with the health team. The aide then proactively set up a meeting with the Governor's special counsel, a former federal prosecutor, for a formal interview. In that interview, Ms Bennet said she had shared personal information with the Governor which she now regretted and felt uncomfortable. She was asked specifically if she felt the Governor sexually harassed her or if there was any improper contact and she said no. She was asked if she felt there should be any further action to determine if the Governor did anything improper; Ms. Bennett said no. The Governor's intention was consistent with Ms. Bennett's initial impression: he was being 'paternalistic'.

We have nothing but respect for Ms. Bennett and the work she did for the state. Understanding what she survived previously in her life, we would only want her to feel supported and valued. The Governor never meant to be anything but supportive and constructive and he is sorry if he in any way aggravated her situation.

We believe the best way to affirm the truth in this and the matter involving Ms Boylan is through a full, fact-based and independent investigation by an outside counsel.

From: Melissa DeRosa
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 8:32 AM
To: Josh Vlasto; Peter Ajemian
Cc: Jefrey Pollock; Judith Mogul; Linda A Lacewell (<u>dfs.ny.gov</u>); Lis Smith; Richard Azzopardi; Stephanie Benton; Steven Cohen (<u>esd.ny.gov</u>)
Subject: priv confiential - pls review this draft for the call **set is putting on**

Sorry read this version -->

Ms. Bennett came to work in the governor's office for a short period of time.

During her time in the office, she told the Governor that she had been a victim of sexual assault and then started an organization to promote awareness of sexual assault. She explained that her alma mater had denied her allegations of sexual assault after an investigation and that her family was not fully supportive of her exposing the allegations. Ms. Bennett said she came to the Governor's office because of his work protecting sexual assault victims, especially against universities. The Governor sensed she was still suffering from the trauma and tried to be supportive as Ms Bennett says, he was 'paternalistic' and they had a 'mentor-mentee' relationship.

At one point Ms Bennett said she would be giving a keynote speech on the issue of sexual assault; the Governor said he would happy to help her with it. He thought it could be cathartic and encouraged her to own what happened to her and use her voice to proclaim her truth. The Governor tried to be supportive and suggested developing real friendships and healthy loving and positive emotional relationships, exercise and therapy to help her in moving forward. The Governor tried to lighten her spirits. At one point, Ms Bennett said she was thinking of getting a tatoo. The Governor said his opinion was that she would find it was a mistake later in life and that she should at least do it where it would be hidden. Ms. Bennett said she was reviewing the Governor's incoming mail and many women were interested in dating him, and he joked that he was lonely and ready for a girlfriend and that she should screen the mail and find him good candidates.

At one point Ms Bennett approached an aid and requested to be transferred to a position she previously expressed interest in with the health team. The aide then proactively set up a meeting with the Governor's special counsel, a former federal prosecutor, for a formal interview. In that interview, Ms Bennet said she had shared personal information with the Governor which she now regretted and felt uncomfortable. She was asked specifically if she felt the Governor harassed her in any way or if there was any improper contact and she said no. She was asked if she felt there should be any further action to determine if the Governor did anything improper; Ms. Bennett said no. Ms. Bennett's initial impression that the governor was being 'paternalistic' and a 'mentor-mentee' was and remained correct. We have nothing but respect for Ms. Bennett and the work she did for the state. Understanding what she survived previously in her life, we would only want her to feel supported and valued.

We believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full, fact-based and independent investigation by an outside counsel, including Ms. Boylan.

From: Melissa DeRosa
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 8:05 AM
To: Josh Vlasto; Peter Ajemian
Cc: Jefrey Pollock; Judith Mogul; Linda A Lacewell (<u>dfs.ny.gov</u>); Lis Smith; Richard Azzopardi; Stephanie ≡
Benton; Steven Cohen (<u>esd.ny.gov</u>)
Subject: Re: privileged / confidential / draft

A different approach:

Ms. Bennett came to work in the governor's office for a short period of time.

During her time in the office, she told the Governor that she had been a victim of sexual assault and then started an organization to promote awareness of sexual assault. She explained that her alma mater had denied her allegations of sexual assault after an investigation and that her family was not fully supportive of

her exposing the allegations. Ms. Bennett said she came to the Governor's office because of his work protecting sexual assault victims, especially against universities. The Governor sensed she was still suffering from the trauma and tried to be supportive as Ms Bennett says, he was 'paternalistic' and they had a 'mentor-mentee' relationship.

At one point Ms Bennett said she would be giving a keynote speech on the issue of sexual assault; the Governor said he would happy to help her with it. He thought it could be cathartic and encouraged her to own what happened to her and use her voice. The Governor tried to be supportive and suggested developing healthy friendships and supportive relationships, exercise and therapy to help her in moving forward. The Governor tried to lighten her spirits. At one point, Ms Bennett said she was thinking of getting a tatoo. The Governor said his opinion was that she would find it was a mistake later in life and that she should at least do it where it would be hidden. Ms. Bennett said she was reviewing the Governor's incoming mail and many women were interested in dating him, and he joked that she should screen the mail and find him good candidates.

At one point Ms Bennett approached an aid and requested to be transferred to a position she previously expressed interest in with the health team. The aide then proactively set up a meeting with the Governor's special counsel, a former federal prosecutor, for a formal interview. Ms Bennet said she had shared personal information with the Governor which she now regretted and felt uncomfortable. She was asked specifically if she felt the Governor harassed her in any way or if there was any improper contact and she said no. She was asked if she felt there should be any further action to determine if the Governor did anything improper; Ms. Bennett said no. Ms. Bennett's initial impression that the governor was being 'paternalistic' and a 'mentor-mentee' was and remained correct. We have nothing but respect for Ms. Bennett and the work she did for the state. Understanding what she survived previously in her life, we would only want her to feel supported and valued.

We believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full, fact-based and independent investigation by an outside counsel.

From: Josh Vlasto @gmail.com> Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 7:58 AM To: Peter Ajemian Cc: Jefrey Pollock; Judith Mogul; Linda A Lacewell (<u>dfs.ny.gov</u>); Lis Smith; Melissa DeRosa; Richard Azzopardi; Stephanie Benton; Steven Cohen (<u>esd.ny.gov</u>) Subject: Re: privileged / confidential / draft

Seems right to me

Comes in a release I imagine with a sentence or two about the person picked?

On Sat, Feb 27, 2021 at 7:45 AM Peter Ajemian

@exec.ny.gov> wrote:

**Relooping Josh** 

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Peter Ajemian

Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 7:18 AM

To: Lis Smith

Cc: Melissa DeRosa; Judith Mogul; Linda A Lacewell (<u>dfs.ny.gov</u>); Stephanie Benton; Steven Cohen (<u>esd.ny.gov</u>); Jefrey Pollock; Richard Azzopardi

Subject: Re: privileged / confidential / draft

Sounds right. One tweak in caps for clarity.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Lis Smith
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 12:52 AM
To: Peter Ajemian
Cc: Melissa DeRosa; Judith Mogul; Linda A Lacewell (<u>dfs.ny.gov</u>); Stephanie Benton; Steven Cohen (<u>esd.ny.gov</u>); Jefrey Pollock; Richard Azzopardi
Subject: Re: privileged / confidential / draft

removed "complex" and reworked a little:

I have nothing but respect for Charlotte and the work she did for the state. Understanding what she survived PREVIOUSLY IN HER LIFE, I would only want her to feel supported and valued. I believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full, fact-based and independent investigation by an outside counsel who has the expertise to review matters like this one and can recommend remedial steps if warranted.

On Sat, Feb 27, 2021 at 12:39 AM Lis Smith <

@gmail.com> wrote:

Additional option:

I have nothing but respect for Charlotte and the work she did for the state. Understanding what Charlotte survived the way I do, I never would have said anything to her that didn't make her feel supported and valued. I believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full, fact-based and independent investigation by an outside counsel who has the expertise to review complex matters like this one and can recommend remedial steps if warranted.

On Fri, Feb 26, 2021 at 11:39 PM Pet	ter Ajemian	@exec.ny.gov> wrote:
Understanding this needs work, he	re's an initial draft to discu	S3.

I have nothing but respect for Charlotte and the work she did for the state, and I have tremendous sympathy for what she had been through in her life. I regret and am saddened that she felt anything other than supported and valued at work, as I want nothing but the best for her. I have a different perspective on the dynamic presented here and believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full, fact-based and independent investigation by an outside counsel who has the expertise to review complex matters like this one and can recommend remedial steps if warranted.

On Feb 26, 2021, at 8:40 PM,

@exec.ny.gov> wrote:

**Plus Chris Cuomo** 

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Peter Ajemian		@exec.ny.gov>		
Sent:	Sunday, February 28, 2021 10:02 AM				
То:	Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov; Melissa DeRosa; Beth Garvey; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov; Lis Smith; Josh Vlasto; Richard Azzopardi; Judith Mogul				
Subject:	Fw: STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO				
Need to deal with this. Gave her course this morning?	and	Barbara's	bio and Beth's upo	lated stateme	ent but are we changing
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smal	rtphone on the Ver	izon Wireles	s 4G I TF network		

From: Dana Rubinstein @nytimes.com> Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 10:29 PM To: Richard Azzopardi; Peter Ajemian Subject: Fwd: STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO

Good evening, Rich and Peter,

On the hook for a morning follow-up to this. Can you comment as to why it makes sense for Barbara Jones, who worked with Steve Cohen, to conduct this investigation, and--more broadly--why it makes sense for the governor to have any role in selecting who conducts the investigation?

Regards, Dana

------ Forwarded message ------From: Press Office <<u>Press.Office@exec.ny.gov</u>> Date: Sat, Feb 27, 2021 at 6:41 PM Subject: STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO To: <<u>@nytimes.com</u>>



For Immediate Release: 2/27/2021

**GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO** 

## STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO

"Ms. Bennett was a hardworking and valued member of our team during COVID. She has every right to speak out.

"When she came to me and opened up about being a sexual assault survivor and how it shaped her and her ongoing efforts to create an organization that empowered her voice to help other survivors, I tried to be supportive and helpful. Ms. Bennett's initial impression was right: I was trying to be a mentor to her. I never made advances toward Ms. Bennett nor did I ever intend to act in any way that

1

was inappropriate. The last thing I would ever have wanted was to make her feel any of the things that are being reported.

"This situation cannot and should not be resolved in the press; I believe the best way to get to the truth is through a full and thorough outside review and I am directing all state employees to comply with that effort. I ask all New Yorkers to await the findings of the review so that they know the facts before making any judgements. I will have no further comment until the review has concluded."

### STATEMENT FROM BETH GARVEY, SPECIAL COUNSEL AND SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE GOVERNOR

"Ms. Bennett's concerns were treated with sensitivity and respect and in accordance with applicable law and policy.

"The matter was promptly escalated to special counsel. Ms. Bennett received the transfer she requested to a position in which she had expressed a long-standing interest, and was thoroughly debriefed on the facts which did not include a claim of physical contact or inappropriate sexual conduct. She was consulted regarding the resolution, and expressed satisfaction and appreciation for the way in which it was handled.

"The determination reached based on the information Ms Bennett provided was that no further action was required which was consistent with Ms Bennett's wishes.

"Although in no way required by law, the Governor has requested an independent review and all staff will cooperate in that endeavor. Former Federal Judge Barbara Jones will lead the review."

###

Additional news available at <u>www.governor.ny.gov</u> New York State | Executive Chamber |<u>press.office@exec.ny.gov</u> | 518.474.8418

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From:	Peter Ajemian	@exec.ny.gov>
Sent:	Sunday, February 28, 2021 12:	14 PM
To: Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov; Linda		da A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov; Judith Mogul; Beth Garvey;
	Melissa DeRosa; Lis Smith; Jos	h Vlasto; Richard Azzopardi
Subject:	Fw: Attorney General James C	alls for Official Referral from Governor Cuomo to
	Investigate Allegations of Sexu	ual Harassment

What the hell is going on?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Dana Rubinstein (@nytimes.com> Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 12:10 PM To: Peter Ajemian Subject: Fwd: FW: Attorney General James Calls for Official Referral from Governor Cuomo to Investigate Allegations of Sexual Harassment

Is governor's office willing to give Tish a referral, so that she can investigate with subpoena power?

------ Forwarded message -------From: @@ag.ny.gov> Date: Sun, Feb 28, 2021 at 12:07 PM Subject: FW: Attorney General James Calls for Official Referral from Governor Cuomo to Investigate Allegations of Sexual Harassment To: Dana Rubinstein @nytimes.com>

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 28, 2021

Attorney General's Press Office/212-416-8060 nyag.pressoffice@ag.ny.gov

# Attorney General James Calls for Official Referral from Governor Cuomo to Investigate Allegations of Sexual Harassment

NEW YORK – New York Attorney General Letitia James today released the following statement calling for a referral from Governor Andrew Cuomo to investigate allegations of sexual harassment:

"Allegations of sexual harassment should always be taken seriously. There must be a truly independent investigation to thoroughly review these troubling allegations against the governor, and I stand ready to oversee that investigation and make any appointments necessary. Given state law, this can only be accomplished through an official referral from the governor's office based on State Law (§ 63-8) and must include subpoena power. I urge the governor to make this referral immediately."

1



###

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Chat # Fre	om To	Body	Timestamp: Time
209 Me DeRos	elissa Steve Cohen Ga Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Is Steve on w him	2/28/2021 6:30:06 PM(UTC+0)
209 Ste Coher		l'm back with u now v	2/28/2021 6:30:17 PM(UTC+0)
209 Me DeRos	elissa Steve Cohen Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Did u talk to him	2/28/2021 6:30:31 PM(UTC+0)
209 Me DeRos	elissa Steve Cohen Ga Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Is the statement done	2/28/2021 6:30:36 PM(UTC+0)
			24

P.B. 06.30.21

209			He's says he's taking out the stuff that doesn't	2/28/2021
	Steve	Melissa	work. And will resend. And he understand he	6:31:22
	Cohen	DeRosa	can't fight if being thru AG.	PM(UTC+0)
		(owner)		
		Stephanie		
		Benton		
		Melissa		
		DeRosa		
		(owner)		

		Exhibit 5	
Date:	Sunday, February 28 2021 03:20 PM		
Subject:	Re: statement final	¥	
From:	Josh Vlasto @gmail.com>	P.B. 06.30.21	
To:	Chris Cuomo @gmail.com>;		
CC:	Dani Lever @gmail.com>; Jefrey Pollock @globalstrategygroup.com>; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov) @dfs.ny.gov>; Lis Smith @gmail.com>; Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov>; Peter Ajemian @exec.ny.gov>; Richard Azzopardi @exec.ny.gov>; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov) @exec.ny.gov>;		
I can't se C	ems to dial back in		
On Sun, l	Feb 28, 2021 at 3:13 PM Chris Cuomo	2:	

"Questions have been raised about some of my past interactions with people in the office.

I spend most of my life at work and colleagues are often also personal friends. I never intended to offend anyone or cause any harm.

sometimes I am playful and make jokes. You have seen me do it at briefings hundreds of times. My only desire is to add some levity and banter to what is a very serious business.

I now understand that my interactions may have been insensitive or too personal and that some of my comments, given my position, made others feel in ways I never intended. I'm sorry and feel deeply embarrassed about that.

Separately, my office has heard anecdotally that some people have reached out to Ms. Bennett to express displeasure about her coming forward. My message to anyone doing that is you have misjudged what matters to me and my administration and you should stop now period." "Questions have been raised about some of my past interactions with people in the office.

I spend most of my life at work and colleagues are often also personal friends. I never intended to offend anyone or cause any harm.

sometimes I am playful and make jokes. You have seen me do it at briefings hundreds of times. My only desire is to add some levity and banter to what is a very serious business.

I now understand that my interactions may have been insensitive or too personal and that some of my comments, given my position, made others feel in ways I never intended. I'm sorry and feel deeply embarrassed about that.

Separately, my office has heard anecdotally that some people have reached out to Ms. Bennett to express displeasure about her coming forward. My message to anyone doing that is you have misjudged what matters to me and my administration and you should stop now period."

rom: Lacewell, Linda A (DFS) @dfs.ny.gov>
ent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 3:07 PM
o: Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov >
c: Peter Ajemian @exec.ny.gov>; Richard Azzopardi @exec.ny.gov>; Jefrey Pollock
@globalstrategygroup.com >; Lis Smith @gmail.com >; Josh Vlasto @gmail.com >;
ani Lever @gmail.com>; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov) @esd.ny.gov>; Chris Cuomo (
@gmail.com)
ubject: Re: statement final

I now understand (not know)

On Feb 28, 2021, at 3:05 PM, Melissa DeRosa

@exec.ny.gov > wrote:

"Questions have been raised about some of my past interactions with people in the office.

I never intended to offend anyone or cause any harm. I spend most of my life at work and colleagues are often also personal friends.

At work sometimes I think I am being playful and make jokes that I think are funny. I do, on occasion, tease people in what I think is a good natured way. I do it in public and in private. You have seen me do it at briefings hundreds of times. I have teased people about their personal lives, their relationships, about getting married or not getting married. I mean no offense and only attempt to add some levity and banter to what is a very serious business.

I know understand that my interactions may have been insensitive or too personal and that some of my comments, given my position, made others feel in ways I never intended. I acknowledge some of the things I have said have been misinterpreted as an unwanted flirtation. To the extent anyone felt that way, I'm sorry and feel deeply embarrassed about that.

That's why I have asked for an outside, independent review that

looks at all of this. To be clear I never touched anybody and I never propositioned anybody, but these are serious allegations that New Yorkers deserve answers to.

Separately, my office has heard anecdotally that some people have reached out to Ms. Bennett to express displeasure about her coming forward. My message to anyone doing that is you have misjudged what matters to me and my administration and you should stop now - period."

			Exhibit 5
Date:	Sunday, February	28 2021 05:24 PM	26
Subject:	Re: Peter you got	this?	P.B. 06.30.21
From:		@exec.ny.gov >	
То:	Peter Ajemian	@exec.ny.gov >; Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov >;	@exec.ny.gov>; Stephanie Benton
CC:	Judith Mogul (esd.ny.gov) Linda A Lacewell		@exec.ny.gov >; Steven Cohen @gmail.com>; Richard Azzopardi @gmail.com >; Dani Lever @gmail.com>;

Sending this shortly

# STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR ANDREW M. CUOMO

"Questions have been raised about some of my past interactions with people in the office.

"I never intended to offend anyone or cause any harm. I spend most of my life at work and colleagues are often also personal friends.

"At work sometimes I think I am being playful and make jokes that I think are funny. I do, on occasion, tease people in what I think is a good natured way. I do it in public and in private. You have seen me do it at briefings hundreds of times. I have teased people about their personal lives, their relationships, about getting married or not getting married. I mean no offense and only attempt to add some levity and banter to what is a very serious business.

"I now understand that my interactions may have been insensitive or too personal and that some of my comments, given my position, made others feel in ways I never intended. I acknowledge some of the things I have said have been misinterpreted as an unwanted flirtation. To the extent anyone felt that way, I am truly sorry about that.

"To be clear I never inappropriately touched anybody and I never propositioned anybody and I never intended to make anyone feel uncomfortable, but these are allegations that New Yorkers deserve answers to.

"That's why I have asked for an outside, independent review that looks at these allegations.

"Separately, my office has heard anecdotally that some people have reached out to Ms. Bennett to express displeasure about her coming forward. My message to anyone doing that is you have misjudged what matters to me and my administration and you should stop now - period."

###

From:

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 4:56 PM

To: Peter Ajemian; Melissa DeRosa; Stephanie Benton

Cc: Judith Mogul; Beth Garvey; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Josh Vlasto; Richard Azzopardi; Lis Smith; Dani Lever; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov)

Subject: Re: Peter you got this?

Formatted below



FEBRUARY 28, 2021 Albany, NY

# **Statement from Governor Andrew M. Cuomo**

"Questions have been raised about some of my past interactions with people in the office.

"I never intended to offend anyone or cause any harm. I spend most of my life at work and colleagues are often also personal friends.

"At work sometimes I think I am being playful and make jokes that I think are funny. I do, on occasion, tease people in what I think is a good natured way. I do it in public and in private. You have seen me do it at briefings hundreds of times. I have teased people about their personal lives, their relationships, about getting married or not getting married. I mean no offense and only attempt to add some levity and banter to what is a very serious business.

"I now understand that my interactions may have been insensitive or too personal and that some of my comments, given my position, made others feel in ways I never intended. I acknowledge some of the things I have said have been misinterpreted as an unwanted flirtation. To the extent anyone felt that way, I am truly sorry about that.

"To be clear I never inappropriately touched anybody and I never propositioned anybody and I never intended to make anyone feel uncomfortable, but these are allegations that New Yorkers deserve answers to.

"That's why I have asked for an outside, independent review that looks at these allegations.

"Separately, my office has heard anecdotally that some people have reached out to Ms. Bennett to express displeasure about her coming forward. My message to anyone doing that is you have misjudged what matters to me and my administration and you should stop now period."

# **Contact the Governor's Press Office**

Contact us by phone:	Albany: (518) 474 - 8418	
	New York City: (212) 681 - 4640	

Contact us by email:

Press.Office@exec.ny.gov

From: Sent:	Peter Ajemian 3/1/2021 5:37:23 PM	@exec.ny.gov]	
To:	DeRosa, Melissa (CHAMBER)	@exec.ny.gov]; Lis Smith	@gmail.com]
CC:	Garvey, Beth (CHAMBER)	@exec.ny.gov]; Jefrey Pollock	@globalstrategygroup.com]; Mogul,
	Judith (CHAMBER)	@exec.ny.gov]; Lacewell, Linda A (DFS)	@dfs.ny.gov]; Azzopardi,
	Richard (CHAMBER)	@exec.ny.gov]; Cohen, Steven (ESD)	@esd.ny.gov];
	Dani Lever ; Josh Vlast	0	
Subject:	RE: privileged & confidential -	please see, FW: Comment on 2019 wedding in	teraction

RE: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction subject:

Spoke to Jesse and then to Dean Chang and made our points

Jesse's not the lead and didn't seem that committed

Dean said he understood where we are coming from and assumed he'd be getting a call and acknowledged that in a vacuum it's not a story but said in context of the two prior stories and with this new woman's words it's a story

Story is basically- this is part of a pattern of words and actions by the gov that have made women feel uncomfortable

Here are the quotes - my rec is just refer to yesterday's statement and be done:

"I was so confused and shocked and embarrassed. I turned my head away and didn't have words in that moment."

"That was the one section of my dress that was open so it was just my bare skin, which of course adds to my discomfort," Ms. Ruch said. "I promptly removed his hand with my hand, which I would have thought was a clear enough indicator that I was not wanting him to touch me."

"He said, 'Can Lkiss you?" Ms. Ruch said. "I felt so uncomfortable and embarrassed when really he is the one who should have been embarrassed."

"It's the act of impunity that strikes me," Ms. Ruch said. "I didn't have a choice in that matter. I didn't have a choice in his physical dominance over me at that moment. And that's what infuriates me. And even with what I could do, removing his hand from my lower back, even doing that was not clear enough."

@gmail.com> From: Lis Smith Sent: Monday, March 01, 2021 4:40 PM To: Melissa DeRosa Cc: Beth Garvey; Jefrey Pollock; Judith Mogul; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov); Peter Ajemian; Richard Azzopardi; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Dani Lever ; Josh Vlasto Subject: Re: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction

I would also push back hard on the times here/ this is absurd. In front of dozens of people and with cameras around? At a wedding? This doesn't pass the smell test.

This is not harassment-

On Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 4:37 PM Melissa DeRosa

OK then let's just leave it alone

@exec.ny.gov> wrote:



not reference review - this wont be reviewed - its not workplace s	sexual harassment
--	-------------------

From: Lis Smith @gmail.com> Sent: Monday, March 01, 2021 4:33 PM To: Judith Mogul
<b>Cc:</b> Beth Garvey; Jefrey Pollock; Linda A Lacewell ( <u>dfs.ny.gov</u> ); Melissa DeRosa; Peter Ajemian; Richard Azzopardi; Steven Cohen ( <u>esd.ny.gov</u> ); <mark>Dani Lever (Josh Vlasto)</mark> ; Josh Vlasto
Subject: Re: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction
This also isn't even a thing- sounds like every Italian grand dad at a wedding
Do not do statement Melissa- just refer to comments yesterday
On Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 4:29 PM Lis Smith @gmail.com> wrote:
Yes I agree- no further comment
On Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 4:28 PM Judith Mogul
And when he wants to revert to no comment this comment will be thrown back at him. No further comment should mean no further comment
From: Lacewell, Linda A (DFS)       @dfs.ny.gov>         Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 4:27 PM         To: Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov)       @esd.ny.gov>; Melissa DeRosa         @exec.ny.gov>         Cc: Jefrey Pollock       @globalstrategygroup.com>; Beth Garvey         @exec.ny.gov>; Judith Mogul       @exec.ny.gov>; Josh Vlasto         @exec.ny.gov>; Judith Mogul       @exec.ny.gov>; Lis Smith         Subject: Re: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction         You're going to comment on each and every allegation now
Get <u>Outlook for iOS</u>
From: Melissa DeRosa       @exec.ny.gov>         Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 4:25:49 PM         To: Cohen, Steven (ESD)       @esd.ny.gov>; Lacewell, Linda A (DFS)         Cc: Jefrey Pollock       @globalstrategygroup.com>; Garvey, Beth (CHAMBER)         Ajemian, Peter (CHAMBER)       @exec.ny.gov>; Mogul, Judith (CHAMBER)         Josh Vlasto       @gmail.com>; Dani Lever         @cxec.ny.gov> Lis Smith       @gmail.com>         Subject: Re: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction
I just spoke w lis and she agrees w me
what is the issue?

The Governor has kissed and hugged and posed for photos with men and women alike at thousands of public events for the last 40 years. If that has offended anyone in anyway, it was not his intention. In this instance, there was a photographer less than 5 feet away in a room filled with hundreds of people where he was performing a wedding ceremony.
From: Cohen, Steven (ESD) @@esd.ny.gov> Sent: Monday, March 01, 2021 4:25 PM To: Linda A Lacewell ( <u>dfs.ny.gov</u> ) Cc: Melissa DeRosa; Jefrey Pollock; Beth Garvey; Peter Ajemian; Judith Mogul; Josh Vlasto Dani Lever ; Richard Azzopardi; Lis Smith Subject: Re: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction
Agree with No.
On Mar 1, 2021, at 4:23 PM, Lacewell, Linda A (DFS)
Νο
Sent from my iPhone
On Mar 1, 2021, at 4:21 PM, Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov> wrote:
Can we give this?
The Governor has kissed and hugged and posed for photos with men and women alike at thousands of public events for the last 40 years. If that has offended anyone in anyway, it was not his intention. In this instance, there was a photographer less than 5 feet away in a room filled with hundreds of people where he was performing a wedding ceremony.
From: Jefrey Pollock@globalstrategygroup.com>
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2021 4:03 PM To: Beth Garvey; Peter Ajemian; Melissa DeRosa; Linda A Lacewell ( <u>dfs.ny.gov</u> ); Judith Mogul; Steven Cohen ( <u>esd.ny.gov</u> ) Cc: Josh Vlasto '; Dani Lever'; Richard Azzopardi; Lis Smith Subject: RE: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction
agreed
From: Beth Garvey @@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

@esd.ny.gov>         Cc: Josh Vlasto       @gmail.com>; Dani Lever       @gmail.com>; Richard Azzopardi         @exec.ny.gov>,Lis Smith       @gmail.com>; Jefrey Pollock         @globalstrategygroup.com>         Subject: RE: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction
[EXT EMAIL]
I think we need to lean in to – we have an ongoing review now, a referral has been made, no further comment on this or related matters.
From: Peter Ajemian       @exec.ny.gov>         Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 4:00 PM         To: Melissa DeRosa       @exec.ny.gov>; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov)       @dfs.ny.gov>; Judith         Mogul       @exec.ny.gov>; Beth Garvey       @exec.ny.gov>; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov)         @esd.ny.gov>       @exec.ny.gov>; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov)         Cc: Josh Vlasto       @gmail.com>; Dani Lever       @gmail.com>; Richard Azzopardi         @exec.ny.gov>; Lis Smith       @gmail.com>; 'Jefrey Pollock'         @globalstrategygroup.com>       Subject: privileged & confidential - please see. FW: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction
I think we have to refer to yesterday's statement.
From: Jesse McKinley @nytimes.com> Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 3:53 PM To: Richard Azzopardi @exec.ny.gov>; Peter Ajemian @exec.ny.gov> Subject: Comment on 2019 wedding interaction
Rich, Peter,
Working on an article with Matt Flegenheimer, who interviewed the main subject, that involves an accusation by a 33-year-old woman, who says that the governor touched her inappropriately at a 2019 wedding (Gareth's, though he is not mentioned), and tried to kiss her even after she had conveyed her discomfort.
The woman, Anna Ruch, is on the record. She said in an interview that the governor put his hand on her bare lower back and after she removed it, the governor asked if he could kiss her, placing his palms on her face against her wishes and drawing closer as she pulled her head away. He then kissed her on the cheek.
There are photos of this moment, some of which are bouncing around Instagram.
I'll reflect the governor's previous comments on the Bennett/Boylan accusations, but can, of course, include any additional comment.
Jesse
Jesse McKinley

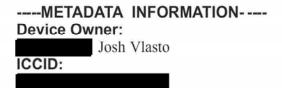
New York Times Bureau Chief Albany

Twitter: @jessemckinley Skype: Instagram: jessemckinley70

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			Exhibit
Date:	Tuesday, March 2 2021 01:14 PM		29
Subject:	[Chat#2121]		P.B. 06.30.21
From:	Stephanie Benton <		
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; [Peter Ajemian]; Judy Mogul ]"; [Dani Lever];	[Jefrey Pollock]; [Linda Lacewell];	[Steven M. Cohen]; [Rich Azzopardi]; "+ [Melissa DeRosa];

Are we on for 4pm in Alb today? Please let me know. Will have tests ready and find a room best for the size of group.



Date: Saturday, March 6 2021 05:56 AM

Subject: Re: Priv and Confidential FW: Washington Post-request for comment (on deadline) privileged and confidential.

From:	Judith Mogul @exec.ny.gov >
То:	Melissa DeRosa @@exec.ny.gov>; Josh Vlasto @@gmail.com>; Jefrey Pollock @gmail.com>; Dani Lever @@gmail.com >;
CC:	Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov) @dfs.ny.gov >; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov) @esd.ny.gov >; Beth Garvey @exec.ny.gov >;

blue highlighting is Kaitlin?

#### From: Melissa DeRosa

Sent: Friday, March 05, 2021 7:42 PM

To: Josh Vlasto; Jefrey Pollock; Lis Smith; Dani Lever

Cc: Judith Mogul; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov); Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Beth Garvey

Subject: RE: Priv and Confidential FW: Washington Post- request for comment (on deadline) privileged and confidential.

We have officially jumped the shark. Karen Hinton is the furthest thing in the world from a wallflower, and the idea that she waited 21 years to surface an allegation about a hug in a hotel room when she was no longer employed at HUD is absurd.

From: Melissa DeRosa			
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2	2021 7:25 PM		
To: Josh Vlasto	@gmail.com>; Jefrey Pollock	@globalstrategyg	roup.com >; Lis Smith
@gma	il.com>; Dani Lever @gmail.co	om>	
Cc: Judith Mogul	@exec.ny.gov >; Linda A Lace	well (dfs.ny.gov)	@dfs.ny.gov>; Steven Cohen
(esd.ny.gov)	@esd.ny.gov>; Beth Garvey	@exec.ny.gov	/>
Subject: Priv and Confi	dential FW: Washington Post- request	for comment (on dead	dline) privileged and confidential.

See below

### Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Brittain, Amy @washpost.com >	
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 7:02 PM	Exhibit §
To: Richard Azzopardi	
Subject: Washington Post- request for comment (on deadline)	30
	<b></b>
Hi Dich	P.B. 06.30.21

Hi Rich,

I'm working with my colleague Josh Dawsey on a piece related to the workplace environment under Andrew Cuomo. We'd welcome the opportunity to interview Gov. Cuomo and to speak to aides close to him who may want to share their own accounts of what it is like to work for him.

Specifically, we plan to report the following:

- Karen Hinton, who worked for Cuomo at HUD, alleges that he summoned her to his dimly lit hotel room and physically embraced her following a work event in 2000, when Cuomo led the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Hinton says that she pulled away from Cuomo but he pulled her back toward his body, holding her before she broke away and left the room.
- Hinton has discussed the allegation in detail, saying that it happened after she left her fulltime job with the agency, when she was working as a consultant for HUD. She said the trip was to California, where she worked with the governor to help arrange press coverage on his media tour.
- Hinton said there was a "power dynamic" at play even though she was a consultant at the time, not an employee. "It

was the same to me," she said, adding that was she concerned about the "the personal and professional problems that could have been created." She said she described his move as a "power play" for "manipulation and control."

- Hinton has said that she and Cuomo never discussed the incident after she left his room that night.
- Two male aides who worked for Cuomo over the course of his career say that he berated them with explicit language: sometimes calling them "pussies" and sometimes saying "you have no balls," among other comments.
- Two women, both of whom worked in the governor's office several years ago as young staffers, says that Cuomo quizzed them about their dating lives. They have said they did not view the encounters as propositions but rather as part of an office culture they believed was degrading to young women.
- An additional woman has said that during a meeting with Gov. Cuomo, he insinuated that his male staffer should date her. She said that it was part of a larger pattern of a hostile workplace defined by blame cast upon others, angry outbursts and a pattern of undermining colleagues that left her with crippling anxiety and feelings of questioning her self worth.
- Altogether, over 20 former Cuomo staffers have told us in interviews that Cuomo fostered a hostile workplace culture in which he makes searing verbal attacks on subordinates. Some said he seemed to delight in humiliating his employees, particularly in group meetings. Most said they still fear his wrath and his power to destroy careers.
- We are also planning on including comments from other staffers who say they never witnessed abusive behavior.

We plan to include some of Gov. Cuomo's remarks from his Wednesday press conference, and we would welcome the chance to include his detailed responses to these new allegations. Our deadline is 1 p.m. tomorrow.

I'm at if you have any questions concerning this request. Best, Amy

Amy Brittain Reporter The Washington Post (cell) @washpost.com

Message	
From:	Melissa DeRosa
Sent:	3/6/2021 1:42:34 AM
To:	Peter Ajemian Maggie Moran Beth Garvey Linda Lacewell; Steve Cohen
	Jeff Pollock Judy Mogul Rich Azzopardi Stephanie Benton Cell Josh
	Vlasto ; Maggie Moran @kivvit.com]; Lis Smith ; Dani
Subject:	3/5/2021 8:42:34 PM -05:00 : Melissa DeRosa -> [13 parties]

Steve and I just did Washington post



MORAN00001150

Message	
From:	Linda Lacewell
Sent:	3/6/2021 1:43:51 AM
To:	Dani ; Judy Mogul Rich Azzopardi; Jeff Pollock Stephanie Benton Cell [
	; Maggie Moran @kivvit.com]; Beth Garvey ; Steve Cohen
	MaggieMoran Melissa DeRosa Peter Ajemian Josh Vlasto
	Lis Smith
Subject:	3/5/2021 8:43:51 PM -05:00 : -> [13 parties]

How was it

Message
---------

From:	Steve Cohen
Sent:	3/6/2021 1:49:43 AM
To:	Judy Mogul Linda Lacewell Maggie Moran @kivvit.com]; StephanieBenton Cell
	Rich Azzopardi Maggie Moran ; Josh Vlasto Melissa DeRosa
	Jeff Pollock Dani Dani Peter Ajemian; Beth Garvey ; Lis Smith
Subject:	3/5/2021 8:49:43 PM -05:00 : [13 parties]

Rocky 3

Message		
From:	Steve Cohen	
Sent:	3/6/2021 1:50:16 AM	
To:	Judy Mogul Beth Garvey	; Linda Lacewell Maggie Moran @kivvit.com]; Jeff Pollock
	Dani	Rich Azzopardi; Peter Ajemian Maggie Moran Lis
	Smith Josh Vlasto	Melissa DeRosa ; Stephanie Benton Cell
Subject:	3/5/2021 8:50:16 PM -05:00 :	-> [13 parties]

MDR as Clubber Lang.

Message			
From:	Steve Cohen		
Sent:	3/6/2021 1:54:42 AM		
To:	Judy Mogul Maggie Moran	Jeff Pollock ;	Dani
	Rich Azzopardi Beth Garvey	Linda Lacewell Maggie Moran	@kivvit.com]; Melissa
	DeRosa Lis Smith	Josh Vlasto	Peter Ajemian Stephanie
	Benton Cell		
Subject:	3/5/2021 8:54:42 PM -05:00 :	-> [13 parties]	

Hate to mention that Michael "Mickey" Goldmill dies in R3 ... but not before saying to Rock, "I love you kid". I fear that in this drama I'm Mickey.

# Chats

Chat #	From	То	Participants Timestamps	Body		Timestamp: Time	Attachment #1	Attachment #1 - Details
599	Steve M. Cohen	Melissa Derosa Linda Lacewell @gmail.co m judith mogul (owner)	mogul (owner) - Read: 12/15/2020 12:55:42 PM(UTC-5) Derosa	This is the latest	12/15/2020	12/15/2020 12:55:02 PM(UTC-5)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Screenshot 2020- 12-15 at 12.50.28.jpeg
599	Steve M. Cohen	Melissa Derosa Linda Lacewell @gmail.co m judith mogul (owner)	mogul (owner) - Read: 12/15/2020 12:55:42 PM(UTC-5) Melissa Derosa		12/15/2020	12/15/2020 12:55:24 PM(UTC-5)	~/Library/SMS/Att achments/fd/13/46 47202A-345E- 4D73-BB32- DA50AFDFD7CF/ Screenshot 2020- 12-15 at 12.51.08.jpeg	



12:50		.ul 🗢 🔲
$\leftarrow$	Premium InMail	

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Г	0	υ	A	Y

• 11:40 am

## **Deputy Director**

I am hoping we can have strictly confidential conversation about your brief work in 2016. Your name has come up in conversations I have had with several women last few days but those conversations were confidential so I cannot disclose precisely how. Please take a minute to look me up and if we can talk, my cell is

Yes, interested...) No thanks...
+ +
Write a message...

WSJ wants to hear from you. Take part in this short survey to help shape The Journal. <u>Take Survey</u>

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https://www.wsj.com/articles/third-former-andrew-cuomo-aide-describes-inappropriate-workplace-treatment-11615081956

## ♦ WSJ NEWS EXCLUSIVE



# Cuomo Faces New Accusations of Inappropriate Behavior From Third Former Aide

Ana Liss says the New York governor asked if she had a boyfriend, called her sweetheart and kissed her hand

*By <u>Jimmy Vielkind</u>, <u>Deanna Paul</u> and <u>Khadeeja Safdar</u> Updated March 6, 2021 9:26 pm ET* 



**Listen to this article** 8 minutes

ROCHESTER, N.Y.—A former aide of Gov. Andrew Cuomo said he asked her if she had a boyfriend, called her sweetheart, touched her on her lower back at a reception and once kissed her hand when she rose from her desk.

Ana Liss, now 35 years old, served as a policy and operations aide to Mr. Cuomo between 2013 and 2015. She said the actions by Mr. Cuomo were unsolicited and occurred in the first year while she sat at her desk, which was near his office in the Executive Chamber of the New York State Capitol in Albany.

In an interview with The Wall Street Journal, Ms. Liss said she initially perceived Mr. Cuomo's conduct as harmless flirtations. Over time, she said, she has come to see it as patronizing, and she added it diminished her from an educated professional to "just a skirt."

"It's not appropriate, really, in any setting," she said.

In response to questions about Ms. Liss, Rich Azzopardi, a senior adviser to Mr. Cuomo said Saturday: "Reporters and photographers have covered the governor for 14 years

 $\mathbf{x}$ 

watching him kiss men and women and posing for pictures. At the public open-house mansion reception, there are hundreds of people, and he poses for hundreds of pictures. That's what people in politics do."

At his last public appearance on Wednesday, Mr. Cuomo said this behavior was customary for him.

"I understand that sensitivities have changed and behavior has changed, and I get it. And I'm going to learn from it," he said.



Ana Liss displays a pin she earned while working in the governor's office. PHOTO: LIBBY MARCH FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Ms. Liss is the third former female aide to accuse Mr. Cuomo of inappropriate behavior in the workplace. The two other former aides have said he sexually harassed them. Mr. Cuomo has apologized for making people uncomfortable. He has said he never touched anyone inappropriately.

"It was unintentional, and I truly and deeply apologize for it," he said Wednesday. "I feel awful about it and, frankly, I am embarrassed."

Ms. Liss and other current and former administration officials said the governor regularly asked them about their dating lives, touched them and commented about their physical appearance. Longtime staffers told some women they should wear high heels when the governor was in Albany, according to Ms. Liss and other former staffers. Mr. Azzopardi said no one was compelled to wear high heels.

The Journal spoke with more than 30 officials who either work or have worked for Mr. Cuomo during his 10 years as governor. All of those officials, who include current and former agency heads, described a high-pressure environment where seven-day workweeks were common.

Several people described the working environment as toxic. Many former staffers recalled the governor's actions more endearingly. Once on Valentine's Day, Mr. Cuomo had roses delivered to the female employees, they said. Two women who received the flowers said they appreciated the gesture.

When asked about the criticism of working conditions, Mr. Azzopardi said: "The people of this state elected the governor to represent them four times during the last 14 years, and they know he works day and night for them. There is no secret these are tough jobs, and the work is demanding, but we have a top-tier team with many employees who have been here for years, and many others who have left and returned."

One former aide, 25-year-old Charlotte Bennett, recently said Mr. Cuomo asked about her sex life and whether she had relationships with older men.

Another former adviser, Lindsey Boylan, said in a Feb. 24 Medium post that Mr. Cuomo <u>tried to kiss her on the lips in his office</u> and, during a 2017 flight on his plane, suggested they play strip poker. A spokeswoman for Mr. Cuomo has said Ms. Boylan's accusations are false.

The governor <u>is facing mounting pressure</u> over the accusations, as well as how the state handled Covid-19 in nursing homes. State Attorney General Letitia James is overseeing an investigation into the accusations by Mses. Bennett and Boylan. Federal prosecutors are interested in how the governor's top advisers <u>pushed to alter a Health Department report</u> to include a lower tally of deaths in those facilities, people familiar with the matter said.

Republicans and an increasing number of Democrats <u>have called for Mr. Cuomo's</u> <u>resignation or impeachment</u>, but senior Democratic state lawmakers are resisting until Ms. James's review is complete.



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Ms. Liss said she decided to come forward after Mses. Bennett and Boylan accused Mr. Cuomo of sexual harassment. Ms. Liss said the governor's response to their accusations has been inadequate.

Ms. Liss won a competitive fellowship in 2013 and joined Mr. Cuomo's team to work on economic-development programs. She already had a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania and had been working at a business-development firm in Rochester. She said she was proud of her role in the Executive Chamber but was dismayed that the governor never asked her about her work, focusing instead on personal questions or her appearance.



Ana Liss keeps in her office a framed picture of her and Gov. Andrew Cuomo, taken at a 2014 reception, showing his arm around her waist. PHOTO: LIBBY MARCH FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Ms. Liss recalled working at a May 6, 2014, reception at the Executive Mansion in Albany, which is Mr. Cuomo's official residence. Mr. Cuomo was in a living room on the north side of the mansion's first floor and noticed Ms. Liss, she recalled.

"He came right over to me and he was like, 'Hey, Sweetheart!" she said.

She said the governor hugged her, kissed her on both cheeks and then wrapped his arm around her lower back and grabbed her waist. They turned to a photographer, who took a picture that shows Mr. Cuomo's hand around her waist.

In the Medium post, Ms. Boylan described a similar encounter with the governor at a Jan. 6, 2016, event at Madison Square Garden. She said Mr. Cuomo stopped to talk with her

after a speech, and she was soon informed by her boss that the governor had a crush on her.

"It was an uncomfortable but all-too-familiar feeling: the struggle to be taken seriously by a powerful man who tied my worth to my body and my appearance," Ms. Boylan wrote.

Ms. Liss said she never made a formal complaint about the behavior of the governor or anyone else. She said she eventually asked for a transfer to another office.

Ms. Liss said her experience working for the governor prompted her to begin mentalhealth counseling in 2014. She said she drank heavily that year, and she left the Executive Chamber in 2015 to take a position at Cornell University as a corporate-relations manager. Ms. Liss now works as the director of the Department of Planning and Development for Monroe County in upstate New York.

The Journal interviewed two other Empire State Fellows who said they observed Ms. Liss drinking heavily and skipping social engagements when she worked for the governor.

Peter Walke, a fellow who now serves as Vermont's environmental conservation commissioner, said in a recent interview that he noticed Ms. Liss became more withdrawn over time.

After the allegations by Mses. Boylan and Bennett, Mr. Walke contacted Ms. Liss. She relayed her own experiences to him, Mr. Walke said.

Ms. Liss said she was proud of the work she did during her time in Albany, and still keeps in her office that picture of her and Mr. Cuomo at the reception. She supports the policies he has enacted.

"I just wish—I wish that he took me seriously," she said.

# **Cuomo Under Fire**

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo faces investigations of sexual harassment accusations and his handling of pandemic-related nursing home data.

Cuomo Urged to Resign by Senate Leaders	Claims Against Cuomo: What We Know
How Impeachment Works in New York	A Timeline of the Allegations
Aides Called Former Staffers to Discredit Accuser	Impeachment Investigation by NY State Lawmakers
Charlotte Bennett Accuses Cuomo of 'Predatory Behavior'	Cuomo Accused by Former Aide Lindsey Boylan

*—Leslie Brody and Jim Oberman contributed to this article.* 

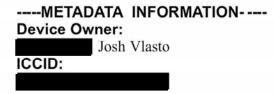
Write to Jimmy Vielkind at <u>Jimmy.Vielkind@wsj.com</u>, Deanna Paul at <u>deanna.paul@wsj.com</u> and Khadeeja Safdar at <u>khadeeja.safdar@wsj.com</u>

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Date:	Saturday, March 6 2021 08:57 PM
Subject:	[Chat#3282]
From:	Rich Azzopardi
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; Beth Garvey       Judy Mogul         [Liz Smith];       [Peter Ajemian];       [Jefrey Pollock];         [Melissa DeRosa];       [Dani Lever];       [Linda Lacewell];         [Steven M. Cohen];       [Stephanie Benton];       [Maggie Moran];
Attachments	A2F3E597-6B93-416E-AED4-C9685521EA20.pluginPayloadAttachment; 847024B2-A390-4AE9-9F13- A7E3BBF49078.pluginPayloadAttachment

 $https://www.wsj.com/articles/third-\ former-and rew-cuomo-aide-describes-inappropriate-workplace-treatment-11615081956?redirect=amp#click=https://t.co/8fXbO0rDwI$ 



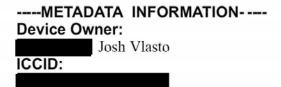




NYAGV001752

Date:	Saturday, March 6 2021 08:58 PM
Subject:	[Chat#3287]
From:	Steven M. Cohen
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; Beth Garvey       Judy Mogul         [Liz Smith];       [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi];         [Jefrey Pollock];       [Melissa DeRosa];       [Dani Lever];         [Linda Lacewell];       [Stephanie Benton];       [Maggie Moran];

Don't mean to make light ... but any allegations of winking?



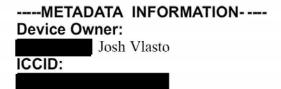
Date:	Saturday, March 6 2021 09:00 PM
Subject:	[Chat #3289]
From:	Liz Smith
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]";Beth Garvey       Judy Mogul         [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi];       [Jefrey Pollock];         [Melissa DeRosa];       [Dani Lever];       [Linda Lacewell];         [Steven M. Cohen];       [Stephanie Benton];       [Maggie Moran];

But this all feels shark jumpy

## -----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto ICCID:

Date:	Saturday, March 6 2021 09:00 PM
Subject:	[Chat#3290]
From:	Liz Smith
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; 'Beth Garvey       Judy Mogul         [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi];       [Jefrey Pollock];         [Melissa DeRosa];       [Dani Lever];       [Linda Lacewell];         [Steven M. Cohen];       [Stephanie Benton];       [Maggie Moran];

guys pls put something together with the background front he stories



Date:	Tuesday, March 9 2021 05:31 PM
Subject:	[Chat#3658]
From:	Liz Smith
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; Beth Garvey       Judy Mogul         [Peter Ajemian];       [Rich Azzopardi];       [Jefrey Pollock];         [Melissa DeRosa];       [Dani Lever];       [Linda Lacewell];         [Steven M. Cohen];       [Stephanie Benton];       [Maggie Moran];

i JUST don't what his wanswer was

METADATA	INFORMATION
<b>Device Owner:</b>	
Josh	Vlasto
ICCID:	



Date:	Tuesday, March 9 2021 05:32 PM	
Subject:	[Chat#3659]	
From:	Steven M. Cohen	
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]"; Beth Garvey [Liz Smith]; [Peter Ajemian]; [Jefrey Pollock]; [Melissa DeRosa]; [Linda Lacewell]; [Stephanie Benton];	Judy Mogul [Rich Azzopardi]; [Dani Lever]; [Maggie Moran];

I believe He misspoke. I think he was trying to say I did not know of the claim at the time. I came out as I don't know about it now.

METADATA	INFORMATION
<b>Device Owner:</b>	
Josh	Vlasto
ICCID:	

From: Beth Garvey @exec.ny.gov Subject: eo 187 Date: March 10, 2021 at 5:44 PM To: Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov) @esd.ny.gov

### III. Combating Harassment and Discrimination in State Agencies

### a. Definitions

i. "Affected State Agency" shall mean all agencies and departments over which the Governor has executive authority.

ii. "Protected class discrimination" shall mean employment-related discrimination that is unlawful pursuant to federal laws, rules or regulations and/or state laws, rules or regulations, including but not limited to, Title VII of the Federal Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the New York State Human Rights Law.

b. In order to promote the effective, complete and timely investigation of complaints of employment-related protected class discrimination, as of December 1, 2018, the Governor's Office of Employee Relations (GOER) shall be responsible for conducting all investigations into employment-related discrimination complaints filed by employees, contractors, interns or other persons engaged in employment at Affected State Agencies as defined in Article III(a)(i) of this Order.

c. Such Affected State Agencies shall transfer the investigation function pursuant to Civil Service Law 70.2 to GOER and continue to permit such employees as are assigned by GOER to investigate complaints of protected class discrimination within their entity and shall cooperate fully with any and all investigations.

This is a crime, so if reported this way to GOER they would say this This is conduct which constitutes a crime, and needs to be reported to law enforcement. and we will take your report and hold it in abeyance until they pursue or conclude their investigation.



From:	Cohen, Steven (ESD)	@esd.ny.gov
Subject:	Re: Priviliged	
Date:	March 10, 2021 at 6:26 PM	
To:	DeRosa, Melissa (CHAMBER)	@exec.ny.gov
Cc:	Benton, Stephanie (CHAMBER)	@exec.ny.gov, Azzopardi, Richard (CHAMBER)
	@exec.ny.gov, G	Barvey, Beth (CHAMBER) @exec.ny.gov



Preferred version.

As I said yesterday, I have never done anything like this. The details of this report are gut-wrenching. I am not going to speak to the specifics of this or any other allegation given the ongoing investigation, but I am confident in the result of the Attorney General's report.

On Mar 10, 2021, at 6:15 PM, Melissa DeRosa @exec.ny.gov> wrote:

It has to say untrue or false

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Cohen, Steven (ESD) Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 6:11 PM To: Stephanie Benton Cc: Richard Azzopardi; Melissa DeRosa; Beth Garvey Subject: Re: Priviliged

Take out completely untrue. Rich A version.

On Mar 10, 2021, at 5:57 PM, Stephanie Benton

@exec.ny.gov> wrote:

As I said yesterday, I have never done anything like this. The details of this report are gut-wrenching and completely untrue. I am not allowed to defend myself publicly because of the review. But I am confident in the result of the Attorney General's report.

IMPORTANT: This e-mail message and any attachments contain information intended for the exclusive use of the individual(s) or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is proprietary, privileged, confidential and/or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any viewing, copying, disclosure or distribution of this information may be subject to legal restriction or sanction. Please immediately notify the sender by electronic mail or notify the System Administrator by telephone or e-mail <u>@esd.ny.gov</u> and delete the message. Thank you.



Chat #	From	То	Body	Timestamp: Time
317	Stephanie Benton	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Rich Azzopardi Melissa DeRosa (owner)	ABBCCDC ABBCCDC ABBCCC ABBCCC ABBCCC ABBCCD	3/10/2021 10:48:28 PM(UTC+0)
317	Rich Azzopardi	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Steph can you send to me on exec email	3/10/2021 10:53:25 PM(UTC+0)
317	Rich Azzopardi	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Steve let me know if ok	3/10/2021 10:53:32 PM(UTC+0)
				Exhibit
				38

exhibitsticker.com

P.B. 06.30.21

317	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Stephanie Benton Rich Azzopardi Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Hold. Would rather say "I am not going to speak to the specifics of this or any other allegations given the ongoing investigation" instead of not allowed to defend myself.	3/10/2021 10:57:17 PM(UTC+0)
317	Stephanie Benton	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Rich Azzopardi Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Is that from Sharon and Robbie?	3/10/2021 10:59:03 PM(UTC+0)
317	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Stephanie Benton Rich Azzopardi Melissa DeRosa (owner)	I have never done anything like this and this is gut wrentching. Drop untrue.	3/10/2021 10:59:23 PM(UTC+0)

317	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Stephanie Benton Rich Azzopardi Melissa DeRosa (owner)	No Sharon. Can't Robbie. Trying her again.	3/10/2021 10:59:44 PM(UTC+0)
317	Rich Azzopardi	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	As I said yesterday, I have never done anything like this. The details of this report are gut-wrenching. I am not going to speak to the specifics of this or any other allegation given the ongoing investigation, but I am confident in the result of the Attorney General's report.	3/10/2021 11:01:20 PM(UTC+0)
317	Rich Azzopardi	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Steph can you make sure he sees this I am running out of time	3/10/2021 11:02:15 PM(UTC+0)

317	Rich Azzopardi	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Stephanie Benton Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Like minutes	3/10/2021 11:02:21 PM(UTC+0)
317	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Stephanie Benton Rich Azzopardi Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Fine. Ok.	3/10/2021 11:02:55 PM(UTC+0)
317	Stephanie Benton	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Steve Cohen Rich Azzopardi Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Change investigation to review	3/10/2021 11:04:36 PM(UTC+0)

317	Rich	Melissa	Ok then I'm going	3/10/2021 11:04:55
	Azzopardi	DeRosa		PM(UTC+0)
		(owner)		
		Steve Cohen		
		Stephanie		
		Benton		
		Melissa		
		DeRosa		
		(owner)		

Chat #	From	То	Body	Timestamp: Time
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	R u on?	3/10/2021 10:01:35 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Not yet. I need a few minutes.	3/10/2021 10:01:53 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	This is really important	3/10/2021 10:02:04 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Ok. Running back	3/10/2021 10:02:14 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Back to you soon! 🕻	3/11/2021 2:37:18 AM(UTC+0)

Exhibit 39 P.B. 06.30.21

316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Back to you soon! <b>C</b>	3/11/2021 1:50:52 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Fast	3/11/2021 1:50:58 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Important	3/11/2021 1:51:01 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Back to you soon! 🕻	3/12/2021 3:38:03 AM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Important	3/12/2021 3:38:11 AM(UTC+0)

316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	On with lawyers.	3/12/2021 3:44:40 AM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Important	3/12/2021 3:44:47 AM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Please call	3/12/2021 3:44:51 AM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Time sensitive	3/12/2021 3:44:59 AM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	@gmail.com	3/12/2021 4:14:53 AM(UTC+0)

316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	@nymag.com	3/12/2021 4:15:30 AM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Reporter and fact checker	3/12/2021 4:15:40 AM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Ok.	3/12/2021 4:15:45 AM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	I don't see it.	3/12/2021 2:07:24 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Call when u can.	3/12/2021 4:22:50 PM(UTC+0)

316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Back to you soon! <b>C</b>	3/12/2021 7:19:51 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Back to you soon! 🕻	3/13/2021 4:48:03 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	All ok?	3/13/2021 4:48:10 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Robbie just called and I missed it	3/13/2021 4:48:22 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	I haven't heard from Robbie. Must be a check in.	3/13/2021 4:48:48 PM(UTC+0)

316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Kk	3/13/2021 4:49:00 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Can u call me	3/14/2021 7:25:16 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	On with	3/14/2021 7:30:48 PM(UTC+0)
316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Will call when done.	3/14/2021 7:30:56 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Call wyc	3/15/2021 10:47:36 AM(UTC+0)

316	Steve Cohen	Melissa DeRosa (owner) Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Back to you soon! 🕻	3/15/2021 12:06:56 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	Hey can u call,	3/15/2021 5:16:01 PM(UTC+0)
316	Melissa DeRosa	Steve Cohen Melissa DeRosa (owner)	?	3/15/2021 5:16:03 PM(UTC+0)



From: Stephanie Benton Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 12:54 PM To: Melissa DeRosa Cc: Judith Mogul Subject: Privileged

Exhibit 40 P.B. 06.30.21

DRAFT GAMC

As I have said before and firmly believe: Women have a right to come forward and be heard. And I encourage that.

But I also want to clear: There is still a question of the truth. I did not do what has been alleged. I will not speculate about people's possible motives but I know, as a former attorney general, there are often many motivations for making an allegation and that is why you need to know the facts before you make a decision. There are two reviews underway. Let them do it. And no one wants them to happen more quickly and thoroughly than I do.

I will not argue this issue in the press. That is not how it is done, but at the same time, it is hypocritical for politicians to say there are serious allegations and then play politics with them. Serious allegations should be weighed seriously – that's why they are called serious. As I have told New Yorkers many times – there are facts and opinions and we must separate the two. Politicians who don't know a single fact, but yet form a conclusion and opinion are reckless and dangerous.

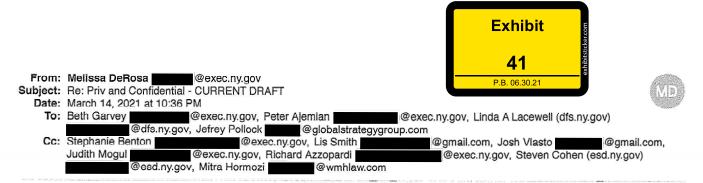
The people of New York should not have confidence in a politician who takes a position without knowing any facts or substance. That's politics at its worst.

Politicians take positions for all sorts of reasons, including political expediency and bowing to pressure. But people know the difference between playing politics, bowing to cancel culture and truth.

Let the review proceed. I am not going to resign. I was not elected by the politicians. I was elected the people. Part of this is I am not part of the political club and I am proud of it.

I made a promise to protect the people of New York and I am doing that job—as I have to eleven years. We have a budget due in two weeks for a state in fiscal crisis, we have to perform 15 million vaccinations and rebuild our state from the bottom up. That is my job, and that is what I am focused on.

You have known me for forty years. You have elected me attorney general, you have elected me Governor three times. Wait for the facts. That is all I am going to say on this topic until the review is complete. I remain 100 per cent focused on my job and serving the people of New York.



retaliatory how? if u want to cut out the last part and make purely factual fine but how is it retaliatory to respond to her attacks factually?

Lindsey routinely circumvented the senior staff and went directly to the governor which disrupted communication and organization. She was asked many times not to go to the Governor directly but to follow protocol and refused, which was an ongoing source of tension.

From: Beth Garvey Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 10:33 PM To: Melissa DeRosa; Peter Ajemian; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov); Jefrey Pollock Cc: Stephanie Benton; Lis Smith; Josh Vlasto; Judith Mogul; Richard Azzopardi; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Mitra Hormozi Subject: Re: Priv and Confidential - CURRENT DRAFT

We don't have to make news with that answer it can be spun as retaliatory.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Melissa DeRosa
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 10:24 PM
To: Peter Ajemian; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov); Jefrey Pollock
Cc: Beth Garvey; Stephanie Benton; Lis Smith; Josh Vlasto; Judith Mogul; Richard Azzopardi; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Mitra Hormozi
Subject: Re: Priv and Confidential - CURRENT DRAFT

# some changes - what happened to that last answer? that is NOT what we are shipping -- we discussed this exstensively and we are answering that question

### Boylan alleges that former and current aides and allies of the Governor have retaliated against her in a variety of ways, including making calls about her.

From Rich Azzopardi, senior advisor to the Governor: "After Ms. Boylan's tweets in December, she, and her lawyers and members of the press began reaching out to former members of the Chamber, many of whom never worked with her. Those former members of the Chamber called to let various staff people know and convey that they were upset by the outreach. As a result, we proactively reached out to some former colleagues to check in and make sure they had a heads up."

She accuses Melissa DeRosa of leaking her personnel file and questions the

#### regancy of the leak. Do you of uses menssa have a response :

From Beth Garvey, Acting Counsel: "With certain limited exceptions, as a general matter, it is within a government entity's discretion to share redacted employment records, including in instances when members of the media ask for such public information and when it is for the purpose of correcting inaccurate or misleading statements. Given the ongoing review by the State Attorney General, we cannot comment further at this time."

OFF THE RECORD: HOW WOULD LINDSEY KNOW WHO RELEASED IT? WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR HER ASSERTION? WE CAN'T GET INTO SPECS BECAUSE OF THE AG'S INVESTIGATION, BUT PRINTING THAT MELISSA WAS THE ONE WHO GAVE IT TO THE PRESS WOULD BE INACCURATE.

Boylan describes a culture of hostility and bullying under the governor. She and others recall seeing a dart board with a photo of Bill DeBlasio on it while attending a pool party. Do you or the governor have any comment on the dart board and the intentions behind it?

Boylan says, as previously alleged in her Medium post, that the governor fixated on her, tracked her location through aides to an extent she found uncomfortable, and showed a level of interest that she found inappropriate in their interpersonal interactions.

From a spokesperson re Stephanie: "Part of Stephanie's job is to make sure senior staff know how and when they can get in touch with the Governor, and Blackberry pin is how any member of the team would communicate with him." (OFF THE RECORD – see attached email sent out recently to a group when GAMC's number was changed)

Re Jill's email: "Regardless of whatever Ms. Boylan believes, she was in no way being 'tracked' by staff – Jill oversaw events and scheduling, so it was her job to understand what relevant senior members of the team—male and female – would be attending Governor events."

From a spokesperson: "All senior staff receive these kinds of instructions, requests and communications – nothing about these exchanges are unique or interesting in this regard."

She says that she felt objectified and professionally diminished, and recounts an incident at the December 2016 REDC awards during which she says she was ordered to accompany the Governor and Maria Bartiromo on a return helicopter flight rather than remain and continue to engage with her directreports on substantive matters.

From a spokesperson: Lindsey was clearly not 'ordered' to be on the fights as she was not on the flight -- this was not a point of contention.

Boylan speaks about what she perceived to be a lack of boundaries between the Governor and female staffers. She says that Stephanie Benton asked her, also at a pool party, whether she had yet been swimming in the pool at the governor's residence.

From a spokesperson: "Stephanie does not believe this is true." If needed Stephanie will say this on the record

On the subject of the "strip poker" comment that her Medium post claimed the governor made on a flight in October 2017, Boylan disputes the group denial and says that Abbey Fashouer Collins was sitting next to her when the comment was made. –

Please refer back to Abbey Collins previous statement which still stands – see below:

In a joint statement, John Maggiore, Howard Zemsky, Dani Lever, and Abbey Fashouer Collins who were on all of these flights with her added: "We were on each of these October flights and this conversation did not happen."

#### She reiterates her claim that the governor kissed her on the lips in 2018.

From a spokesperson: "This is not true."

On the subject of Melissa, she recounts a convo in which Melissa screamed at her on the phone – in the final days of lindsey being in her job – July 2018 – when things deteriorated

this is not what

From: Peter Ajemian
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 10:15 PM
To: Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov); Jefrey Pollock
Cc: Beth Garvey; Melissa DeRosa; Stephanie Benton; Lis Smith; Josh Vlasto; Judith Mogul; Richard Azzopardi; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Mitra Hormozi
Subject: Re: Priv and Confidential - CURRENT DRAFT

we can do more work during fact checking

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To: Beth Garvey @exec.ny.gov>; Melissa DeRosa
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PEST EXALC.

[EXT EMAIL]

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		Exhibit g	
		42	
From:	Beth Garvey exec.ny.gov	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Subject:	Re: Priv and Confidential - CURRENT DRAFT	P.B. 06.30.21	
	March 14, 2021 at 10:40 PM		
To:		p.com, Peter Ajemian	
	@exec.ny.gov, Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov) @dfs.ny.gov	/	
Cc:	Stephanie Benton @exec.ny.gov, Lis Smith @gmail	.com, Josh Vlasto	m,
	Judith Mogul @exec.ny.gov, Richard Azzopardi @exec	ec.ny.gov, Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov)	
	@esd.ny.gov, Mitra Hormozi @wmhlaw.com	,	

This is new- we haven't said it, and i'm not sure our records reflect this. It's our "recollection" but the records previously released don't have this fact. It is completely relevant, but it can also look like we are inventing facts to suit us.

If, like you said, there's no there there with this story, and we are just pushing back on an anecdote you acknowledged to all of us earlier is true, we are just creating \*new\* liability for a retaliation claim that is ultimately gov's personally.

So his lawyers should weigh in.

It is purely our discretion to release records or disclose, so motive is what carries this. Is anecdote false? No, it's true, you said it was true, so it is just us taking a shot at her. This is something that creates significant risk. I would say no.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Melissa DeRosa
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 10:34 PM
To: Jefrey Pollock; Peter Ajemian; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov)
Cc: Beth Garvey; Stephanie Benton; Lis Smith; Josh Vlasto; Judith Mogul; Richard Azzopardi; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Mitra Hormozi
Subject: Re: Priv and Confidential - CURRENT DRAFT

if we cant send this i'd like to understand legally why. we cannot just send the hostile work envior quote which doesnt answer the quesiton

Lindsey routinely circumvented the senior staff and went directly to the governor which disrupted communication and organization. She was asked many times not to go to the Governor directly but to follow protocol and refused, which was an ongoing source of tension -- the opposite dynamic that lindsey now claims.

From: Jefrey Pollock @globalstrategygroup.com> Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 10:30 PM To: Melissa DeRosa; Peter Ajemian; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov) Cc: Beth Garvey; Stephanie Benton; Lis Smith; Josh Vlasto; Judith Mogul; Richard Azzopardi; Steven Cohen (esd.ny.gov); Mitra Hormozi Subject: Re: Priv and Confidential - CURRENT DRAFT

Lawyers need to either overrule or not. The lawyers should have the priority on this Melissa

; Linda A Lacewell (dfs.ny.gov)
@globalstrategygroup.com> Stephanie Benton
@gmail.com>; Josh Vlasto
@exec.ny.gov>; Richard Azzopardi
en (esd.ny.gov) @wmhlaw.com>
RAFT

#### [EXT EMAIL]

The entire point is to make clear that despite the fact that she is saying she was afriad and dint want to be near him the point is that she was constantly going to him directly

From a spokesperson: "Lindsey regularly bypassed senior staff and went directly to the Governor against protocol, an ongoing source of frustration for members of the staff that was also disruptive. This led to a heated conversation between her and the Secretary and directly contradicts her current position she was 'afraid' of the Governor."

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#### i do NOT agree

we are not giving that answer to that question -we need to be direct and factual here

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@exec	.ny.gov>; Stephanie Benton	@exec.ny.gov>; Jefrey
Pollock	@globalstrategygroup.com>; Linda A Lace dfs.ny.gov>	ewell (dfs.ny.gov)
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Date:	Sunday, March 14 2021 09:43 AM
Subject:	[Chat#1445]
From:	Chris Cuomo
То:	[Joshua Vlasto (owner)]";       [Melissa DeRosa];       [Steven M.         Cohen];       [Jefrey Pollock];       [Liz Smith];
Attachments:	IMG_9859.jpeg

Have you seen this? Is it fake?

#### ----METADATA INFORMATION-----Device Owner: Josh Vlasto

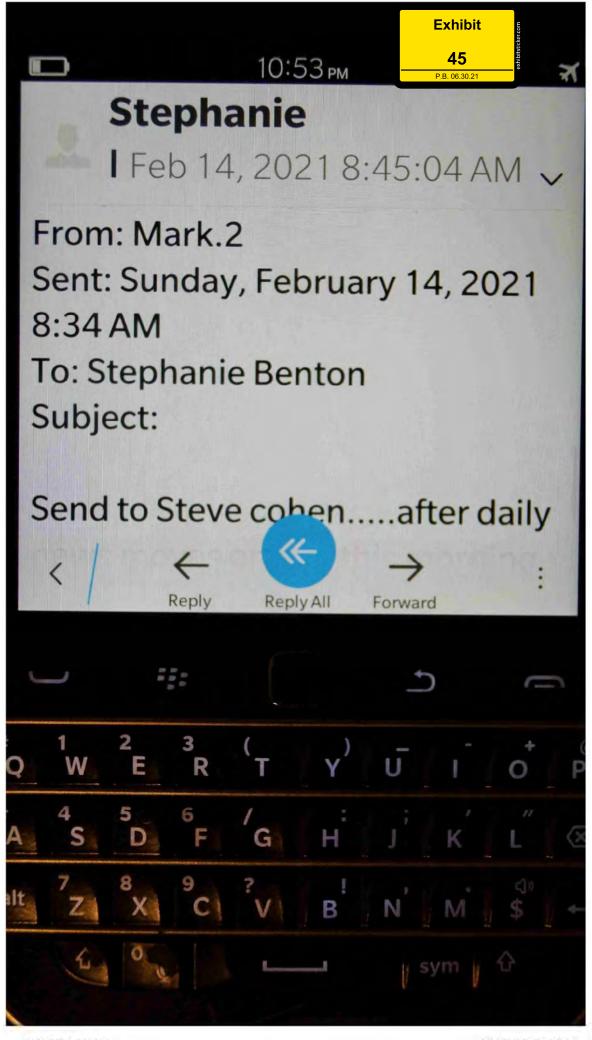
ICCID:



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1	got it. Passed on to lawyers fwiw.	
н	ope u get a decent night sleep up there.	
	On Mar 13, 2021, at 11:08 PM, Brian O'Donoghue	
	Mad suggested I forward on to you.	
	Begin forwarded message:	
	From: Brian O'Donoghue < 2gmail.com> Date: March 13, 2021 at 9:45:59 PM EST To: Madeline O'Donoghue 2aol.com> Subject: Here is the	
-		





### 10:53 рм

## Stephanie

Feb 14, 2021 8:45:04 AM ~

Send to Steve cohen....after daily news moves on line this morning who can we get as an ethics lawyer or former prosecutors to tweet or do staements that it is criminal and reckless for lawyers to sit there and not object it

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