



## **Press Release - Updated**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MAY 27, 2020**

**LONG ISLAND, NY**

### **Republicans Raid New Nassau Libertarian Party**

#### **CORRECTION AND UPDATE:**

Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr. (SD 15) and Charles D. Lavine (AD 13) are Democrats who are listed on the fraudulent certificate of authorization but did not sign certificates of acceptance, and so may or may not have allowed the fraudulent filing. Also, candidates did not file the fraudulent certificate of authorization themselves, so wording in first sentence amended to reflect that. LaLota failed to make the ballot because he is a Commissioner of the Suffolk Board of Elections and lost a court case about that. Re Tuman, McDonough, and Mikulin, we are not sure why they failed to make the LBT line.

#### **UPDATED PRESS RELEASE:**

Eleven Republican candidates backed by the Republican Parties run by Chairmen Joseph Cairo of Nassau and Jesse Garcia of Suffolk allowed fraudulent documents to be filed on their behalf claiming to have permission of the newly recognized Libertarian Party to run in the Libertarian primary, such permission being required by state Election Law, when in fact the party gave no such permission. Seven are currently slated to appear on the Libertarian ballot, due to incorrect decisions by the Republican and Democrat Commissioners who constitute the Nassau County and State Boards of Elections.

The Libertarian Party became an officially recognized political party in New York State for the first time ever at the general election in November 2018, earning it an automatic ballot line for the next four years. Fraudulent certificates authorizing them to vie for the Libertarian Party ballot line, also known as Wilson-Pakulas, issued by fraudulent and illegitimately created "county committees", were issued on behalf of Republican candidates Andrew R. Garbarino (CD 2), Douglas L. Tuman (CD 4), Edmund J. Smyth (SD 5), Dennis Dunne, Sr. (SD 6), Nicholas J. LaLota (SD 8), Michael A. Durso (AD 9), David G. McDonough (AD 14), Michael A. Montesano (AD 15), John K. Mikulin (AD 17), Edward P. Ra (AD 19), and Melissa L. Miller (AD 20). Election Law requires prospective candidates to obtain the permission of any political party to vie for that party's nomination if he or she is not a member of that party.

## NASSAU COUNTY LIBERTARIAN PARTY

Despite a letter to the Board of Elections by the chair of the committee representing the Libertarian Party statewide indicating that the Libertarian Party did not consent to any of the candidates to run on its line, Republican attorney John Ciampoli, who was recently accused of attorney ethics violations in a related matter, defended the fraudulent filings in Supreme Court on behalf of a number of them. As a result, six of them, Garbarino, Smyth, Durso, Montesano, Ra, and Miller, are currently slated to appear on the Libertarian Party line in the general election in November. A seventh, Dunne, is slated to appear in the Libertarian Primary for Senate District 6 against enrolled Libertarian Jonathan Gunther on June 23.

Blay Tarnoff, Chair of the Nassau County Libertarian Party, said, “These are the types of tactics we have come to expect from the likes of the Republican Party here on Long Island. They seek out and destroy any competition to their corrupt stranglehold on power, especially against anyone who threatens to create honest government, which is their biggest nightmare. That they would seek to overwhelm and destroy the innocent Libertarian Party in its infancy is particularly disgusting. I blame Republican leadership under Nassau County Republican Party Chair Joseph Cairo and Suffolk County Republican Party Chair Jesse Garcia for this outrage.”

The Nassau County Libertarian Party has endorsed Cindy B. Grosz, who is challenging Tuman in the Republican primary for Congress in District 4, and Mike LiPetri, who is challenging Garbarino in District 2. “Tuman and Garbarino have shown what they are made of by being willing participants in this travesty,” Tarnoff said. “We hope Republican voters are able to see this and will support their challengers in the June 23 Republican primary.”

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

For information about the Nassau County Libertarian Party, see [nassaulibertarian.org](http://nassaulibertarian.org)

For information on the candidates, see [liliberty.org](http://liliberty.org)

For information on the policies and positions of the Libertarian Party, see [lp.org](http://lp.org)

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