



CITY OF JERSEY CITY

OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL | 280 GROVE STREET | JERSEY CITY, NJ 07302

P: 201 547 5268 | F: 201 547 4678

ROLANDO LAVARRO, JR.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

June 28, 2019

United States Attorney Craig Carpenito
District of New Jersey
970 Broad Street -- Seventh Floor
Newark, NJ 07102

Dear Mr. Carpenito,

I am deeply concerned with the developments brought to the public's attention by today's article in Bloomberg News. The article details potential improprieties connecting Mayor Fulop and several real-estate developers, possibly resulting in a serious conflict of interest and critical violations of the public trust.

The Bloomberg account details alarming connections between organizations which engaged in activities of possible pecuniary benefit to Mayor Fulop. Coincidentally these events were timed with public actions initiated by the Mayor — on behalf of the City of Jersey City — to benefit these same entities.

It is vitally important to the people of Jersey City that these possible circumstances be investigated to the greatest possible extent. Due to the serious nature to which a trial such as this may ultimately lead, it is my hope that your office will do an extensive investigation into the events surrounding Mayor Fulop; addressing such concerns with the attention that one of New Jersey's largest cities deserves.

Over the past year, my skepticism regarding the integrity of various operations by the Mayor's office has been well documented in the press. Sadly, this experience leaves me — and others who share my concerns — with private concerns that an investigation at the behest of the city alone could never adequately take place. These personal concerns, combined with the inter-state nature of the Bloomberg report, lead me to conclude that your office would be best equipped to open such an inquiry.

I have attached a copy of the Bloomberg article to this letter. David Kocieniewski, the investigative reporter who authored this article, has a long history of journalistic integrity

regarding similar occurrences, dating back to his work investigating other New Jersey public officials during his tenure with the New York Times.

I thank you in advance for your concern in this matter. The public trust is at stake.

Respectfully,



Rolando Lavarro
Council President