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CHARLES D. LAVINE
Assemblyman 13th District

CHAIR
Election Law Committee

July 21, 2021

Via Email: Melissa.DeRosa@exec.ny.us
Beth.Garvey@exec.ny.us

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor
State of New York

Re: Retaliation/Intimidation

Dear Governor Cuomo:

As Chair of the New York State Assembly Judiciary Committee charged with the solemn responsibility of conducting the impeachment investigation, I served formal written notice on you on March 15, 2021, expressly advising: "In so sensitive a matter, it is both obvious and imperative that neither **you nor anyone associated with you** engage in intimidation, retaliation, or any attempt at intimidation or retaliation against any complainant or potential witness."

It is therefore difficult for me to comprehend your communications director tweeting that Attorney General James, whose office is conducting a parallel investigation, "says she may run against the governor." It is obvious that attempts to demean the Attorney General serve as well to undermine the investigation and send profoundly negative signals to witnesses.

It is critically important to realize that any such comment may merit severe repercussions. You will recall language in my non retaliation/intimidation notice of March 15: "Any such actions on your behalf sends a chilling signal to any potential witnesses and **such conduct may be considered by the Committee as an attempt to suppress other complainants and witnesses from coming forward.**"

Thank you for your consideration respecting this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles Lavine
Judiciary Chair