

January 25, 2018

Reverend Moacir Balen, c.s.  
President and Provincial Superior  
The Pious Society of the Missionaries of St. Charles Boromeo, Inc.  
27 Carmine Street  
New York, NY 10014

Paul R. Niehaus  
Kirsch & Niehaus, PLLC  
150 East 58<sup>th</sup> Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10155

Re: 209 Flagg Place, Staten Island, NY 10304

Dear Reverend Balen and Mr. Niehaus;

I am writing to express my extreme displeasure, indeed, my outrage, at the inaccurate depiction of my feelings about the potential sale and development of the property at 209 Flagg Place, Staten Island, as described in a petition for approval to sell said property filed by The Pious Society of the Missionaries of St. Charles Boromeo, Inc. to the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of New York.

In paragraph 22, it is stated that: "Stone Court's principal, Tom Costa, has represented to the Society that he believes Stone Court will be able to obtain the zoning changes or other government approvals that he was previously unable to obtain because he believes that... (ii) the current Staten Island borough President, James Oddo, will be more sympathetic to his requests than the previous borough President, James Molinaro..."

I would like to state that this is a total misrepresentation of my position. I have never given any indication, to any individual or body of individuals, that I would support this development. I categorically deny making any statements or taking any action that may have allowed my support to be assumed or construed.



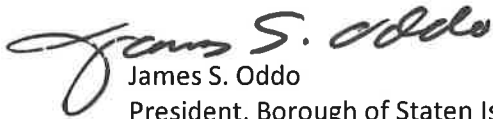
Additionally, I strongly resent the phrase that I would be "more sympathetic" than my predecessor, Mr. Molinaro. Such a statement, and all that it implies, is completely at odds with my record both as a New York City Council Member and as Borough President. No position that I take, on any issue in any area at any time, has been or will ever be based on anything other than this single litmus test: is it good for the community? To suggest anything otherwise is to slander me both personally and professionally, and I will not stand for it.

I had agreed to meet with the prospective buyer as a courtesy, and to hear first-hand from the principal of Stone Court Developers, LLC, what his intentions with the property might be. However, at no time and in no manner could this willingness to meet be deemed "support." Someone, be it the petitioner or the potential developer, is propagating an outrageous lie.

I am therefore insisting that Paragraph 22, sub-paragraph (ii), be removed from the petition. It is a mere misrepresentation at best, a willful distortion of the truth at worst.

Feel free to contact me if you wish, and I trust that you will correct this matter immediately.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo  
President, Borough of Staten Island

