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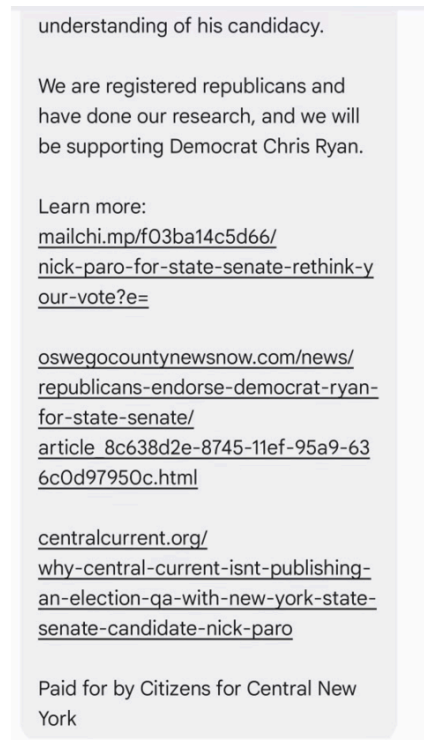
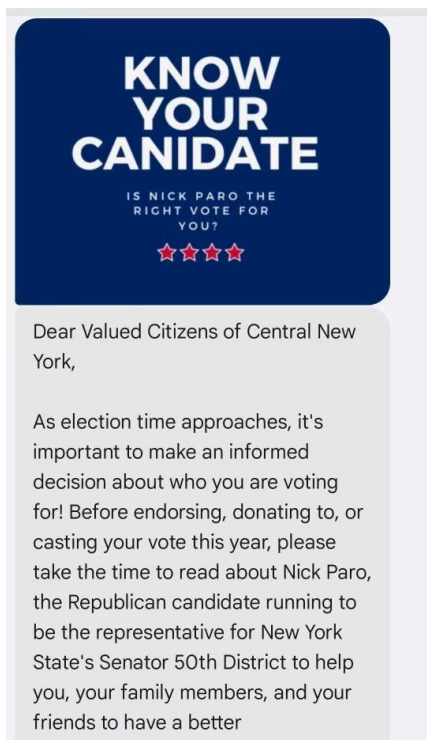
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 24, 2024

CENTRAL NY DEMOCRATS CONTINUE TO OPERATE ILLEGAL
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE TO SMEAR NICK PARO

SRCC issues second cease and desist letter to stop blatantly false
attacks in desperate attempts to defame Nick Paro

The Senate Republican Campaign Committee (SRCC) today issued a
second cease and desist letter demanding “Citizens of Central New
York” members John and Stella Penizotto stop their continued
blatantly false attacks in desperate attempts to defame Senate
candidate Nick Paro.

“The continued shamelessness in the lies propagated by these
individuals shows not only their utter lack of morals and ethics but
their complete disregard for the law,” blasted SRCC Chairman
Senator George Borrello. “It’s these types of actions that speak
volumes to the voters in District 50. Their mere sloppiness is evident;
they can’t even spell correctly. Opponents of Nick Paro have nothing
to run on so they are resorting to trying to destroy a well-liked and
respected public servant.”



The Federal Communication Commission was notified of the illegal actions by the Citizens of Central New York members John and Stella Penizotto. Their actions are illegal and in clear violation of the rules and regulations adopted by the Federal Communications Commission.

“This is why people in my generation can’t stand politics. These texts are from an illegitimate group and I have no idea how they even got my phone number. It’s just not right,” **stated Elias Makhlouf, a voter in Senate District 50.**

A formal complaint was sent to the Federal Communication Commission as well as a follow-up request to the Chief Enforcement Counsel of the Board of Elections to investigate this illegal activity. A second letter was also sent to John and Stella Penizotto of the Citizens of Central New York Committee demanding they cease activity.

The second letter reads:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Penizotto:

I write on behalf of the New York State Senate Republican Campaign Committee, the Committee supporting the election of Mr. Nick Paro, candidate for New York State's 50th Senate District in follow up to my original letter dated October 21, 2024.

I write regarding the electronic communications you are sending that contain false and misleading statements and are in clear violation of the law regarding Mr. Paro. We include in this letter a link to an email and an attachment of most recently, a text message. See: [Email](#).

We are of the opinion that not only do these communications contain false accusations that are willful, intentional, and made with malice so as to harm Mr. Paro, but are in clear violation of the rules and regulations as adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Additionally, your purported committee "Citizens for Central New York," cannot be found in the New York State Board of Elections database. All political committees, including independent expenditure committees (IE committees), must register with the Board of Elections. All of the Committee's expenditures are required to be reported (after

which the Board of Elections publicly posts the same). There is no registration or expenditure disclosed on the NYSBOE website, see <https://publicreporting.elections.ny.gov/>. and as such, this “committee” is operating outside of and in contravention of the law and we have requested that the Chief Enforcement Counsel of the State Board of Elections open an investigation into your illegal committee.

For these reasons, we request that you cease and desist in the continuing publication and transmission of these false and defamatory communications immediately.

Now that you are on notice of the false nature of the accusations that you are transmitting, we believe that the actual malice standard would apply to you. Once informed of the harmful and false nature of what you are transmitting, you may be held responsible for such malicious false statements. For these reasons, again, we request that you immediately cease and desist in the publication of this false information and any conduct which aids and abets the violation of New York State law.

Your failure to immediately cease and desist will result in our taking further legal action. Please confirm compliance with this demand to me no later than October 28, 2024. Furthermore, please confirm that you have come into compliance with the Election Law by registering with and reporting to the New York State Board of Elections, forthwith.

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COMMITTEE