

## **Nassau Retirees Legal Fund**

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**Subject:** FW: **\*\*Urgent Call for Accountability and Action\*\***

**Dear Nassau County Legislators,**

**In speaking with our members, we cannot comprehend why anyone continues to support Bruce Blakeman or Joe Cairo. This ongoing backing not only defies logic but undermines the trust and faith of your constituents, which ultimately erodes your ability to effectively govern and legislate on our behalf.**

**The voices of the retirees and other officials are clear, and yet, the county continues to disregard them. The following groups and individuals have all echoed the same message, affirming the county's missteps:**

- **Retirees**
- **Active Employees**
- **NYS Supreme Court Justice Singer (Nassau County)**
- **NYS Supreme Court Justice Carlton (Nassau County)**
- **NYS Public Employee Relations Board (PERB)**
- **NYS Supreme Court Appellate Division Second Department (2 rulings)**
- **NYS Supreme Court Justice [PENDING] (Albany County)**
- **NYS Assemblyman Charles Lavine**
- **U.S. Congressman Tom Suozzi**
- **Newsday**
- **More to come**

**The flawed decisions made by Bruce Blakeman and Joe Cairo have already cost Nassau County valuable political capital, including the loss of Congressional seats—partially due to their refusal to work with the 50,000 Public Service Retirees in Nassau County, and their unlawful and baseless attacks on retirees. These losses include:**

- **Mazi Pilip's seat**
- **Anthony DE Esposito's seat**
- **George Santos's seat**

**The county executive presents himself as a "Law and Order" politician, but it appears that his commitment to enforcing the law fades when he is the one in violation. Three recent examples include:**

- **Illegally transferring the Vested retirees' health plan, which violates federal and state laws, as well as a U.S. Supreme Court ruling.**
- **Withholding retroactive pay for retirees on the Empire Plan, a practice that violates New York's self-help laws.**
- **A violation of the Taylor Law, where he is directly making offers to employees, bypassing proper channels.**

Now, public officials from all levels of government are aligning with retirees and calling for action. They are standing up and telling Bruce Blakeman that he is wrong and that it's time to cease his attacks on retirees. Many members of the Nassau Legislature have already admitted that they made a mistake in approving the MOU, acknowledging that they were misinformed by the very people they trusted to provide accurate guidance.

As we approach the Holiday season and head into 2025, we are burdened by the knowledge that those we elected to protect our interests are turning a blind eye to our concerns. This is not just unethical; it is a clear dereliction of duty. Supporting the county executive or a party leader is not a valid excuse to ignore the needs of your constituents.

Please see the attached [PERB-1](#), [PERB-2](#), [PERB-3](#) and [State Supreme rulings from November 19, 2024](#), which further demonstrates how the county's stance has been set back yet again.

Enough is enough. This issue isn't going away, and neither are we. The only difference now is that in 11 months, you'll be up for re-election, and the 50,000 of us will decide whether to keep you in office—or vote you out.

The choice is yours to make. As I've said before, "If you choose not to decide, you still have made a choice." We hope you will choose a clear and responsible path forward. Rest assured; we will choose our free will at the polls.

We again ask you to send us a [letter of support](#) before the Thanksgiving holiday either signed by the legislature, Caucus or individually. The decision is in your hands.

Scott Cohen  
Nassau Retirees Legal Fund  
[Nassauretireslegalfund@gmail.com](mailto:Nassauretireslegalfund@gmail.com)  
[www.nassauretireslegalfund.org](http://www.nassauretireslegalfund.org)  
516-500-1708 Office

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*to: Nassau County Legislature  
cc: Elected Officials representing parts of Nassau County*



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LEGAL FUND***