

Paul Nunziato

From: Paul Nunziato
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2013 3:12 PM
To: dwildstein@gmail.com
Subject: FW: GWB closure questions

From: Robert Egbert
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2013 2:58 PM
To: Paul Nunziato
Subject: FW: GWB closure questions

Paul,
The GWB lane closure questions won't end. Here is an e-mail just received from Strunsky. His questions are similar to the questions I handled from the Wall Street Journal. Please read and advise.

From: STRUNSKY, STEVE [SSTRUNSKY@STARLEDGER.COM]
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2013 1:41 PM
To: Robert Egbert
Subject: GWB closure questions

Hey Bobby,

A letter written last month by Fort Lee Mayor Mark Sokolich to Bill Baroni regarding last month's local GWB access lane closures raises questions that beg a response from the PBA.

Referring to himself and other Fort Lee officials, the letter states that, "we are reaching the conclusion that there are punitive overtones associated with this initiative." It also states that, "many members of the public have indicated to me that the Port Authority Police Officers are advising commuters in response to their complaints that this recent traffic debacle is the result of a decision that I, as Mayor, recently made."

It is plain from other passages in the letter, from public reports of a suspected motive for the closures, and from other sources, that the decision in question was Sokolich's refusal to endorse Gov. Christie for re-election.

In the context of the PBA's endorsement of Gov. Christie for re-election, the letter carries some troubling implications. At the least, it suggests that officers were aware of the political nature of the closures. Worse, it invites suspicion that officers were complicit in it.

So, I have these questions for Paul:

*Are you aware of officers having told commuters anything like what Sokolich states in the letter?

*Were the closures intended to punish Mayor Sokolich for his failure to endorse Christie?

*If so, was the PBA complicit in the planning or execution of such a punitive measure?

Thanks.

-S



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