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August 15, 2007

Joseph Illuzzi
Editor
Politics WNY
Box 391
Buffalo, NY 14209

Dear Mr. Illuzzi:

I was deeply disturbed to read your recent spiteful and hate filled anti-gay views on your website. I am proud of my record of being vehemently against all forms of prejudice, and I deplore all forms of prejudice equally. I am sure you are aware of my outspoken and unwavering support for the rights of the gay and lesbian community. I was raised by two loving parents who instilled in me at an early age that public service is a noble calling and that any form of injustice, inequality or discrimination is unacceptable and important to fight against. These comments were offensive to me personally and as an elected official who proudly represents my gay and lesbian constituents.

I have treated your website as I do any other media outlet, sharing with you my press releases and notices of importance to our community. This smear campaign makes it impossible for me to continue to affiliate my legitimate outreach with language that is so clearly offensive to so many of my constituents and I will not tacitly support it by continuing my presence on your site.

I have enjoyed reading your website as it has allowed me to keep up on the activities and issues of importance to my friends and constituents in our community, but more important to me is remaining true to my deep commitment to equality and acceptance. Therefore, unless an apology for these comments and a pledge to refrain from such comments in the future is posted on the site I will be removing you from my media distribution, I will not be purchasing any future advertisements and I request that you remove all existing advertisements from your site.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

SAM HOYT
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY

SH:sjm