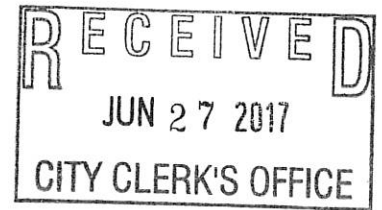


June 27, 2017

William B. Cashin
151 Winter St.
Manchester, NH 03102



The Hon. Mayor Theodore Gatsas, Chair,
Board of Mayor and Aldermen
1 City Hall Plaza
Manchester, NH 03102

To the Chair:

News reports about the September 30, 2015 West Side High School rape containing statements from city officials including Mayor Theodore Gatsas strongly indicate that the mayor engineered a cover-up of the rape during a mayoral race in which crime was a top issue. It is my belief that a government official engineering a cover-up to benefit themselves personally, which likely included ordering or attempting to influence city departments to quash reports of a crime that, had it been publicly reported, likely would have adversely effected the electoral chances of the government official, is a violation of the City Charter. This cover-up would include the failure of Mayor Gatsas to properly inform the Board of Mayor and Alderman (BOMA) and the Board of the School Committee (BSC) about the crime and its true nature.

I believe a violation of Manchester City Charter Article IX: Standards of Conduct, Section 9:03(g) *Non-interference* has occurred. Manchester City Charter IX:9:03(g) states:

The board of mayor and aldermen, the various boards and commissions and the board of school committee shall act in all matters as a body, and shall not seek individually to influence the official acts of any city official, or to direct or request, except in writing, the appointment or removal of any person to or from office; or to interfere in any way with the performance by such officers of their duties.

The failure of Mayor Gatsas to inform BOMA and the BSC about the West High rape represents a separate charter violation in that it was an attempt to influence the Boards and their members via negative action, i.e., a transgression of omission. In his official capacity as mayor and chairs of BOMA and the BSC, Gatsas apparently attempted to interfere with the operation of the Manchester Police Department and the Manchester School District, and with BOMA and the BSC. In the case of the Boards, Mayor Gatsas interfered with the Boards both as legal entities and with the individual members of the Boards. Mayor Gatsas' failure to properly inform BOMA and the BOSC prevented the Boards and individual board members from fulfilling their legally constituted roles as government entities and, in the case of the board members, as government officials representing the citizens of Manchester.

Furthermore, false statements made in June 2017 by Mayor Gatsas concerning what happened on September 30, 2015, such as his statement that he was never told that it was a rape, also would constitute a Charter Violation. In my opinion, false statements by Mayor Gatsas, who was and is a candidate for reelection, represent an attempt by a government official to interfere with the performance of both Boards and the individual members of the Boards. This would constitute a separate, and ongoing, violation of the City Charter.

Mayor Gatsas' conduct in 2015 and 2017 also represents a fourth charter violation, in that the attempts to influence government entities and the legal representatives of the voters of Manchester was done with the purpose of personal enrichment, namely, the reelection of Theodore Gatsas. The office of mayor carries with it a salary and substantial fringe benefits, such as health insurance, that Theodore Gatsas has used. It is apparent that the reason Mayor Gatsas covered up the West Side rape was to get reelected in 2015, just as it is apparent his false statements of June 2017 were made with the intent to get reelected again.

City Charter Article IX Section 9:02(d), defines a financial interest as a "monetary or pecuniary interest in a business, entity or matter, whether direct or indirect, not shared by the public at large." The office of mayor for the 2016-2018 and 2018-2020 terms are, with their salary and benefits, separate entities representing financial interests that are not shared by the public at large. These entities are distinct from the personal interests enjoyed by Theodore Gatsas as the elected mayor, in both 2015 and 2017, which are governed by Section 9:02(e). The office of mayor for the 2016-2018 term is a distinct entity from the entity that Mayor Ted Gatsas had a personal interest in while serving as mayor in 2015, that of the office of mayor for the 2014-2016 term, just as the office of mayor for the 2018-2020 term is a distinct entity from the entity that Mayor Ted Gatsas currently has a personal interest in, that of the office of mayor for the 2016-2018 term.

When Mayor Theodore Gatsas, as a candidate for reelection, engaged in a cover-up in 2015, it was with the intent of gaining a future financial interest distinct from the personal interest he then personally enjoyed. Similarly, when Mayor Gatsas, a candidate for reelection, makes false statements in June 2017 to continue the cover-up, he is seeking a distinct, future financial interest. Both actions represent violations of the City Charter.

As a citizen of the City of Manchester, New Hampshire, I request that a Conduct Board as described under Manchester City Charter Article IX: Standards of Conduct, Section 9:04 be established to conduct an investigation into my allegations and to ensure swift and corrective action if deemed appropriate upon Theodore Gatsas. If Mayor Gatsas is found guilty, the case should be referred to the Public Integrity Unit of the Office of the New Hampshire Attorney General for criminal investigation, as violations of the City Charter, under RSA 49-C:31, are punishable as misdemeanors.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



William B. Cashin

cc: Matt Normand, City Clerk
cc: Thomas Clark, City Attorney