

January 10, 2007

Mr. James Bruno  
Moderator of the Branford RTM  
Branford, CT

Dear Mr. Moderator,

As residents of Branford and concerned citizens we are writing this letter of request to the RTM for action by the legislative body.

Recently there has been a lot of unsubstantiated accusations and rhetoric about ethical behavior by public officials. It has come to our attention however, that there are a couple of RTM members who have not been so forthright to the legislative body of Branford while professing their quest for ethical behavior. In light of this information we would like to request a special investigation into the possible unethical behavior.

Recently Gail Chapman-Carbone, one of the RTM representative for the fourth district and DTC fourth district chairperson and Sandra Reiners, the vice chairperson of the democratic town committee has been engaging in what appears to be improper activities relative to the Democratic bylaw provisions. The most recent meeting of the Democratic Town Committee for the Fourth District which was disguised as a social event was held without proper notice. During this meeting one of the vacant town committee positions was filled. It appears that this meeting was held in violation of the DTC by-laws in as much as there was improper notification, lack of a quorum, and an intra-district committee vote to suspend DTC by-law provisions which violates due process. This action in and of itself is not the issue we are addressing but leads to the very issue of concern.

The person who was nominated to the open position for the fourth district DTC was Ms. Lonnie Reed who is currently a member of the RTM from the 5<sup>th</sup> district. It would appear that Ms. Reed also has violated Town Ordinances as well as State Statutes by not revealing her address change to the moderator of the RTM. This leads us to believe that a person that is so vocal with her overt and bias criticisms about the Morris-Sullivan administration and people associated with it, should be more circumspect as to how she conducts herself in both public forum and as a public official. Her acceptance of this position under these circumstances certainly implies improper activities.

More importantly we have received information that calls into question where Ms. Reed physically resided on Election Day 2005. Town records indicate that her property of residence, 134 Pawson Road, was sold as of November 1, 2005 and based on information and belief, occupancy was provided to Reed's buyer as of the closing on November 1, 2005 prior to the election. It is our belief that Ms. Reed was living outside the district in which she was running for the RTM and ultimately was elected. We pose a simple question which requires an answer. Where in the 5<sup>th</sup> district was Ms. Reed residing as of Election Day 2005? It has been suggested that she was living at 21 Chapel Drive which is located clearly in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District. Ms. Reed has the right to live wherever she chooses however she does not have the right to represent the residents of the 5<sup>th</sup> district while living in the 2<sup>nd</sup> district, not to mention loudly

preach ethics and then be evidently be guilty of such gross and total violation of election laws. This coupled with her agreeing to serve as a Democratic Town Committee member now in the 4<sup>th</sup> district when elected without due notice or process should call into question her ethics. It is also surprising that as recently as today in the local publication The Sound Ms. Reed implies that improper activities went on while the preliminary report says that no wrongdoing occurred. This finding is consistent with the report from the State's Attorney's office and the Branford Board of Police Commissioners.

There is another vocal member of the RTM, Hillary Kiskaddon, who like Ms. Reed lectures others about ethics and the need to have high standards in government appears to have neglected to reveal her current residency change. It appears that she lives in New Haven. It is reported that Ms. Kiskaddon is routinely picked up at the Branford train station by another 4<sup>th</sup> district RTM member who returns her to the station at the conclusion of the RTM meetings.

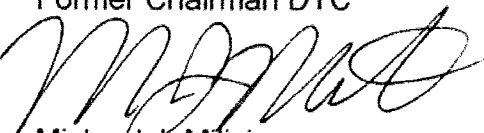
These are issues of great importance to the residents of Branford. The air can only be cleared by a thorough investigation. How can the RTM lead the community when they mislead. The RTM needs to be certain that its own house is in order. The public is entitled to know that our lawmakers comply with it's own laws governing them.

We request that a special committee investigate these reported improprieties. We wait to see how the RTM monitors its own ethics.

Sincerely,



Daniel F. Baughman, Sr.  
Former Chairman DTC



Michael J. Milici  
Former Chairman DTC