



*Suffolk County's Largest Independent Union*

30 Orville Drive Suite A, Bohemia, New York 11716 Tel: (631) 589-8400 Fax: (631) 589-3860  
24-Hour Emergency Tel: 1-800-795-4831 www.scame.org

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Brian O'Dwyer

O'Dwyer & Bernstien, LLP  
*Counsel*

Sondra Palmer Randall  
*SCMEBF-Administrator*

March 23, 2009

Mr. Jeffrey Tempera, Director  
Office of Labor Relations  
H. Lee Dennison Bldg. 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Veteran's Memorial Highway  
P.O. Box 6100  
Hauppauge, NY 11788

Dear Mr. Tempera,

Have you fallen and hit your head? You cannot possibly believe that your letter dated March 20, 2009 to my members threatening layoffs **before any authorization to do so by the Legislature** has any legal effect. It is another example of the County's attempts to frighten my members, and by extension, their union into submission. An act that will not be tolerated!

I have consistently told my members the truth: that your boss is an abuser set on vengeance since his colossal failure to privatize the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Facility last year. That my membership rallied to save that facility has turned Mr. Levy on his head and now he has come after me – indirectly through my members. He is a bully and a coward! A coward because he, himself, has not had the decency to pick up the phone to speak with me himself, preferring lower-level minions to do his bidding while he ratchets up his Public Relations machine whining to the press over how I refuse to speak with him! A bully because he lashes out when he does not get his way!

How disingenuous of him to imply that my reluctance to enter into hasty, non-binding, no-guarantee give-backs has anything to do with AME's upcoming elections. The fact that Levy brought up the issue of elections makes me, and my members, believe that he is integrating himself into the union election process because he knows I am a formidable foe to him and therefore doesn't want me to win.

Well, we all see through Levy's charade, and I will be damned before I let this union, which I have proudly served for 19 years, fall to management's hand-picked cronies! Rest assured, the members, nervous and frightened as was your intent to make them, have now risen up. You have "*awoken a sleeping giant*" and now it is your turn to be nervous!

I have been and continue to be available to discuss ways in which AME, along with the other County unions, may offer our assistance to address concerns over the budget; however, it will not be done with a loaded gun to our heads.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Felice  
President

CAF/elf

Cc: Executive Board

Board of Directors

William Lindsay, Presiding Officer, Suffolk County Legislature

Rick Brand, Newsday