

**INSTALLATION AND REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES
OF THE 2018 UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
COURTROOM OF THE HONORABLE KAREN M. CASSIDY, ASSIGNMENT JUDGE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COUNTY OF UNION, 2 BROAD STREET, ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018 AT TWELVE O’CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

The Honorable Karen M. Cassidy, Assignment Judge, Superior Court of the County of Union, calls the Installation Ceremony and Re-Organizational meeting to order, makes welcoming comments and then introduces the Master of Ceremonies, the Honorable Nicholas P. Scutari, New Jersey State Senator, 22nd District on behalf of the Democratic Committee of Union County.

The Honorable Karen M. Cassidy welcomed everyone to the annual County Reorganizational Meeting and thanked the members of the Freeholder Board present, and congratulated those who have been elected. She stated that the past year was a momentous year for the courts, noting their ability to cooperate with the County in opening the Family Courthouse on Cherry Street. She spoke on the facility and noted that it is serving the members of the community and emphasized the child care center. The Honorable Judge expressed her thanks on behalf of the Judiciary for a great partnership with the County of Union. She turned the meeting over to the Master of Ceremonies, the Honorable Senator Nicholas Scutari. The Honorable Judge Cassidy noted that it was rare for her to have a Governor (Governor-Elect Murphy) and a US Senator (Senator Menendez) present in her courtroom, and welcomed them to her courtroom. She acknowledged a number of honored dignitaries.

GREETINGS

Master of Ceremonies, the Honorable Nicholas P. Scutari,
New Jersey State Senator, 22nd District on behalf of the
Democratic Committee of Union County

The Honorable Nicholas P. Scutari thanked Judge Cassidy for graciously offering her courtroom for the day’s festivities. Senator Scutari reminded those in the audience of a reception that will take place at the conclusion of the reorganizational meeting. Senator Scutari called upon Rev. Dollie Hamlin to offer the invocation.

INVOCATION

Rev. Dollie S. Hamlin,
Ruth Fellowship Ministries, Plainfield, New Jersey

Rev. Dollie Hamlin offered the invocation.

Senator Scutari called upon Sheriff Peter Corvelli to present the colors.

CALL TO PRESENT THE COLORS

Honorable Peter Corvelli, Union County Sheriff

Sheriff Peter Corvelli called on the honor guard to present the colors.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

Union County Sheriff’s Honor Guard

The honor guard presented the colors

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Alfred J. Faella, County Manager

Senator Scutari called upon County Manger Faella to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

County Manger Faella wished all a happy new year, and lead the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Officer Kelly Rieder, Cranford Police Department

Senator Scutari called upon Officer Kelly Rieder to sing the National Anthem.

Officer Kelly Rieder sang the National Anthem.

THE POSTING OF THE COLORS

Union County Sheriff's Honor Guard

Sheriff Peter Corvelli called on the honor guard to post the colors.

The Union County Sheriff's Honor Guard posted the Colors.

RECOGNITION OF HONORED GUESTS

The Honorable New Jersey State Senator Nicholas P. Scutari will acknowledge the Honored Dignitaries present for the 2018 Installation Ceremonies.

Senator Scutari wished all in attendance a happy new year. He stated it was a great honor to be joined by Governor Elect Murphy and United States Senator Menendez. He congratulated the Freeholder Board, noting that this day (Reorganizational Meeting) is their (the Freeholder's) day. He stated that the day's festivities are to acknowledge and celebrate County Government. He noted the hard work that Chairman Green and the Freeholders and Constitutional Officers do each day for the betterment of the residents of Union County. He congratulated Chairman Green, (former Chairwoman) Charlotte DeFilippo, and Senator Raymond Lesniak for the tremendous job they did transforming Union County into a democratic stronghold. Senator Scutari thanked County Manager Faella for his years of service, noting that he was finishing his last year as County Manger.

Senator Scutari acknowledged the many dignitaries in the audience, and thanked the family of the elected officials within the Democratic Party for their support through the many meeting nights and exhausting campaign activities.

HONORED GUEST SPEAKER

The Honorable Governor-Elect Phil Murphy, State of New Jersey

Senator Scutari introduced Governor Elect Murphy, noting that he looked forward to working with the soon to be Governor on dealing with a number of major issues as a result of eight years of a Republican administration in the statehouse.

Governor Elect Murphy wished all a happy new year and thanked all for a warm welcome. He made comments relative to the importance of Senator Menendez's role as a US Senator in Washington. He offered his gratitude to NJ Senator Raymond Lesniak for being a liberal and progressive icon in the

statehouse. He congratulated the Freeholders and Sheriff Corvelli, and made comments relative to the Board of Chosen Freeholders, noting that they are extraordinary public servants. He offered remarks relative to his vision for New Jersey and his dedication to all New Jersey families.

The Honorable Senator Robert Menendez, United States

Senator Scutari introduced Senator Robert Menendez, noting that his (Senator Menendez's) story, is an American Story: son of Cuban immigrants living in a tenement building and has risen to become one of the most influential Senators in the US Senate.

Senator Robert Menendez thanked all for the warm welcome. He stated that he believed Governor Elect Murphy was going to do a fine job, as proof of his joining Senator Menendez and Congressman Pallone in ensuring offshore drilling would not be allowed at the Jersey Shore. He made comments relative to the great expectations and great hopes steaming from a new governor, a new Freeholder, and new leadership. He echoed the words of Governor Elect Murphy; noting that Union County is an extraordinary county: in part to the tremendous legislative leadership in Senator Scutari (in the Judiciary) and in Senator Raymond Lesniak (for his numerous landmark legislations over the years). He commended the Board of Chosen Freeholders for their efforts in transforming the lives of Union County residents.

Senator Scutari recognized former Freeholder Vernell Wright and thanked her for her service.

Senator Scutari invited Congressman Leonard Lance to make a few remarks.

Congressman Leonard Lance commended Senator Raymond Lesniak for serving the State Legislature with great distinction. He stated that it was an honor to represent a majority of the municipalities within the County (13 of the 21 municipalities). He made comments relative to the growing population of Union County and commended the Board for the fine work they do for the residents of Union County. He congratulated County Manager Faella on his retirement, noting he would travel to Washington to lobby on behalf of countywide projects. He made comments on the recently departed Governor Brendan Byrne.

Senator Scutari called for a moment of silence in the memory of Governor Byrne.

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere called upon Deputy County Clerk Nicole DiRado for the certifications of election.

CERTIFICATIONS OF ELECTION

Honorable Nicole DiRado,
Union County Deputy Clerk

Peter Corvelli, Union County Sheriff
Angel G. Estrada, Union County Freeholder
Christopher Hudak, Union County Freeholder
Angela Garretson, Union County Freeholder

Deputy County Clerk Nicole DiRado wished all a happy new year. She stated that she had the honor of reading the certifications of the election on the behalf of County Clerk Joanne Rajoppi. She read the certifications of elections.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO SHERIFF PETER CORVELLI

The Honorable Joseph P. Cryan, former Union County Sheriff and State Senator-Elect, will introduce Sheriff Corvelli.

Senator Scutari made a few remarks introducing Senator-Elect Joseph Cryan. He stated that once it was clear Senator Lesniak was not running for re-election to the New Jersey Senate, he had immediate discussions with Chairman Green about then-Sheriff, and former Assemblyman, Cryan's candidacy. He spoke to Senator Elect Cryan's dedicated leadership in Union County.

Senator Elect Cryan commented on the privilege to be in the company of the previous speakers. He thanked Assignment Judge Cassidey, Judge Hudak and Judge Marshall for their partnership over the past few years (in his role as Sheriff). He thanked the Freeholder Board for their dedicated service to the community, and commented on the Board's leadership in confronting the opioid crisis and the completion of the building of the Family Justice Center.

Senator Elect Cryan introduced Sheriff Peter Corvelli. He commented on the large audience from Hillside and Kenilworth, noting Sheriff Corvelli's distinguished career as a police officer in Hillside and his dedicated service as a Councilman in Kenilworth. He noted Sheriff Corvelli as a man of character and principle. He congratulated Sheriff Corvelli's mother Mrs. Georgette Corvelli, and noted his father Peter Corvelli (former Hillside Councilman) would be proud. He congratulated Sheriff Corvelli's wife, Kelly, his daughters Rylee and Alyssa.

James E. Pellettiere, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, will call upon Sheriff Corvelli for the administration of his Oath of Office.

The Honorable Joseph P. Cryan, will administer the Oath of Office to Sheriff Corvelli.

Holding the Bible for Sheriff Corvelli are his daughters Alyssa and Rylee, joined by his wife Kelly.

Senator Elect Cryan administered the Oath of Office.

Sheriff Corvelli will offer his remarks.

Sheriff Corvelli addressed the public. He thanked his former Hillside police officers for their support, and the support of the greater law enforcement family. He thanked his wife and two daughters for their understanding and support; his mother and reflected on his departed father, former Councilman Peter Corvelli. He thanked Judge Cassidy for opening her courtroom and assured to work in partnership for whatever needs may be. He stated that he looked forward to working with the Freeholder Board, building off of the accomplishments of Senator Elect (former Sheriff) Cryan, and pushing the County forward. He thanked Chairman Green for his support and guidance, noting that without, (this) was not possible. Sheriff Corvelli made comments relative to a number of programs he looked to continue and/or improve upon. He stated his office will continue to be the best in the State of New Jersey.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO FREEHOLDER ANGEL G. ESTRADA

The Honorable New Jersey State Senator Nicholas P. Scutari will introduce Freeholder Angel G. Estrada.

Senator Scutari made a few remarks introducing Freeholder Angel Estrada. He stated that Freeholder Estrada was first elected to the Board in 1999, noting that Freeholder Estrada was the first Latino elected to the Board. He stated that Freeholder Estrada served as Chairman in 2008, and noted a litany of accomplishments during his tenure as Freeholder.

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, will call upon Freeholder Angel G. Estrada for the administration of his Oath of Office.

Jorge A. Estrada, Esq., will administer the Oath of Office to his father, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada.

Holding the Bible for Freeholder Estrada are his two grandchildren, Keith and Alexandra, joined by his wife Teresa Estrada, his daughter Lilian Duryee and son-in-law Christopher Duryee, his son Daniel and daughter-in-law Magda Noga Estrada.

Jorge A. Estrada, Esq., administered the Oath of Office to his father, Freeholder Angel G. Estrada.

Freeholder Estrada will offer his remarks.

Freeholder Estrada addressed the public. He made comments on the responsibilities of elected officials to address the challenges facing New Jersey, referencing Governor Elect Murphy's comments. He spoke to the challenges of immigration, and spoke to being a society that takes care of those in need. He congratulated his colleagues on being sworn in, and offered his gratitude to all those that assisted in getting he and his colleagues elected.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO FREEHOLDER CHRISTOPHER HUDAK

The Honorable New Jersey State Senator Nicholas P. Scutari will introduce Freeholder Christopher Hudak.

Senator Scutari made a few remarks introducing Freeholder Christopher Hudak. He stated that Freeholder Hudak was first elected to the Board in 2010, noting his leadership in championing the Union County Infrastructure Grants, the Union County initiative to combat heroin addiction and the creation of the Union County STEM program.

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, will call upon Freeholder Christopher Hudak for the administration of his Oath of Office.

The Honorable John Hudak, J.S.C., will administer the Oath of Office to his son, Freeholder Christopher Hudak.

Holding the Bible for Freeholder Hudak are his wife Terri, their daughter Catherine Riley and son Jackson, and his mother-in-law Kathleen Riley.

The Honorable John Hudak, J.S.C., administered the Oath of Office to his son, Freeholder Christopher Hudak.

Freeholder Hudak will offer his remarks.

Freeholder Hudak addressed the public. He thanked the honored guests, clergy, friends and family for being present for the day's festivities. He thanked Judge Cassidy for opening her courtroom, and thanked the honored judges sitting beside her. He thanked his wife, Terry and his daughter Catherine and son Jackson, and all of his friends and family for their support. He congratulated and commented on his running mates Freeholder Estrada, Freeholder Garretson and Sheriff Corvelli. He stated that it was a true privilege to be elected to the Board, and noted that while they (the Board) has their differences, they work collaboratively to address the challenges that face the residents of Union County; commenting on the \$4.5 million Infrastructure Grants and the partnership with the Department of Human Services and the Office of the Sheriff to combat the heroin addiction.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO FREEHOLDER ANGELA GARRETSON

The Honorable New Jersey State Senator Nicholas P. Scutari will introduce Freeholder Angela Garretson.

Senator Scutari made a few remarks introducing the newest member of the Freeholder Board, Freeholder Angela Garretson. He noted that as a result of the Congressman not being able to swear her in, Governor Elect Murphy will be doing the honor. He stated that Freeholder Garretson had served the Township of Hillside since 2014, and prior to that served as a Councilwoman At-Large and as a member of the Board of Education. He noted that she has been honored as an advocate for Education and property tax stabilization.

James E. Pelletiere, Clerk of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, will call upon Freeholder Angela Garretson for the administration of her Oath of Office.

The Honorable Congressman Donald Payne will administer the Oath of Office to Freeholder Angela Garretson.

Holding the Bible for Freeholder Angela Garretson is her mother, Lorraine Garretson.

Governor Elect Phil Murphy administered the Oath of Office to Freeholder Angela Garretson.

Freeholder Garretson will offer her remarks.

Freeholder Garretson addressed the public. She made comments relative to her first exposure to the world of politics; noting she volunteered on a (Clerk of the Board's) school board campaign, and noted that then-Chairman Charlotte DeFilippo urged her to "come home". She spoke on her new partnership in Hillside Democratic Chairman Anthony Salters. She thanked County Chairman Green and Vice Chair Mahr. She thanked all of the Freeholders for welcoming her into the fold, and noted how she and her running mates spoke on their desire to work as a team for Union County. Freeholder Garretson thanked Freeholder Vernell Wright for her graciousness in her encouraging words and in her actions, noting that it was clear why she (Freeholder Wright) received a lifetime achievement award. She remarked on her faith, noting that she believed all were created equal, endowed by (our) creator with certain unalienable rights; among them life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. She commented on her being grateful for the matriarchs in her family; noting her mother (present) and grandmother (passed) encouraged not only learning and serving in

the home, but also outside the home. She spoke to her dedication to learning and serving for the betterment of everyday people throughout the county and state.

PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
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- The Honorable New Jersey State Senator Nicholas P. Scutari, on behalf of the Union County Democratic Committee, will make a gift presentation to the Honorable New Jersey State Senator Raymond J. Lesniak.

Senator Scutari made comments relative to the accomplishments of Senator Lesniak and his leadership within the Democratic Party. He presented Senator Lesniak with a plaque.

Senator Lesniak thanked Senator Scutari for his remarks and displayed a “Make America Kind Again” hat and presented it to his mayor, Mayor Chris Bollwage of Elizabeth.

Senator Lesniak remarked on his collaborative efforts to ensure the legacy of the judiciary within the County of Union. He assured the Freeholder Board that he wasn't leaving the public eye. He thanked Freeholder Estrada for his kind words. He spoke to a story from his childhood when the first Hispanic family moved to the neighborhood in Bayway, Elizabeth. He recalled that the family purchased the local convenience store and how the neighbors boycotted the store. He recalled that his father, a Polish immigrant, ignored the boycott and when confronted why he patronize the store, he simply stated that he had wanted cigarettes and they sold cigarettes. Senator Lesniak remarked how Elizabeth is a thriving immigrant community that we all can be proud of. He thanked his father.

Senator Lesniak congratulated the Board on their election. He thanked the Board for their support; specifically noting the Oakwood Plaza project.

- The Honorable New Jersey State Senator Nicholas P. Scutari, on behalf of the Union County Democratic Committee, will make gift presentations to Freeholder Angel G. Estrada, Freeholder Christopher Hudak and Freeholder Angela Garretson.

On the behalf of Chairman Green, Senator Scutari presented gifts to Freeholder Estrada, Freeholder Hudak, Freeholder Garretson and Sheriff Corvelli.

- The Honorable Joe Bodek, President of the Linden Democratic Club, will make a gift presentation to Freeholder Christopher Hudak.

On behalf of the Linden Democratic Club, Joe Bodek congratulated Senator Lesniak on his years of dedicated public service. He made comments relative to his professional and personal relationship with Freeholder Hudak and made a gift presentation to Freeholder Christopher Hudak on behalf of the Linden Democratic Club.

- The Honorable Elizabeth Democratic Committee Chairman Tony Teixeira will make a gift presentation to Freeholder Angel G. Estrada.

On behalf of the Elizabeth Democratic Committee, Chairman Tony Teixeira thanked not only Freeholder Estrada for his dedicated service to the City of Elizabeth and the County of Union, but his family in wife Terri and children for sharing him with the residents; noting the sacrifices families of elected officials make.

He noted that he first met Freeholder Estrada when he (Freeholder Estrada) served as a member of the Elizabeth Board of Education. He noted that he (Chairman Teixeira) was a high school student at the time but knew Freeholder Estrada was a fierce advocate then (for the children of Elizabeth) and continues to be a fierce advocate for his constituents in Union County over the past 18 years. He made a gift presentation to Freeholder Angel G. Estrada.

- The Honorable Hillside Democratic Committee Chairman Anthony Salters will make a gift presentation to Freeholder Angela Garretson.\

On behalf of the Hillside Democratic Committee, Anthony Salters (joined by Mayor Dahlia Vertreese) congratulated Freeholder Garretson. He presented her with a number of (lighthearted) gifts in recognition of the trials of being an elected official.

- The Honorable Greg David, President of the Kenilworth Democratic Club will make a gift presentation to Sheriff Peter Corvelli.

On behalf of the Kenilworth Democratic Club , Greg David made remarks relative to Sheriff Peter Corvelli, and presented him with a gift (with the assistance of Sheriff Corvelli's wife Kelly Corvelli) as a token of the Club's appreciation, admiration and congratulations.

- Michel Bitritto, Past President of the New Jersey Women's Political Caucus, and Executive Board Member of the Union County Women's Political Caucus will make gift presentation to Freeholder Angela Garretson.

On behalf of the New Jersey Women's Political Caucus, Michel Britto made comments relative to the purpose and goals of the Women's Political Caucus. She congratulated Freeholder Garretson and presented Freeholder Garretson and (soon to be sworn in as Vice Chairman) Freeholder Bette Jane Kowalski with a gift.

Senator Scutari thanked everyone for their indulgence and generosity of their time for the day's festivities.

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION:

Rev. Dollie S. Hamlin,
Ruth Fellowship Ministries, Plainfield, New Jersey

Clerk of the Board Pellettiere called upon Rev. Dollie S. Hamlin to provide the benediction.

Rev. Dollie S. Hamlin gave the benediction.

CONCLUSION OF INSTALLATION CEREMONIES

This concludes the 2018 Installation Ceremonies. Please join the Democratic Committee of Union County at 3:30pm for a reception at the Gran Centurions, 440 Madison Hill Road, Clark New Jersey, honoring newly sworn-in Sheriff Corvelli, Freeholder Estrada, Freeholder Hudak and Freeholder Garretson.

HONORED GUESTS

The Honorable Karen M. Cassidy, Assignment Judge, Superior Court of the County of Union

The Honorable Governor-Elect Phil Murphy, State of New Jersey

The Honorable Senator Robert Menendez, United States

The Honorable Donald Payne, Jr., U.S. Representative, 10th Congressional District

The Honorable Raymond J. Lesniak, New Jersey Senator, 20th District

The Honorable Annette Quijano, New Jersey Assemblywoman, 20th District

The Honorable Jamel Holley, New Jersey Assemblyman, 20th District

The Honorable Jon Bramnick, New Jersey Assemblyman, 21st District

The Honorable Nicholas P. Scutari, New Jersey Senator, 22nd District

The Honorable James Kennedy, New Jersey Assemblyman, 22th District

The Honorable James S. LaCorte, Union County Surrogate

The Honorable Peter Corvelli, Union County Sheriff

The Honorable Nicole DiRado, Union County Deputy Clerk

The Honorable Joseph P. Cryan,
Former Union County Sheriff & New Jersey Senator-Elect, 20th District

The Honorable J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor, City of Elizabeth

The Honorable John Hudak, J.S.C.

The Honorable Carl Marshall, J.M.C.

Jorge A. Estrada, Esq.

Rev. Dollie S. Hamlin, Ruth Fellowship Ministries, Plainfield, New Jersey

Officer Kelly Rieder, Cranford Police Department