# STATE OF NEW YORK ) )ss.: COUNTY OF ROCKLAND )

**Phyllis Casden**, being duly sworn, hereby deposes and, under the penalties of perjury, states as follows:

- 1. My name is Phyllis Casden. I currently reside at 192 Parkside Dr., Suffern, New York and as such I am a resident of the Town of Ramapo.
- 2. I visited several polling locations during the day of the Special Election, September 30, 2014, with my friend Rose Paternoster (who is commonly called "Rori") who lives in Bon Aire near me and is a certified Election Inspector, who chose not to work the polls that day. Both of us were very curious about what was happening at the various polls including the polling location, Elmwood, where Rori normally works.

## LEO LYDEN POLLING PLACE

3. I started the day by voting at my polling location in Suffern at the Leo Lyden Firehouse. It was morning around 9:00ish. There was no discussion by anyone about unregistered voters and everything seemed like a normal polling but the traffic was more than in the past elections.

#### SUFFERN LIBRARY POLLING PLACE

- 4. When we got to the library we didn't go in but we noticed a lot of people streaming in and people were giving thumbs up signs as they were driving in and out.
- 5. It was my impression, based on living in the Suffern area and my observations that day, that this location would be delivering a strong Yes vote.

#### **ELMWOOD POLLING PLACE**

- 6. Then Rori and I went to the Elmwood polling location near Robert Pitts Drive and we got there around 4:00 in the afternoon.
- 7. Rori usually works this location and wanted to go in to see how the poll workers were doing.
- 8. The main room was very large and it was wall-to-wall Hassidim; at least 100 and possibly 150 people were there. We wanted to get to Mary Gesner who was usually the greeter at this location directing traffic to different tables, but she was on the complete opposite side of the room at a table so we had to wade through this crowd. We were absolutely stunned by the crowd and chaos.
- 9. Most of the people were not on line and there was just a crowd mob scene; most people appeared to be holding forms already filled out. What struck me was that everyone had forms filled out and I didn't see any people leaning over surfaces filling out forms or ballots; I found this to be very odd and suspicious.
- 10. When we approached Mary Gesner she was apart from the other poll workers and when she looked up she was grabbing at her hair.
- 11. When we asked Mary, "What's going on here?" Mary replied "Thank god these two rabbis are helping me. I couldn't do this without the help of these nice rabbis." She was clearly overwhelmed and pointed to the crowd.
- 12. At this point we noticed the two gentlemen that she referred to as "rabbis". One gentleman was standing in front of her table and the other was standing next to her behind the table.

- 13. As I was noticing these men, the "rabbi" in front of the table was holding up a form that was filled out and speaking with an older woman who was there with a younger woman. He read the name off the form and said to her "Who is this?" The older woman replied: "My daughter." He asked "How old is she and where does she live?" She answered "18. She lives with me." She did not offer and wasn't asked for proof of any sort; nothing. My eyes opened up. At this point Rori was so disgusted that she walked out because she was too upset.
- 14. Then the gentleman in front of the desk handed the form to the "Rabbi" behind the desk.
- 15. Then Mary and the "Rabbi" filled out something on the form. The "Rabbi" also appeared to be looking through a book on the desk while processing the form.
- 16. I turned purple. I walked out into the middle of the crowd and screamed that "I am Jewish and I can't believe you people are making a mockery of the election!"
- 17. When I got outside and joined Rori, she told me how disgusted she was and said that there was no way those gentlemen should be helping Mary Gesner in the way they had been doing.

# ST. JOSEPHS POLLING PLACE

- 18. We stopped by St. Josephs in Spring Valley next. There was activity there but nothing remotely close to Elmwood. We spoke with a very pretty young dark woman who appeared be in charge but was standing near the exit speaking a voter.
- 19. She said that they had gotten a few affidavit ballots and there were some remaining there at the time.
  - 20. She said she had heard about unregistered voters the night before from the gossip.

## HILLCREST FIRE HOUSE POLLING PLACE

- 21. Then we went to the Hillcrest Fire House where we spoke with the woman in charge, Joyce.
- 22. Joyce explained that when she had arrived at the polls that morning and checked the supplies she found no affidavit ballots at all.
- 23. Joyce told me that she ran out early in the morning to get affidavit ballots while it was quiet and had problems getting them. She said she had gone to Town Hall and that there were none there to get "they were all handed out" and that she had to go elsewhere, but I don't remember where she said she got them from, but I remember her saying she was only able to get ten (10).
- 24. When we asked how many people came in to fill out an affidavit envelopes she said that no body had filled out an affidavit envelope and it wasn't surprising because even that late in the afternoon it was very quiet at that polling location.

PHYLLIS CASDEN

Sworn to before me this day of September, 2015

Notary Public

ROBERTSON GUERCY
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 01 GU6242203
Qualified in Rockland County
Commission Expires May 31, 20