

October 25, 2011

New York City Campaign Finance Board
40 Rector Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10006

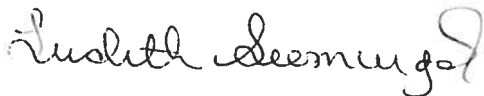
Dear New York City Campaign Finance Board:

In November of 2010 New York City voters approved an amendment to the City Charter requiring the disclosure of independent expenditures by individuals and groups to persuade voters on candidates and referenda on the ballot. I believe the Board is heading down the wrong path by drafting rules that do not exempt member-to-member communications.

I joined the Hotel Trades Council in 1989, after I started my job as a room attendant at the Vista Hotel at the World Trade Center. In 1994 I went to work at the Carlyle Hotel. When I became a United States citizen in 2001, I registered to vote. Since then, I have volunteered on numerous election campaigns, including Governor Cuomo's, Mayor Bloomberg's, Comptroller Liu's and Attorney General Schneiderman's. In 2008, I even interviewed Senator Dan Squadron as part of our union endorsement process. I volunteer when my union asks me to because I know how important it is for my co-workers and I to play a role in the political process. In the fight for better wages & benefits, it is important to elect the right politicians.

As a Union leader I've registered hundreds of fellow members to vote and I've talked to fellow members about the importance of voting. I've often handed out literature about candidates we support. In this country, it is our right to have these conversations and pass out flyers to co-workers without meddling and interference by government officials. I urge you not to trample on that right.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Seemungal". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Judith Seemungal