



CHRISTOPHER TAGUE
Assemblyman 102nd District

Albany, Columbia, Delaware,
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Ulster Counties

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March 10, 2021

Dear Attorney General Garland:

First, please allow me to congratulate you and wish you great success as you embark on an incredible journey of serving as United States Attorney General. Americans certainly know you are up to the task of defending our justice and freedoms.

There is undoubtedly a significant amount of casework for you to review as you settle in.

Please allow me to advocate for perhaps the most important case that may come across your desk during your tenure: the nursing home cover-up by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo.

On January 28, New York Attorney General Letitia James [issued a report from her office](#) following a months-long investigation into the Cuomo administration's handling of COVID-19, specifically the circumstances and directives surrounding the governor's March 25 order to admit COVID-19 positive residents to state nursing homes.

New York's Attorney General found that the Cuomo administration deliberately undercounted the actual numbers of deaths that occurred in nursing homes – and made the case that the actual percentage could be as much as 50% higher.

This is on top of Gov. Cuomo last March [signing into law a policy that would give nursing homes, hospitals, and other care facilities liability protection from COVID-19 lawsuits](#). He tucked this provision quietly into last year's state budget. His largest campaign donor also happens to be the Greater New York Hospital Association.

A good starting point on this angle for you and your Department of Justice team: FOIL all emails and correspondence between the Cuomo administration and lobbyists in the health care industry a full week prior to Gov. Cuomo signing the shield for health care providers into law.

It sadly worsens from there.

In a February 10 secret Zoom meeting between the governor's top aide, Melissa DeRosa, and a handful of Democrat lawmakers, [it was reported Ms. DeRosa admitted to criminal obstruction of justice](#). Ms. DeRosa stated that the Cuomo administration "froze" amid an active federal probe into the nursing home scandal in New York out of fear that the true nursing home death numbers would be used against them in a federal lawsuit.

Those in New York State with the power to investigate these alleged crimes, issue subpoenas, ask questions, and deliver justice for the tens-of-thousands of victims and their families are either incapable or refuse to do so. Both are unacceptable.

In the interest and pursuit of justice, 19 million New Yorkers – and Americans across our great country – are counting on you to initiate an impartial, independent investigation that focuses strictly on the facts. We are counting on you to exercise the full authority of your office to do what leadership in New York is too politically weak to do: to dig for answers, to deliver justice, to seek closure, to hold those responsible accountable for their actions.

Thank you for your attention. May God bless you, your family, our brave men and women in law enforcement, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

Sincerely,



Chris Tague
ASSEMBLYMAN
102nd District

CC:

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