

Dear Friend:

We, elected Massachusetts Governor's Councillors, must set the record straight regarding some of the untrue and bizarre public statements made by candidate Charles Shapiro about our colleague Councillor Marilyn M. Petitto Devaney.

Mr. Shapiro publicly claims that Councillor Devaney **"demands"** that nominees meet with her and conducts secret meetings with all judicial nominees that come before the Council. He also states that we councillors agree with him and say this is wrong and are opposed.

None of us have had any contact with Mr. Shapiro yet he falsely quotes us. His assertions are false and absurd.

It is totally proper for individual councillors to informally interview nominees before their formal hearings. Councillor Devaney meets openly in a Watertown diner with nominees for judges, clerk magistrates to members of boards and commissions that the council votes on.

We councillors meet individually with some nominees or interview them by phone. The Governor's Council votes on People – not laws or issues. That is our solemn duty as Constitutional officers.

We research and speak to nominees before their hearings. This Council has had more tied votes than any Council in the past 32 years. No rubber stamps.

Mr. Shapiro recently came into the State House to campaign and to pass out political flyers to young State House interns while Councillor Devaney was presiding at a hearing. Such conduct is improper and prohibited.

The interns later reported that Mr. Shapiro had "bad-mouthed" and made false statements about Councillor Devaney. Mr. Shapiro also approached Councillor Cipollini and asked: "How do I get elected?"

Mr. Shapiro's false statements about Councillor Devaney and us are slanderous.

He has lost two elections for a 2nd term as Newton Alderman and for Governor's Council. It appears he is desperate!

Councillor Devaney is a full-time Councillor, experienced, knowledgeable, and a vital member of the Governor's Council. She has years of 100% attendance. She is always well-prepared and respectful towards nominees, the public and us. Her District's Citizens are fortunate to be represented by her.

We are honored to serve with Marilyn and look forward to continuing to serve with her.

Respectfully,

Governor's Councillors Jennie Caissie, Oliver Cipollini, Eileen Duff, Christopher Iannella, Robert Jubinville and Terrence Kennedy.

