

March 27, 2024

Town of Brighton
2300 Elmwood Ave
Brighton NY, 14618



Finger Lakes Branch

Dear Supervisor William W. Mochle:

On March 22, the Town of Brighton Office of the Town Supervisor released a statement that sought to disparage the Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL) by knowingly and deliberately associating PSL with a cartoon and letter that has no connection with our Party. We demand an immediate public retraction and apology in order to correct the defamatory statement released by your office.

Your statement omits facts acknowledged in the Monroe County Legislature's March 20 release, namely, that PSL had already informed Majority Leader Yudelson that the individual who sent the cartoon and letter has never been a member of our organization and that we repudiate any connection with the cartoon and letter. As the Monroe County Legislature's March 20 release states:

“Majority Leader Yudelson reached out to the two groups, both replied that the letter was sent by an individual who does not represent their organizations and repudiated any connection with the letter.”

The explicit omission of this information indicates a deliberate effort to associate PSL with antisemitism.

In addition to the information in the Monroe County Legislature's March 20 release, at least three local news channels have acknowledged that PSL has denied any involvement with the cartoon and letter and that the individual responsible for the letter has acknowledged this. These channels are WHEC Channel 10, 13 WHAM, and Rochester First. There is simply no excuse for the Town Supervisor's deliberate spreading of misinformation in an effort to disparage and malign the reputation of PSL.

At a time when Israel and the United States are carrying out a genocide against the Palestinian people, to attempt to deceive and distract the public with false charges of antisemitism is a gross misuse of the privileges of elected office and serves to use the allegation of antisemitism as a prop. We demand an immediate public retraction and apology for your defamatory statement.

Felisha Buchinger, on behalf of
The Steering Committee of the
Finger Lakes Branch of the
Party for Socialism and Liberation

CC: Attorneys at Partnership for Civil Justice Fund

