



PRESS RELEASE – OCTOBER 20, 2023

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Executive Again Withholds Documents from Public

Legislative Candidate Jason J. Kovacs Decries Outrageous Waste of Taxpayer Dollars, Unnecessary Lawsuits, and the County Executive's Unlawful Refusal to Turn Over Public Documents

Jason J. Kovacs, Republican/Conservative candidate for Ulster County Legislature in District 3 (Towns of Kingston, Saugerties, and Ulster), issued the following comments today on the court case of March Gallagher v. Jen Metzger, Ulster County Supreme Court Index No. EF2023-2466:

"I applaud March Gallagher, our Democratic County Comptroller, for using the legal process to compel the County Executive to release important financial and investigative documents concerning the former Commissioner of Finance, Burton Gulnick. The public has the right to know the results of an internal county investigation into Mr. Gulnick's antics as our Commissioner of Finance."

"I am deeply concerned, however, that this lawsuit will cost the taxpayers of Ulster County tens of thousands of dollars in legal fees that could have been spent on resources for those most vulnerable in our society, such as children, seniors, and persons with disabilities."

"Even worse, this is a pattern of non-compliance with the law and disrespect for the voters and other elected officials by the County Executive's Office. Only a few weeks ago, I personally used the New York State Freedom of Information Law to obtain the so-called "confidential settlement agreement" in the matter of Andrew Kossover, et al. v. Patrick K. Ryan, individually and as Ulster County Executive and the County of Ulster, Ulster County Supreme Court Index No. EF2021-85."

"This is an inappropriate standard of government transparency. It is morally wrong for the County Executive's Office to use legal chicanery to keep important documents from the public. The residents of District 3 deserve a County Legislator who is willing to provide aggressive oversight over the operations of County government. If elected, I will continue to advocate for openness, transparency, and accountability."