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November 14, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: **Former Rep. Kathleen Rice (N.Y.-04)**

Dear Speaker Johnson:

My name is Christopher Bastardi and I am aware that I am writing you today, with the House Ethics Committee on copy, regarding a Member who is no longer in Congress.

That said, my purpose in contacting you is to request an investigation – and the ultimate impeachment – of Kathleen Rice.

The investigation centers around the way in which Ms. Rice entered the House of Representatives and maintained her seat. I believe the Senate trial and acquittal of President Donald J. Trump in 2021 gives precedent for this action as Ms. Rice is no longer a Member of the House.

In 2008, I was working on a Republican campaign for my then-boss, Senator Kemp Hannon. In the interest of brevity given your responsibilities, I stopped the execution of a Black voter suppression effort in the minority communities of Hempstead, Uniondale, and Malverne (primarily).

I was 25 at the time and turned 26 following that election. Being young and inexperienced, I did not have the wherewithal to understand that the local Democratic Party offering to pay for my attorney was a political tactic designed to use me for their own gain, misdirecting me to the incorrect authority.

While not a single Black reverend stood up for me, the New York State Legislature and the Nassau County Legislature wasted no time in convincing me that testifying publicly about what occurred was prudent.

Evidence was submitted to then-Nassau County District Attorney Kathleen Rice's office when it should have been submitted to the Eastern District of New York.

To state that I was “grilled” by her prosecutors following my handing them evidence is an understatement. Ms. Rice did nothing, but then publicly turned the investigation over to the Eastern District via the press, making it near-impossible for me to get a job and violating whistleblower protection laws. This endangered my life.

As my attorney instructed me not to speak with the press, the narrative of the local Republican party calling me a “racist” and a “liar” prevailed. It impacts my ability to do business on Long Island to this day.

The U.S. Attorney’s office found no prints on the evidence I gave to Ms. Rice’s investigators and prosecutors, following my being fingerprinted for exclusionary purposes by the FBI (something the Nassau District Attorney’s office never requested).

I vividly recall the day in which I was told by the Eastern District:

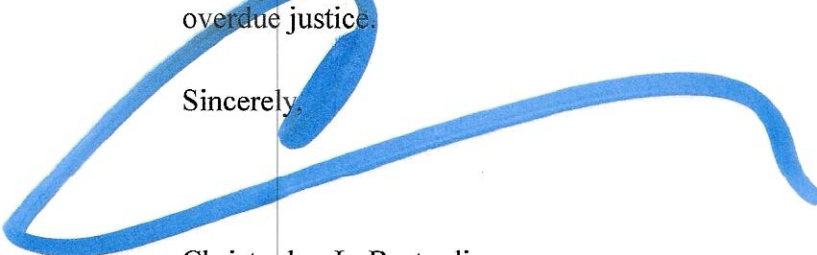
“There are no prints at all.”

In other words, it is highly probably that Ms. Rice’s office reproduced evidence before handing it over.

The result was that for the remainder of Ms. Rice’s political career in Nassau County, she was treated with kid gloves, which includes her ascension to Congress. As you are no doubt aware, the Fourth District in New York is highly competitive and there is quite literally no reason for Ms. Rice’s absurd token opposition during her tenure (as there was for her predecessor, former Representative Carolyn McCarthy, for obvious reasons).

Therefore, I respectfully request the House investigate this matter independently and seek long overdue justice.

Sincerely,



Christopher L. Bastardi

cc: The Honorable James Clyburn, United States Congress
Members of the House Committee on Ethics
Jay Jacobs, New York Democratic Party