



NEW YORK CITY RETIRED TRANSIT POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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February 27, 2017

Edward Mullins
President, NYPD SBA
35 Worth St
New York NY 10013-2935

Dear Ed:

It has been brought to the attention of myself, my Executive Board and Floyd Holloway, the former Vice President of the NYC Transit Police PBA, that the NYPD Sergeants Benevolent Association is planning to honor Jeanine Pirro with its' "Heroism Award" at a dinner on March 22nd. We learned this through numerous e-mails and phone calls from retirees of both our association and other associations such as 10-13 Clubs and Fraternal Order of Police lodges.

As an association of over 1200 members, many of whom are retired Sergeants, we must say that such an honor is a disgrace to both our members and the many active and retired members of the various organizations of Transit Police and NYPD police officers throughout the country.

Ms. Pirro was the District Attorney of Westchester County in 1996 when NYPD Police Officer Richard DiGuglielmo, assigned to Transit District 11, found it necessary to use deadly force to prevent the death or serious physical injury to his father who was being beaten with a metal baseball bat by an irate person. It is apparent to many that Ms. Pirro succumbed to the pressure of outside groups to label the incident a bias crime, resulting in Richard being wrongly convicted and given an unjustly long prison sentence. To make matters worse, his conviction was overturned but later, on appeal, the conviction was stayed and he remains in prison to this day.

Were you aware of certain aspects of that case where two witnesses who were for the defendant abruptly and without apparent reason, suddenly changed their stories and wound up testifying for the prosecution?

To honor this "fair weather friend" of law enforcement is a direct slap in the face of all NYPD Officers past and present. To follow through on this misguided award to Jeanine Pirro will bring shame upon your name, the SBA and the rest of the SBA leadership. We strongly urge you to re-consider this "award" to a person totally undeserving of such an honor.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Russo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward Russo, President