

August 16, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been employed by the Otsego County Sheriff's Office for 11 years, most recently as a Supervisor.

As I leave for another opportunity, I feel I must clear the air on an alleged incident that occurred on January 5, 2017.

I was in the room when this incident allegedly occurred, at no time did Ros Devlin make any statements that have been alleged.

I supervised the reporting employee as well and had fears of this co-worker making false accusations against me as I was also the target of the reporting employees' husband who was a Supervisor. This could have easily been me being falsely accused of something I didn't do.

When interviewed by the State Police I informed them that I felt the employee was using this incident as a reason to leave employment and that the employee felt entitled because of her husbands' position.

The County Board accused the Sheriff of writing a memorandum for me and other officers which is total fabrication; I and two other Officers wrote the memorandums.

The Private Investigator hired with public funds to investigate this incident has never contacted me or my co-workers who were in the room for an interview.

I have known Ros Devlin for many years, its disturbing to see him torn apart in the media being used as a political pawn by Kathy Clark and her husband Bob Fernandez on a baseless claim.

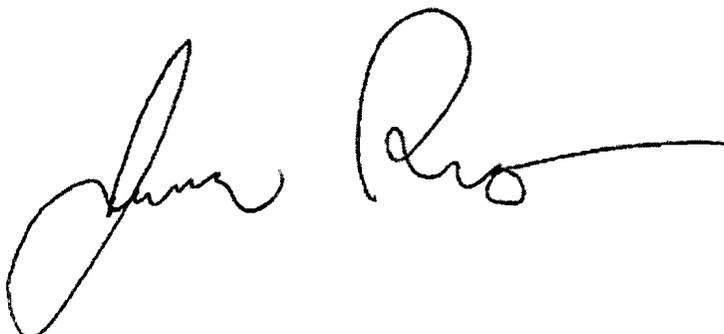
Sheriff Devlin is a professional and fair boss, he has an open-door policy and makes time for his employees whether its work related or personal he takes the time to sit and speak with his people. These attacks against him are political and personal to harm his career.

All you need to do is speak with the employees of the Sheriff's Office and they will tell you that Sheriff Devlin is professional, fair and respectful.

I am proud to have worked for the Office and wish everyone well as I move to another chapter in my life.

Respectfully

James Raso

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Raso', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned to the right of the typed name 'James Raso'.