

# Republican Committee of Union County

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October 30, 2008

**VIA FACSIMILE & E-MAIL**

Dr. Thomas H. Brown, President  
Union County College  
President's Office  
Springfield Avenue  
Cranford, NJ 07016

Re: Clinton/Stender Political Rally - Facility Rental Guidelines  
General Policy Statements Concerning External Use

Dear Dr. Brown:

I write to challenge the College's hosting of a Democratic Party Campaign Rally involving Linda Stender, a candidate for Congress in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, and former President Bill Clinton which is obviously in violation of the Facility Rental Guidelines promulgated by the College. (I have attached a copy of the Guidelines for your reference.)

I was taken aback today to discover that Union County College was *hosting a rally promoting one Democratic candidate to the exclusion of her Republican opponent, Leonard Lance*. To my knowledge, there was never any offer of this event being an *"open public debate of political issues"* as this rally was apparently orchestrated without contacting the Lance campaign.

As a result, this rally appears to violate the College's guidelines for use of College facilities on page four, which states:

*In no case shall external use of College facilities be granted for an event or other activity which promotes partisan political activities or candidates to the exclusion of their opponents. This prohibition shall not preclude the use of College facilities for open public debate of political issues.*

While a scheduled political debate between the candidates or an open forum on political issues, such as Governor Corzine's open forum on the proposed toll hikes, would appear to be permissible under your Guidelines, *this campaign rally clearly is not permitted.*

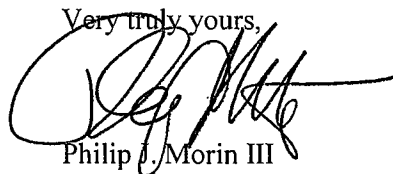
Please explain to me how you can allow this event to proceed at the College in direct violation of the College's written policies and procedures. In fact, the standard form of Facilities Use Agreement (copy attached) provides in paragraph 5 that "the user acknowledges receipt of the "Facility Rental

Guidelines” and *agrees to comply with the terms set forth therein.*” If an Agreement has been signed, does this mean that the Stender campaign is knowingly violating the written policies of the College and that the College is simply looking the other way?

Furthermore, this appears to be political content-based discrimination since, in 2006, I requested the use of College facilities for a Union County Republican Committee convention in February or March of that year and was verbally denied use because it was a “partisan political activity.” Clearly, the only logical interpretation that can be taken from these two disparate acts is that the College is now practicing political discrimination between “favored” political parties/candidates and “unfavored” ones.

I look forward to your prompt response as to why the Clinton/Stender rally is *not* in violation of the College’s own written procedures and why this rally is being allowed in light of the past denial of Republican events at the College.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip J. Morin III', written in a cursive style.

Philip J. Morin III

Encl.

cc: Georgia Hartnett, UCC Executive Director of Marketing & Communications (via e-mail)  
Media Contact List (via e-mail)