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# American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO Philadelphia, PA Area Local



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August 10, 2016

Mr. Jeff Kehlert  
Candidate for National Executive Vice President  
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
1401 Liberty Place  
Sicklerville, NJ 08081

Dear Jeff,

After reading Greg Bell's posting on 21CPW of the letter I sent to you on Monday I need to write this follow-up to you.

First, let me express my deep apologies for both the content and tone of that letter.

I wrote it because of the constant pressure brought by Brother Bell here in the Local over the past months. Within the letter I omitted several important facts which I must make clear especially considering that Bell is using the letter for his own campaign purposes and others appear to be doing the same thing for the other candidate.

On December 10, 2015 you, at my request, addressed the Philadelphia Area Local E Board regarding the possibility of the Local retaining attorney Mark Belland. You, Bob Romanowski and John Jackson all felt it important enough to come to our E Board and make that presentation. After you three left the meeting – where there had been no political discussion or reference of any kind – the E Board voted to endorse you for Vice President. When I informed you a few minutes later you expressed both surprise and your gratitude.

I also informed you that as President in Philadelphia you had my full support.

At the next E board Meeting in 2016 I inappropriately allowed Greg Bell to interact with and present his candidacy to the Board during a period of approximately 30-40 minutes. The E Board then took another vote and, over my objections, voted to endorse Bell.

In the months following Bell approached me on multiple occasions - upset that our endorsement of you was on your website. You and I talked several times about this and I told you that you have my full support and that it was Bell wanting the endorsement removed – not me.

I made a bad decision sending that letter to you on Monday. My intent was only to get Bell off my back.

Jeff, I do not want you to remove me from your list of supporters.

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Greg Bell should never have disseminated that letter I wrote you for his own purposes. In so far as I am concerned the Philadelphia Area Local E Board endorsed two candidates in the VP race.

To your credit you told me that based upon the controversy you will remove the E Board endorsement from your site. I want to make it absolutely clear that I believe we made the right decision when we endorsed you and the Board made the wrong decision when it endorsed Bell. Vice President Linda Gargon and DIR Larry Henderson and I believe in you and we are behind you 100%.

We know you will do the great job as VP you have done as our NBA.

Again, please accept my apology for the first letter. I never should have written it at the pressure of another candidate.

I look forward to seeing you in Orlando next week.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Casselli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Nick Casselli  
President

PHILA PA AREA LOCAL APWU #89