



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Airport Firefighters Call for Investigation Into Email From Human Resources Director**

*Rochester, NY, November 3, 2019* - The Rochester Airport Firefighters Association joins those calling for an investigation of the email sent to Monroe County employees by Human Resources Director Brayton Connard Friday morning, November 1st. The email, distributed via the Monroe County email network, encouraged employees to click a link to the Democrat and Chronicle website to watch County DOT workers moving the Irondequoit Bay outlet bridge. Once on the site, a full-screen ad for County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo's reelection campaign began playing automatically.

"Given Brayton Connard's abrasive actions toward employees in the past, we see this email as an attempt to politically influence county employees during the workday," Local 1636 President Paul Miller said. "It might seem to straddle the line of legality, but we absolutely believe this is questionable enough that it needs to be investigated. At no time in the past has the County emailed employees to announce the opening of this bridge, nor can we recall a single instance of Brayton Connard praising employees for the work they do."

Mr. Connard is a politically appointed holdover from the Maggie Brooks administration and as reported by CITY Newspaper, has donated more than \$5,000 to the 'Friends of Cheryl Dinolfo' campaign committee that paid for the ad.

The Rochester Airport Firefighters Association is among those that have officially endorsed Adam Bello for Monroe County Executive.

The Rochester Airport Firefighters Association represents the Fire Captains and Firefighters of the Greater Rochester International Airport Fire Department. The Association was chartered June 17, 1966 as Local 1636 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO, CLC, and has 21 members - representing 100% Union participation within the Department.

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