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Still No Records Found By Attorney General About Spencer Complaint

By Dan Murphy

The office of State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer still cannot find any documents relating to the complaint filed by former Yonkers Mayor John Spencer. Last summer, Spencer filed a lengthy and detailed complaint alleging election fraud in Westchester County.

Two months ago, we sent a FOIL to the Attorney General asking for "any records regarding the complaint submitted by former Mayor of Yonkers, John Spencer."

We did receive an acknowledgement of our request by Stacey Rowland, Assistant Attorney General. Rowland's letter states that a "substantive response to your inquiry will be forwarded within approximately 30 days."

We spoke to Rowland and were told that so far no records have been found. We have called Rowlands again to make sure that there are no records whatsoever from Spencer's complaint.

We never received a written response to our FOIL from Spitzer's office. We have contacted Bob Freeman, of the Committee on Open Government, to discuss our problems. "It would appear that if the Attorney General received a

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complaint from a Mayor in New York, they would have conducted an investigation and have some records, "said Freeman.

It is still unbelievable the Attorney General has no record of a serious complaint filed by the Mayor of the 4th largest city in the State. Did anyone in the Attorney General's office, including Spitzer himself, even take a look at Spencer's complaint? Doesn't it warrant some type of investigation, or at least a review?

We will not stop this effort until we get a written response from the Attorney General that there are no documents as a result of Spencer's complaint.

Instead of trying to grab front-page headlines to help his run for Governor, maybe Eliot Spitzer should take a look at the pile of complaints on his desk from New Yorkers like John Spencer.