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30 September 2026

UPS 1Z1723W70206068290

District Attorney Matthew Van Houten
District Attorney's Office
320 North Tioga Street
Ithaca, NY 14850

**Subject: Criminal Investigation of the Cover-up by Cornell University Administrators
of the 2024 Drugging, Assault and Rape of "Jane Doe" by Seven Students**

Dear District Attorney Van Houten :

As personal perspective, the most important letter I ever received in-my-life is attached.

There is nothing new, for the undersigned, in what is being revealed about the Subject.
Some history follows . . . which is on-point and **representative**.

On Wednesday, 12 March 2008; the governor of my birth state resigned in shame and disgrace.



I will never forget the expression on the face of his loyal wife and two angelic children, as **Client 9** babbled his pathetic apology and resignation speech. I will never forget my thought :

"I wish I had a lady and a family as fine as that."

During the prior week (3 March 2008), I called twelve on-campus Cornell University colleagues and friends about “**Client 9.**” I spoke to seven women and five men.

All seven women were outraged, and all agreed with my position that **Client 9** must resign immediately, and that his name must be stricken from the University Board of Trustees roster.

All five men offered irresolute diversions; spanning from “*wait and see*” to “*none of your concern.*” Later I spoke with Cornell Board of Trustees Chairman Mr. Peter Meinig; father to the current Board Chairwoman, Ms. Anne Meinig.

On Monday, 10 March 2008, I wrote a one-page letter to a close friend of **Client 9.** Cornell University President David Skorton received my letter on 11 March 2008. A screenshot :

Dear President Skorton:

The widely disseminated news reports regarding “Client 9” are repulsive. These reports are now confirming that “Client 9” refers to the *premeditated* unethical, illicit and immoral behavior of the ex Attorney General and current Governor of my home State of New York. The reports indicate that this behavior occurred during the current term, but may also have a prior history; all of which was unknown to my alma mater.

If *any* aspect of these reports regarding Governor Eliot Spitzer are factual, then I hereby demand that his name be permanently and immediately removed from the Board of Trustees Ex Officio Members listing.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

I have enclosed a copy of my 10 March 2008 letter; including the shipper SPOD.

Two days after I sent my letter, and one day after its receipt by Skorton; Governor Elliot Spitzer officially resigned in shame and disgrace; dishonoring the office of New York governor and my alma mater, Cornell University.

As a matter of history, “*the widely disseminated news reports regarding ‘Client 9’*” were all true.

Not later than Friday, 14 March 2008, my demand that “*his name be permanently and immediately removed from the Board of Trustees Ex Officio members listing*” was **ostensibly** fulfilled.

At that point I considered the matter closed; I intended no further discussion. But the petty vindictive small-minded Cornell administrators; from President Skorton to his Cornell lawyer to the Board of Trustees, including Chairman Meinig; apparently felt and then acted otherwise.

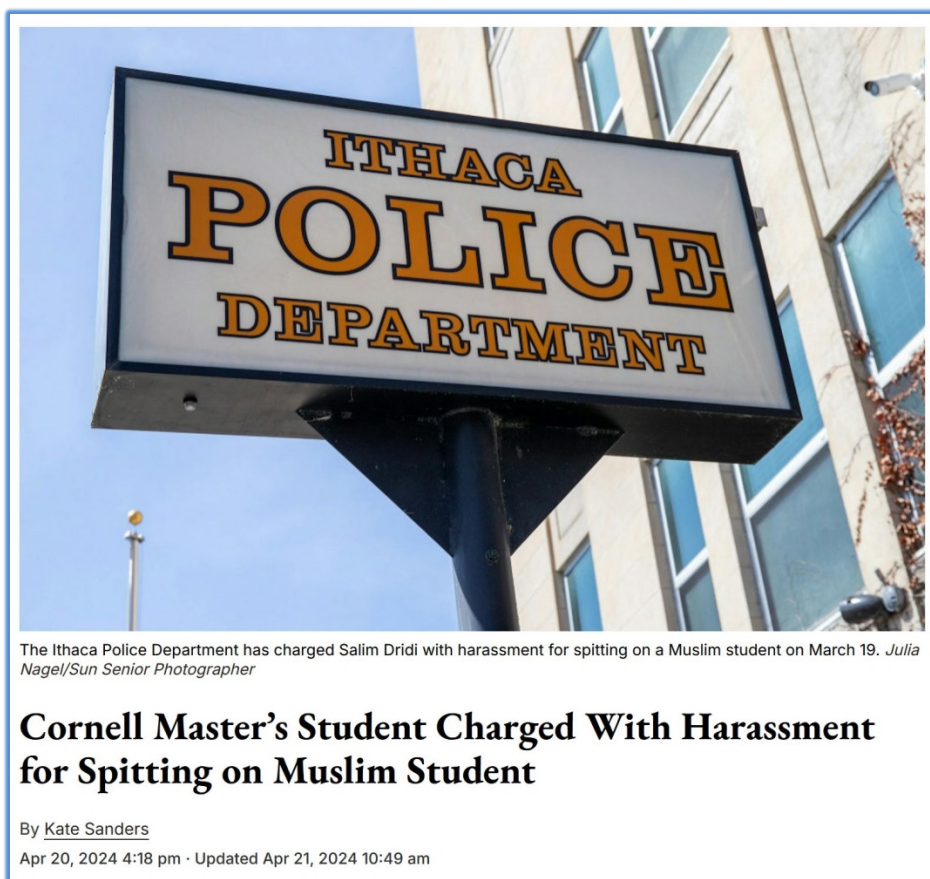
From my personal experience, and based on history, the current cadre of Cornell administrators is hell-bent on emulating their 2008 brethren . . . and **their cover-up of rape is NOT “shocking.”**

But then, the current Cornell Administration penchant for hypocrisy is unrivaled!

There are many examples . . . as a public service and in-service to my alma mater, I should write a book. I limit the hypocrisy example to **the very same year** as the raping of Jane Doe by *not* one, *not*, two, *not* three, *not* four, *not* five, *not* six; **but seven derelicts.**

Perhaps you remember April 2024, the **instantaneous criminal referral** by Cornell administrators to the Ithaca Police Department regarding Mr. Salim Dridi? Spitting?!

That referral was absolutely appropriate; perhaps belated given the prior behaviors of that criminal. True to their duty, purpose and reputation, the Ithaca Police charged and your office convicted Mr. Dridi with criminal harassment :



Perhaps you also remember the 19 April 2014 **essay** by Cornell front man Mr. Joel Malina :

*“We are **saddened** that a member of the **Cornell community** is a suspect in this **vile** act targeting another student.”*

Saddened? But Malina and Administration overlords are not saddened about rape?! On campus? Mere months later ? By **SEVEN** members of the **“Cornell community”** ?!

On Page 1 above, I stated that the history would be on-point and **representative**. Let us review those 2008 actions by President David Skorton, Board Chairman Peter Meinig and their counsel Mr. James Mingle. A thrifted timeline :

- a. Throughout January but escalating in late February 2008, news reports linking **Client 9** to the governor's mansion are in-focus. By land grant protocols, **Client 9** is listed as an *Ex Officio* member of the Cornell University Board of Trustees.
- b. During the first week of March 2008 I made telephone calls to Cornell colleagues about **Client 9**, and the need for his immediate resignation and University *disassociation*.
- c. On Monday 10 March 2008 I sent my letter to Cornell President David Skorton, with courtesy copies to Mr. Thomas Bruce, Mr. Peter Meinig, Mr. James Mingle; and Professor L. Joseph Thomas (my former MBA program advisor).
- d. My letter of 10 March 2008 is signed-for by Cornell University on Tuesday 11 March 2008.
- e. On Wednesday 12 March 2008 **Client 9** officially resigned as New York Governor.
- f. **Two days later, on Friday 14 March 2008, Client 9 was *already* removed from the Cornell University Board of Trustees roster.**
- g. From 10 March 2008 until receipt of the 7 April 2008 from Mr. Mingle, I had zero further communications about "**Client 9**" with *any* member of Cornell University.

Gov. Spitzer Resigns amid Call- Girl Scandal

NPR
Published March 12, 2008 at 1:00 PM EDT

[f](#) [x](#) [t](#) [@](#) [v](#) [in](#)

▶ LISTEN • 0:00

New York governor Eliot Spitzer resigned Wednesday amid allegations that he is involved in a high-end prostitution ring.

Before we detail the vile, but entirely **representative Mingle letter** of 7 April 2008, we need to qualify the above types of **Client 9** headlines.

Qualification: Let us speak plainly . . . **Client 9** did not just rape his wife and children, he raped everyone in sight. He raped his staff; who trusted and supported him. He raped his constituents whom he swore to serve as a public servant in the highest office in New York State. He raped Cornell by virtue of the “*entitled*” position as *Ex Officio* member of our Board of Trustees. **Client 9** also raped the taxpayer; obviously his long-term escapades with that “*high-end prostitution ring*” were not gratuitous. **Client 9** was a rapist. Only a vested interest or a coward argues otherwise.

Certainly, when the truth came to light, Cornell officialdom would not condone, protect or in-any-way coddle **Client 9**. With his person now officially disassociated, they would, proverbially speaking, want to move on. And certainly a person qualified for the esteemed position as Cornell University Counsel would not go out of their way to reduce **Client 9** criminality to a petty vindictive in-your-face, legalistic hair-splitting and adolescent one-up-man-ship charade. **Wrong.**

Received in an envelope that was postmarked a full-week after signing (Tuesday, 15 April 2008), and not received until Friday 18 April 2008; here is a screenshot from Cornell University Counsel, Mr. James Mingle :

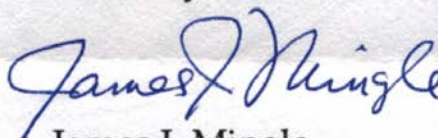
Re: Board of Trustees Ex-Officio Members Listing: Eliot Spitzer

Dear Mr. Sheridan:

I am responding to your recent letter to President Skorton and in follow-up to your related conversation with Chairman Meinig.

The New York Governor serves as an ex-officio member of the Cornell Board, which means two things: first, this is by operation of New York State law; and second, it is the “office” that is referenced in the law, not the individual person who occupies the position. So, so long as the individual serves as Governor, he or she is fully entitled to serve as a Cornell trustee. In light of this, your “demand” that the (now former) governor’s “name be immediately and permanently removed” from our board member listing will not be honored.

Sincerely,



James J. Mingle
Secretary of the Corporation

Before we comment, please review the timeline on Page 4 above, especially Item f.

Mingle writes, "So, so long as the individual serves as Governor, he or she is fully entitled to serve as a trustee." Then Mingle admits his direct knowledge of the **Client 9** status : "**now former.**"

Again, the Cornell Board of Trustees roster no longer listed **Client 9** beginning 14 March 2008.

BUT OVER A MONTH LATER, on 18 April 2008, I received the enclosed letter from a lawyer employed by my alma mater. **I forewarned you that the history would be representative :**

Specifically, when a member of the Cornell family stands for the rights and protections of RAPE VICTIMS, both on-campus and off, both for the individual or the community, whether in 2008 or 2024/2026, they are not exalted and praised by Cornell administrators. Instead they are routinely ridiculed and vilified; sometimes in-writing.

(To be clear, Mingle, Bruce and Skorton are NOT members of the Cornell family.)

After receipt (Friday), on the following Monday morning (21 April 2008), I telephoned Mr. Mingle, but he refused to take my call. I telephoned Cornell campus colleagues. **Several confirmed that the Mingle letter was not the singular rantings of some lawyer, but had been fully reviewed and endorsed by President Skorton, but also by "several members of the Board."** (My colleague did not identify the latter; and I did not pressure her/him to do so. Please note the Mingle copy list.)

CONCLUSION

Anyone that has had direct experience with Cornell administrators in the general area of ethics, and certainly on the issue of sexual misconduct, **holds no animosity toward you or your office** regarding your 2024 handling of the Jane Doe case. Likewise for the Ithaca Police Department, **who were also blindsided** by recent/current administrators and their "*internal review*" of 2024.

Think of current events as post President Frank H. T. Rhodes behaviorism. (President Rhodes was a colleague, who would always respond with courtesy to my support for Cornell.)

For insight on my decades-long interactions with Cornell administrators, I am enclosing samples of **my efforts to participate in the ethical and moral standing of my alma mater**. Letters from Business School Dean Curtis Tarr (see last page discussion of **koyaanisqatsi**), and Law School Dean Stewart Schwab are representative.

Please contact me at any time. In the meantime I remain,

Respectfully yours,

Paul V. Sheridan
MBA : Class of 1980

Attachments / enclosures

Courtesy Copy List *

Chief Thomas J. Kelly Ithaca Police Department 120 East Clinton Street Ithaca, NY 14850 607-272-9973	Chief Eric R. Stickel Cornell University Police Department G2 Barton Hall Cornell University Ithaca, NY 14853 607-255-8986
Mr. Brian A. White Vice President and General Counsel Office of General Counsel 118 Sage Place Ithaca, NY 14850 607-255-5124	Mr. David M. Honan Associate Vice President for Public Safety 245 East Hill Office Building 395 Pine Tree Road Ithaca, NY 14850 607-255-7759
Provost Kavita Bala Office of the Provost 300 Day Hall Cornell University Ithaca, NY 14853 607-255-2364	Ms. Anne Meinig, Chairwoman Board of Trustees Cornell University 118 Sage Place Ithaca, NY 14850 607-255-5124
Mr. David J. Skorton, MD Association of American Medical Colleges 655 K Street NW, Suite 100 Washington, DC, 20001-2399 202-828-0400	Mr. Joel Malina Brunswick Group - Suite 350 600 Massachusetts Avenue NW Washington, DC 20001 202-393-7337
Mr. Kraig H. Kayser, Chair Emeriti Cornell University - Board of Trustees c/o 350 Willowbrook Office Park Fairport, NY 14450 585-495-4100	Mr. Robert S. Harrison, Chair Emeriti Cornell University - Board of Trustees c/o 55 West 125th Street - 14th Floor New York, NY 10027 212-397-2255
Governor Kathy Hochul Cornell University – Board of Trustees NYS State Capitol Bldg. Albany, NY 12224 518-474-8390	Attorney General Letitia James Office of the New York Attorney General The Capitol Albany NY 12224-0341 800-771-7755
Cornell University Board of Trustees	Cornell University Deans

* Preliminary listing.



Cornell University

Graduate School of Business and Public Administration

Office of Admissions and Student Affairs

George A. Ridenour, *Director* Malka Z. Weinstein, *Assistant Director*

Malott Hall, Ithaca, New York 14853 Phone 607/256-2327, 7248

April 21, 1978

Mr. Paul V. Sheridan
105B Covent Gardens
Guilderland, New York 12084

Dear Mr. Sheridan:

On behalf of the Admissions Committee, I am pleased to inform you of your acceptance for admission in September 1978 to the Graduate School of Business and Public Administration for its Business Administration Program leading to the MBA degree.

Information about orientation, core course exemption examinations, the special pre-enrollment mathematics course to be held August 15-26 and other matters concerning registration will be sent to you later in the spring.

If you wish to arrange for housing in University residence halls, please refer to the enclosed sheet. I want to emphasize that assignments for housing in University facilities are made in the order in which these applications are received. If you are interested in University housing, then I urge you to make the necessary arrangements as soon as your plans are firm.

Your application for financial assistance has been received through the Graduate and Professional School Financial Aid Service (GAPSFAS) and will be acted upon within the next two weeks. Notification of financial awards will then be sent out as soon as possible.

Along with other private graduate schools of management, it will be necessary to increase our tuition this year. The charge will be \$5,100 for the 1978-79 academic year. This same charge will also apply to the 1979-80 academic year for students entering in 1978-79, that is, annual tuition will be a constant figure during a normal two-year academic program at the School.

As explained in the enclosed admissions deposit information, I would appreciate your notifying us within two weeks of receipt of this letter whether you will be matriculating with the September entering class. If I may be of any assistance to you regarding your plans, please do not hesitate to contact me. We look forward to your joining our student body.

Sincerely yours,

George A. Ridenour
Director of Admissions

GAR/neb
Enclosure