

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



PHIL BOYLE
SENATOR
4TH DISTRICT

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
HIGHER EDUCATION
JUDICIARY

STANDING COMMITTEES
ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ETHICS AND INTERNAL GOVERNANCE
HEALTH
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
RULES

ALBANY OFFICE
ROOM 707
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BLDG.
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-3411
FAX: (518) 426-6973

DISTRICT OFFICE
94 WEST MAIN ST., STE. 205
BAY SHORE, NY 11706
PHONE: (631) 665-2311
FAX: (631) 206-2090

Steve Bellone, County Executive
Suffolk County Executive's Office
100 Veterans Memorial Hwy.
Hauppauge, NY 11788

Dear County Executive Bellone,

As you are undoubtedly aware, there has been a renewed public interest in the Gilgo Beach/Long Island Serial Killer (LISK) cold case due to the numerous books, movies, documentaries, podcasts, radio shows and other media conduits that have shone a new light onto this investigation. Almost without exception, these sources list your former police chief, James Burke, as a potential suspect for either direct or indirect involvement in these crimes or efforts to hinder the investigation. Needless to say, this cannot continue. We must provide justice to the ten or more victims of the Long Island Serial Killer and their families while making Suffolk County a safer place for all its residents. The public is demanding answers!

On January 1, 2012, you appointed then-Sergeant James Burke to the position of Chief of Department of the Suffolk County Police Department, despite an extensive personnel file highlighting his lack of fitness for such a critical position. Almost as soon as Police Chief Burke was elevated to this role, he began efforts to remove federal law enforcement officials from providing much-needed assistance in the murder investigation of at least ten victims of the Gilgo Beach/Long Island Serial Killer. Your former Police Commissioner and former FBI Agent, Geraldine Hart, has commented that Chief Burke's efforts to remove the FBI from the investigation likely hurt the efforts to apprehend this killer or killers.

Significantly, removing the FBI from the investigation into these brutal murders was the very same action for which you later demanded that then-Suffolk County District Attorney Thomas Spota resign from office. **On behalf of our mutual constituents and all residents of Suffolk County, I pose the question, "Why?" Why the double standard of demanding DA Spota resign for removing the FBI from the Gilgo Beach/LISK investigation but not**

exercising your authority and immediately firing Chief Burke when, in fact, he was more responsible for excluding federal agents than was Spota.

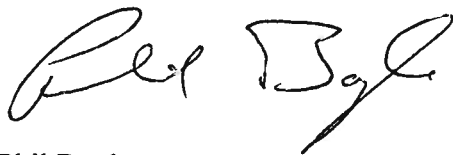
Further, during your recent on-the-record interview with investigative journalists Billy Jensen and Alexis Linkletter of the podcast and Discovery Plus special entitled, “Unraveled: The Long Island Serial Killer” you stated that you came to understand that your police chief, James Burke, was sociopathic. When you came to that realization, why did you not immediately fire Burke from his position as your top law enforcement official and relieve him of his command over the thousands of heroic Members of the Suffolk County Police Department?

I, along with countless residents of Suffolk County, New York State and the rest of the country demand to know why you consistently promoted, enabled, and protected James Burke despite undeniable evidence that he was a dangerous individual. Your decision to retain James Burke as Chief for years provided him with the continued power and authority to retaliate and punish any of those in “his” department who questioned or challenged him. That was a monumental mistake on your part for which Suffolk County residents are still paying.

Finally, a number of reports listing Chief Burke as a potential suspect cite a sex worker going by the name LeAnne who encountered Burke at parties in the community of Oak Beach in the period before you appointed him as your police chief. Allegedly, these parties involved prostitution and significant amounts of illegal drug use. The reports mention as an attendee or even a host of these parties an individual with close ties to the highest levels of Suffolk County government. My last question is whether you have any close friends or associates who live in the small community of Oak Beach who might have witnessed Chief Burke at any of these parties? If this individual or individuals had conveyed to you that then-Sgt. Burke attended any of these parties, it would have provided even further proof that Burke was absolutely NOT the right person to be elevated to Chief of Department.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request and I look forward to your timely responses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Boyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P" and "B".

Phil Boyle
Senator NY-4