



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Ruben Diaz

## Everyone Does It, de Blasio is Not the Only One

SEN. RUBEN DIAZ April 29, 2016

What You Should Know

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### Everyone Does It, de Blasio is Not the Only One

You should know that the Mayor of the City of New York is under fire and he is facing 5 different investigations.

It is important for you to know that I never supported Mayor de Blasio when he was a Mayoral Candidate, and instead, I supported Eric Salgado and Bill Thompson. For the record, I don't like Bill de Blasio's policies, we have nothing in common, and I have not met with him nor spoken with him in person since he was elected Mayor. But as I see him being subject to what looks like selective prosecution, I must speak out.

It is important for you to know that Risa S. Sugarman, who was appointed by Governor Andrew Cuomo to serve as the Chief Enforcement Officer for the Board of Elections, sent a report to the Manhattan District Attorney regarding Mayor Bill de Blasio's "willful and flagrant" campaign law violations.

Ms. Sugarman's report prompted a criminal investigation into Mayor de Blasio's fund-raising.

According to Ms. Sugarman's report, Mayor Bill de Blasio and his team raised money to send to certain County Committees in 2014 to help Democrats running for the State Senate. In a response to Ms. Sugarman's report, a criminal investigation against Mayor de Blasio is underway.

You should also know that City and State's Winners and Losers column for the week ending 4/29/2016 included NY Times columnist Jim Dwyer in the Winners' column for successfully "putting pressure on state Board of Elections Chief Enforcement Officer Risa Sugarman to explain her selective investigation process."

This hat-tip Jim Dwyer includes his April 28, 2016 column "Faulting de Blasio for Walking a Beaten Path in Elections."

Mr. Dwyer wrote: "In 2008, when Michael R. Bloomberg was mayor, he gave \$1.2 million to the tiny Independence Party, which used the money to help the campaigns of two Republican senators in Queens, Frank Padavan and Serphin R. Maltese ... Mr. Bloomberg also gave \$500,000 to the Republicans' Senate campaign committee, which supported Mr. Padavan and Mr. Maltese in their races."

As you can see, Mayor de Blasio's actions are not the first time a Mayor has used his political power and resources to influence New York State Senate races. This is routinely done by Democrats and Republicans alike, and we all know it.

I have to ask myself, how is it that Mayor de Blasio is being investigated and has received subpoenas from the Manhattan District Attorney and the US Attorney General, and how is it that he is being lambasted on the front pages and editorial columns of New York's daily newspapers, when the things he did are no different than what Michael Bloomberg did when

he was New York City's Mayor?

Why was there no outcry for investigations and allegations made when Michael Bloomberg also violated New York's Campaign Finance laws by donating large amounts of money to the Republican and Independent Parties in order to hold sway over certain State Senate elections?

If everyone does it, how come only Mayor Bill de Blasio is being held accountable?

I am Senator Reverend Rubén Díaz and this is what you should know.