

Morris Council No. 6/6A, NJCSA

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October 25, 2018

Shala Gagliardi for Morris County Clerk

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Liz Sutula. I am the President of one of the largest unions for Morris County employees, and a 28-year employee of the County Clerk's office. I usually do not get involved with politics or endorsements, but at this time, I feel the need to be a voice for the employees of the Morris County Clerk's Office.

The current County Clerk, Ann Grossi, has shown nothing but contempt for her own employees over the past 5 years. She has created such a hostile work environment that on more than one occasion, I've had employees coming to me crying because of the way she treated them.

In 2017, Ann Grossi said that she deserved a huge raise solely because she was an attorney, which made her "overqualified" to run the office. She looked down upon her predecessor, Joan Bramhall, because Bramhall only had a high school degree.

The Morris County Clerk's office has been the number one county clerk's office in the state of New Jersey and has been for the 28 years I have been working here. Most of us, like Joan Bramhall, only have a high school education.

Grossi has spent the past 5 years touting the accomplishments of her predecessor as her own, as well as claiming credit for the work her staff does; not because of her, but because they take pride in the work they do.

As the popular saying goes, "a bad manager can take a great staff and destroy it, causing the best employees to flee..." In these five years, we have lost 10 exceptional employees at the County Clerk's office - that's more than a quarter of our staff. 6 chose to retire because of the way they were treated, while one administration employee left because she almost had a nervous breakdown.

Worse than Ann Grossi's treatment of her employees is her efforts to undermine the worker's union at every opportunity. She often blames the union for raises she chose not to give her employees, and denigrates employees who paid their union dues.

It's clearly time for a change. Morris County residents deserve better than a County Clerk who is both incompetent and disrespectful to her employees.

That's why the Morris Council No. 6/6A chapter of NJCSA and I fully endorse Shala Gagliardi for Morris County Clerk.

Shala is an attorney, a mom and an all-around decent person. Shala has made it clear that if elected, she will stand up for unions and work to protect her employees, including negotiating for the best possible outcomes for them. Shala will be a County Clerk who treats her employees and the general public with the respect they deserve. Shala respects the taxpayers enough to run the office efficiently, rather than working to line her own pockets.

We at Morris council 6/6A believe that Shala Gagliardi is the best choice for Morris County Clerk.

Respectfully,

Liz Sutula

President, Morris Council No. 6/6A, NJCSA