

September 12, 2019

Mr. Phil Alongi
Executive Producer
NJTV News
P.O. Box 5776
Englewood, NJ

Dear Mr. Alongi,

We urge you to end your relationship with political consultant Steve Ayscue as an on-air analyst for NJTV News.

Ayscue's months-long Twitter campaign against progressive activists in New Jersey has been alternately racist, sexist and abusive. But the most appalling post is his latest. On the 18th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, Ayscue [used a picture](#) of the infamous "falling man" photo in reply to an entirely unrelated tweet about credit ratings from NJ Working Families State Director Sue Altman.

Ayscue, an operative for powerful political machine boss George Norcross, has been waging a [campaign of harassment](#) and intimidation against progressive grassroots activists for the last six months. NJTV shouldn't give a platform to Ayscue's hate.

In the words of Politico's [Ryan Hutchins](#): "Steve Ayscue, a political consultant to George Norcross, used one of the most painful and searing images of 9/11 as fodder for his Twitter squabbling. And he did so on the anniversary of the attacks."

This is the culmination of months of abusive behavior. Ayscue has focused much of his bullying on Altman. He's called her "[sloppy Sue](#)," [stalked her Facebook page](#), [tweeted at her then employer](#), and intimated that [he knows where she lives](#) and what park she frequents.

But Ayscue's disgusting attacks extend well beyond Altman. Ayscue [defamed](#) an activist in Camden because he couldn't tell two Black men apart - and never apologized. He has taunted progressive women with anti-LGBTQ slurs, asking them about their "[girlfriends](#)." He has [exploited rape](#), using it as a political cudgel against other women.

In the past, NJTV has used Ayscue as a pundit and commentator. He lists his association with you on his [personal website](#) to burnish his credentials. Giving Ayscue further airtime would legitimize his offensive behavior.

We ask you to immediately discontinue your association with Ayscue, and make clear that his unconscionable rhetoric has no place on your network.

Sincerely,

1. NJ 11th For Change
2. Camden High Alumni Association
3. Action Together New Jersey
4. Our Revolution Essex County
5. Concerned Black Clergy

6. STAND Central NJ
7. Ridgewood JOLT
8. South Jersey Women for Progressive Change
9. Westfield 20/20
10. The Nehemiah Group of Camden
11. NJ 08 For Progress
12. National Action Network CMD
13. Collingswood Democratic Committee
14. Camden Empowerment Center
15. Helen Duda/ Member of Action Together NJ/ Vice President of Buena Vista Twp.
Democratic Club
16. NJ7 Forward
17. Indivisible NJ 5th District
18. Cooper River Indivisible
19. New Beginnings of Camden
20. Christian Honor Society
21. NAACP/Camden County East
22. NJ 21 United
23. Good Government Coalition of New Jersey
24. NJ Working Families