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Special Legislative Committee
Of the
Suffolk County Legislature
Valva Hearings

A Special Legislative Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held via in-person and Zoom video conferencing in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, 11788 on February 4, 2021.

Members Present:

Presiding Officer Robert Calarco - Chairman
Deputy Presiding Officer Kara Hahn
Legislator Thomas Cilmi

Also in Attendance:

Amy Ellis - Clerk of the Legislature
Laurence Braunstein - Braunstein & Zuckerman

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

1 (**The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.**)

2
3 P.O. CALARCO:

4 Okay, good morning. Welcome to the Special Committee to
5 investigate the death of Thomas Valva. If we can all please rise
6 for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Cilmi.

7
8 *Pledge of Allegiance*

9
10 Okay. Welcome, everyone, to this morning's committee. We are
11 hosting today's committee via live-stream in compliance with the
12 Governor's continuance of Executive Orders allowing for committees
13 to be held virtually, and I welcome everyone to today's meeting.

14
15 At this point, we are going to -- I'm going to accept a motion from
16 Legislator Cilmi, and seconded by Legislator Hahn, to go into
17 Executive Session. Roll call, Madam Clerk.

18
19 (**Roll Called by Ms. Ellis - Clerk of the Legislature**)

20
21 LEG. CILMI:

22 Yes.

23
24 D.P.O. HAHN:

25 Yes.

26
27 P.O. CALARCO:

28 Yes.

29
30 MS. ELLIS:

31 *Three.*

32
33 P.O. CALARCO:

34 Okay. With that, we are going to go into Executive Session to
35 consider business for the -- for this committee. And I'm going
36 to -- if you guys give me one minute, I've got to clear the room
37 where I am and move over to a different version here.

38
39 (**Executive Session: 10:04 - 10:38 a.m.**)

40
41 P.O. CALARCO:

42 Okay, we are live and we're back out out of Executive Session at
43 this point in time.

44
45 And, so, at this point we have one resolution that the committee
46 is -- would like to consider, it's ***Suffolk County Valva***
47 ***Investigation Resolution No. 1-2021, Authorizing the issuance of***
48 ***subpoenas duces tecum*** -- I think, I hope I said that right -- ***in***
49 ***furtherance of the committee's investigation.*** This is a subpoena
50 that will be issued to the Commissioner of Social Services, Frances
51 Pierre, for Suffolk County for a host of documents related to the
52 Valva family and associated relatives over the course of their
53 involvement with the County.

54
55 With that, I will take a motion from Legislator Hahn, second from
56 Legislator Cilmi.

1 **LEG. CILMI:**

2 Yes.

3

4 **P.O. CALARCO:**

5 On the motion, does anybody want to add anything?

6

7 **LEG. CILMI:**

8 No.

9

10 **P.O. CALARCO:**

11 Okay. I think I'll just note that -- for the record, that, you
12 know, as much as we would prefer not to have to issue subpoenas and
13 do it in this fashion, it's clear that in order for us to be able
14 to access the documents that we need to be able to do our full
15 investigation and do so and not have any County agencies be in
16 violation of State law, that this is the best process forward.
17 And we still anticipate and have received full cooperation from
18 the County agencies involved.

19

20 So with that, we have a motion and a second. Roll call.

21

22 *(*Roll Called by Ms. Ellis - Clerk of the Legislature*)*

23

24 **D.P.O. HAHN:**

25 Yes.

26

27 **LEG. CILMI:**

28 Yes.

29

30 **P.O. CALARCO:**

31 Yes.

32

33 **MS. ELLIS:**

34 *Three.*

35

36 **P.O. CALARCO:**

37 Okay, Resolution No. 1 has been approved.

38

39 And I have no other business before the committee at this time.
40 Legislator Cilmi or Legislator Hahn, do you have anything that
41 you'd like to add, or to Special Counsel?

42

43 **MR. BRAUNSTEIN:**

44 No. Thank you.

45

46 **LEG. CILMI:**

47 No.

48

49 **P.O. CALARCO:**

50 Okay. Seeing none, with that, we are adjourned. Thank you,
51 everyone.

52

53 *(*The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. *)*

54

55

56