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PRESS RELEASE

Will Upcoming Audit Account for Million\$ Provided to Sussex County Food Bank.

Franklin, New Jersey – Last year, the alarm was raised that years of donations and millions of dollars are unaccounted for at the Sussex County Food Pantry. Details emerged at the public December 13, 2024, County Commissioners Meeting. The question now is whether the auditors will account for these funds that the County Commissioners, Administrator and Chief Financial Officer know have been given to the Food Pantry.

Some details divulged at the public meeting include:

- The Food Pantry operates under the County EIN tax number.
- Its prior management acknowledged large money flows yet stated there are no books.
- Receipts were found stuffed in desks, but the CFO can't account for the department's activity.
- Receipts at the County Government may not match what Donor's IRS records claim.
- Commissioner Carney claimed he accounted funds "to the penny", yet the CFO has no books.

"I've seen this before with the Sussex County Solar Program which still loses millions every year. There has even been a tax equity contract given to a private company to profit off these large taxpayer losses yet the County refuses to let the public see it," said Harvey Roseff who is running for Sussex County Commissioner with his running mate Robert D. Kovic. "For the Food Pantry, it is now time to see if the County has a real audit or a rubber stamp document."

According to documents from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Sussex County, or an entity using the County Tax ID Number, received millions in funding from a private tax-exempt foundation but was never accounted for by the County.

In a letter dated May 20, 2024, to the County Administration and Commissioners, New Jersey attorney Robert D. Kovic confirmed that he has been contacted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding possible financial irregularities taking place at the Sussex County food pantry. Kovic states that he has spoken to the Agent assigned to the matter at least twice over the last few weeks.

"Despite concerns from residents and Commissioner William Hayden, the Commissioners and Administration didn't seem interested in the allegations of irregularities," said Kovic. "Now, the residents should take comfort in knowing that the federal authorities are looking into it."