

**NASW-NYS Political Post**  
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**Oops I Did It Again** – Governor Paterson has found himself in hot water yet again this week as the Commission on Public Integrity served him with written notification informing him there was “reasonable cause to believe he violated the public officer’s law last year when he solicited and accepted tickets to a Yankees game that he attended with his son.” (Capitol Confidential) As a result, the Governor will be subjected to a hearing with potential fines rising to \$90,000. Excerpts from the letter read as follows... “There is reasonable cause to believe that the Governor solicited, received, and accepted tickets for himself, his son, and his son’s friend, from the New York Yankees, a registered lobbyist, to Game One of the World Series in violation of Sections 73(5)(a) and (b) and 74(3)(d), (f) and (h) of the Public Officers Law. There is reasonable cause to believe that the Governor falsely testified under oath that he had always intended to pay for the tickets for his son and his son’s friend, and that before attending the game he had handwritten a check for \$850 for ultimate delivery to the New York Yankees as payment for the tickets, when, in fact, the Governor’s intention was to receive and accept the tickets for himself, his son and his son’s friend without paying for them, until a press inquiry after the receipt of the tickets caused the Governor to submit a backdated check as payment for the tickets.”

**Circus** – The press has descended upon the capitol like flies to...um...bug strips! Just a whiff of impending scandal at the capitol these days seems to send both local and national media into a frenzy of activity and given all the rumors and accusations lodged at our Governor lately, let’s just say the capitol cafeteria line grew considerably this week. Reporters from every major network affiliate, Fox and CNN were among the many camped out all week. Adding fuel to the fire that is the media storm was the Governor himself when reporters questioned him about recent allegations of a cover up with regard to a domestic dispute between his staffer and his staffer’s then girlfriend he responded ““Really, I would love to tell my story,” Paterson said. “I have worked on domestic violence issues for over 20 years. And I am sensitive to victims and also prospective victims. I think that I would relish the opportunity to talk to you about this right now. But when I read these accounts that are unsourced and inaccurate, it’s obviously frustrating. But the hope for me is that the Attorney General’s investigation is a place where witnesses have to take an oath and hopefully the truth comes out. And when the truth comes out, I’m confident that I’ll be vindicated ...”

**Kill the Lights** – The NY Times broke the story that former Tennessee congressman, Harold Ford Jr, will not challenge Junior Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. “I’ve examined this race in every possible way, and I keep returning to the same fundamental conclusion: If I run, the likely result would be a brutal and highly negative Democratic primary — a primary where the winner emerges weakened and the Republican strengthened,” Ford wrote in a NYT opinion article earlier in the week...Translation via KLM – “I’ve been leaned on heavily to keep my nose out of it!”