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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Draft Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

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**OA/ID Number:** 13521  
**Folder ID Number:** 13521-013

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**Folder Title:**  
Fundraising Luncheon for Susan Molinari 2/28/90 [OA 4728] [2]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 26, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM:

JIM PINKERTON

SUBJECT:

Susan Molinari Fundraiser Draft

pg. 1, para. 2, line 5 Typo: "Borough" instead of  
"borough."

1,2,9 "Guy, you're a good friend and we'll miss you."

Perhaps adding "in Washington" at the end of the sentence will lessen the slight sense of finality.

5,2 "But the man responsible for the situation will be right here at this podium tomorrow night."

This graf is simply too incendiary and will blow up in our faces. We strongly urge that any reference to Gov. Cuomo be deleted, and suggest simply omitting the paragraph.

6,3,2 "The light that glows from the huge Statue's torch shines over Staten Island...."

Now that the torch has been replaced with a gilded flame, is it proper to say that light glows from it?

6,4,2 Typo: "oppotunity"

###


90 FEB 26 P 2: 50

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1990

M.K.

FYI

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID DEMAREST  
FROM                   SICHAN SIV   
SUBJECT                SUSAN MOLINARI

FYI - Susan Molinari was a member of the U.S. delegation to the June 89 International Conference on Refugees in Geneva which I co-chaired with Larry Eagleburger.

When we were putting the delegation together, I was asked to recommend a few names. I asked around and Bill Canary recommended her. At the time, she was the only Republican on the New York City Council. We heard that she might run for Congress and we thought that her participation in Geneva would give her additional assets to her resume.

Just in case you want to have new information for the President's speech!

DMC - FYI.

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/23/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/26/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON FOR SUSAN MOLINARI

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any **comments** directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than **2:00 PM, Monday, February 26**, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE: *[Handwritten signature]*

SEE ATTACHMENT!  
90 FEB 26 PM 2:36

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

1990 FEB 23 PM 7:52

Grant/Nappo  
February 23, 1990  
Draft three  
A:Molinari

REMARKS: FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON FOR SUSAN MOLINARI  
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990  
TIME?

*Lunch*

Thank you. Great to see you, Rudy Guiliani [Jew-lee-AHN-ee]. It's a pleasure to see so many supporters here tonight... Bdy  
Olga Igneri [ig-NAIR-ee], our Richmond County Republican chairman; our King's County chairman, Fred Pantaleone [pan-ta-le-OWN]; and the hard-working Jim Molinaro of the Conservative Party. And of course, the 14th Congressional District's next Representative ... our own Susan Molinari.\\\

And I'd like to recognize another Molinari -- one of the outstanding leaders on Capitol Hill who's back home to stay, the great Guy Molinari. Guy has been a key member of our team in Congress, but the voters here like him so much they've elected him Borough President so he's a little closer to home. You know, I've known Guy a long time. He was there for me in the tough early years, and I was proud to have him at my side as my New York State Chairman. Guy, you're a good friend and we'll miss you. Barbara and I wish you the best. \\\

It's been 25 years since a President came to Staten Island, when President Johnson dedicated the Verrazano Bridge. Tonight, I'm here to talk about another bridge -- a bridge to the future -- an election that will determine whether Staten Island gets the experience, leadership and independence it deserves. The

election of the next Congresswoman from New York -- Susan Molinari.\\\

So here I am in New York, where one of the great contests of 1990 will take place. There's a lot at stake and there's been a lot of money spent on both sides ... so much press attention ... But hey, I'm not here to talk about the Trumps.\\

You all know I'm here to talk about the race in your Congressional District. Guy Molinari leaves some pretty big shoes to fill, but I can't think of anyone better for the job than Susan Molinari.\\\ Like her father, Sue will continue the hands-on leadership the voters have come to expect from the name "Molinari."

Speaking of names, I'll tell you a true story. Sue found a scrawny little mutt on Election Day of 1988. We were all waiting for the returns to come in, but the dog wasn't doing well, and they didn't think it would make it. But it was a good dog -- loyal, cautious and prudent, -- and it pulled through. I still can't figure out why, but she named the dog "George."

But Sue, there's one bit of insider political advice I'd like to give you. Just one single word. \\ Puppies.\\\

I understand that Sue's opponent is charging that she'll do nothing but follow in her father's footsteps. ((Actually, that sounds like a pretty good endorsement to me ...)) \\\

Sue Molinari is a tough, independent leader. She has the determination, the understanding and the experience to get the job done. When she was 27 she was already making history:

youngest member ever elected to the New York City Council; first Republican elected from her district; the only Republican elected to the City Council -- and she beat her Democratic opponent for re-election 3 to 1. Susan Molinari is "the new generation of leadership."\\

Time and time again, Sue has been tested by fire. During her tenure as Minority Leader on the City Council, she has held her own -- as the toughest "minority of one" anyone's ever seen.

The effects of her leadership will be felt for many year. She opened the door for other Republicans to follow her. She gave this Party a voice where there was none. A great bipartisan leader, she proved that the only fair system is a two-party system.

Her opponent says Sue can't possibly be effective in Congress, because she's not in the majority party. Poor guy, he doesn't understand that there's a direct correlation between effectiveness and experience. Between effectiveness and leadership. Between effectiveness and independence. And Sue Molinari is the only candidate in this race with all three.

The people of Staten Island need Sue in Congress, because she'll do what's best for them. The Republican leadership needs her in Congress, because they need her drive, initiative and experience. And I need her in Congress, because we agree on the important issues -- like a strong economy, schools and streets free from drugs and violence, and a clean, safe environment.

We both agree. We need action on these issues, and we need it now.\\\

Drug abuse is a threat to all of America, but it's an especially real threat to Staten Island. Only a few miles from here, Everett Hatcher, a veteran DEA agent, was brutally murdered by cocaine cowards. In the days after his death, his wife put the blame for his killing squarely on the shoulders of so-called "casual" drug users. We have to win the war on drugs for Everett Hatcher, and all those who have given their lives to free America of drug abuse. \\ \ Sue knows the neighborhoods here. She's dealt with the fight against drugs and crime as a tough City Councilwoman. And now I need her experience in Washington. You deserve safe, drug-free streets and schools. You deserve the leadership of Susan Molinari. \\ \

One of the most vital issues today is protecting our planet. Staten Islanders face some of the toughest environmental problems in this country, and Sue will fight -- and fight hard -- to reduce acid rain, air toxics and urban smog. Right now, our Clean Air legislation is in both the House and Senate, and Sue will take the oath of office just in time to make a difference. We've laid down a fair-minded compromise, to help clean up our air while preserving jobs. Now, let's break the stalemate. Let's protect our environment for decades to come. Let's get moving.

Sue gets action on the environment. When the Exxon spill left oil sludge on the shores of Staten Island, she called

company officials into her office. And by the time they came out the door, Exxon had agreed to her list of nine demands -- including paying for the entire cost of the cleanup. Now that's what I call tough leadership. That's what I call results.

And there's another result we ought to talk about tonight. The result of nine years of Republican leadership at the federal level: lower taxes and the greatest economic expansion in history. But unfortunately, New Yorkers pay the highest state taxes of any American citizen anywhere -- when you add up all the state income taxes, local taxes, property taxes, and sales taxes, they're steepest in the country. That's probably not news to you. And the state Democrats wonder why businesses are voting with their forwarding addresses and the state bond rating is dropping ... I'm sorry I can't do much about state taxes. \\ \\ But the man responsible for the situation will be right here at this podium tomorrow night. And I'm sure he'd be happy to take any questions. \\

You see, Sue and I believe that lower taxes are the key to making America competitive in the global marketplace. She and I know we can outproduce, outmarket, and outsell anybody else -- if we can keep taxes low for American business. \\ \\

Sue knows what the voters want. Because like Staten Island, Susan has a brilliant future and a proud heritage. Let me tell you a story: 86 years ago, a battered steamer pulled into New York Harbor, and a six year-old boy -- one of fourteen kids -- and his mother stepped off onto Ellis Island, ready to join his

father and siblings after leaving their home on the coast of Southern Italy. Looking across the Harbor to the Statue of Liberty, little Bob Molinari took the oath of allegiance and became an American. Years later, the small boy became a successful businessman and decided it was time to give something back to the new land that had given him so much. He entered public service, serving State Island tirelessly in the State Assembly.

Bob Molinari taught his five children the value of education and hard work. Holding down three jobs, he put himself through night school. Guy says his father was terribly proud of the United States, "and he never let us forget it." Guy felt the same way about education, about being an American, about serving this great country.

He, too, took an oath at the foot of the Statue of Liberty -- when he was sworn into office -- not far from here. The light that glows from the huge Statue's torch shines over Staten Island, as she stands beside this great community looking forward to the world, and to the future. Now the time has come for Susan Molinari to lead Staten Island forward.\\\

America has given her much -- a wonderful family, an education and the opportunity to be the best she can be. So now, like her grandfather and her father before her, Sue wants to give back some of the blessings America has given her. She cares about this country and she cares about the people of Staten

Island, and she's served Staten Island well. It's time for a new generation of leadership.\\\

Your future and that of your children are too precious to gamble with. We need experience. We need independence. We need leadership -- for a strong Staten Island, and a strong America. We need Susan Molinari. \\\

Thank you, God bless you and God bless America.

# # #

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**REMARKS:**

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**RESPONSE:**

*Please see suggestions pp. 2, 3.*

*legislative Affairs  
2/26/90*

**James W. Cicconi**  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

1990 FEB 23 PM 7:52

Grant/Nappo  
February 23, 1990  
Draft three  
A:Molinari

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TIME?

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And I'd like to recognize another Molinari -- one of the outstanding leaders on Capitol Hill who's back home to stay, the great Guy Molinari. Guy has been a key member of our team in Congress, but the voters here like him so much they've elected him Borough President so he's a little closer to home. You know, I've known Guy a long time. He was there for me in the tough early years, and I was proud to have him at my side as my New York State Chairman. Guy, you're a good friend and we'll miss you. Barbara and I wish you the best. \\

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~~And~~ Susan Molinari ~~will~~ will also have something else:  
a friend in the White House.

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RESPONSE:

*See comments*

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**We both agree. We need action on these issues, and we need it now.\\\**

Drug abuse is a threat to all of America, but it's an especially real threat to Staten Island. Only a few miles from here, Everett Hatcher, a veteran DEA agent, was brutally murdered by cocaine cowards. In the days after his death, his wife put the blame for his killing squarely on the shoulders of so-called "casual" drug users. We have to win the war on drugs for Everett Hatcher, and all those who have given their lives to free America of drug abuse. \\\ Sue knows the neighborhoods here. She's dealt with the fight against drugs and crime as a tough City Councilwoman. And now I need her experience in Washington. You deserve safe, drug-free streets and schools. You deserve the leadership of Susan Molinari. \\\

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And there's another result we ought to talk about tonight. The result of nine years of Republican leadership at the federal level: lower taxes and the greatest economic expansion in history. But unfortunately, New Yorkers pay the highest state taxes of any American citizen anywhere -- when you add up all the state income taxes, local taxes, property taxes, and sales taxes, they're steepest in the country. That's probably not news to you. And the state Democrats wonder why businesses are voting with their forwarding addresses and the state bond rating is dropping ... I'm sorry I can't do much about state taxes. \\ \\ But the man responsible for the situation will be right here at this podium tomorrow night. And I'm sure he'd be happy to take any questions. \\

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Bob Molinari taught his five children the value of education and hard work. Holding down three jobs, he put himself through night school. Guy says his father was terribly proud of the United States, "and he never let us forget it." Guy felt the same way about education, about being an American, about serving this great country.

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Your future and that of your children are too precious to gamble with. We need experience. We need independence. We need leadership -- for a strong Staten Island, and a strong America. We need Susan Molinari. \\\

Thank you, God bless you and God bless America.

# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 26, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Fundraising Luncheon For  
Susan Molinari

We have no comments from a policy standpoint, but have noted a couple of typographical errors on the attached draft.

cc: James W. Cicconi

90 FEB 26 P 2: 28

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/23/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/26/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON FOR SUSAN MOLINARI

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Monday, February 26, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*OK*

**James W. Cicconi**  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

1990 FEB 23 PM 7:52

Grant/Nappo  
February 23, 1990  
Draft three  
A:Molinari

REMARKS: FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON FOR SUSAN MOLINARI  
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990  
TIME?

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And I'd like to recognize another Molinari -- one of the outstanding leaders on Capitol Hill who's back home to stay, the great Guy Molinari. Guy has been a key member of our team in Congress, but the voters here like him so much they've elected him Borough President so he's a little closer to home. You know, I've known Guy a long time. He was there for me in the tough early years, and I was proud to have him at my side as my New York State Chairman. Guy, you're a good friend and we'll miss you. Barbara and I wish you the best. \\

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# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/23/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/26/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON FOR SUSAN MOLINARI

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ANDERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

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RESPONSE:

*OK SA*

90 FEB 26 11:39

James W. Cicconi  
 Assistant to the President  
 and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 Ext. 2702

1990 FEB 23 PM 7:52

Grant/Nappo  
February 23, 1990  
Draft three  
A:Molinari

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1990  
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# # #

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 26, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

Deputy Assistant to the President for  
Communications

FROM:

BRENT O. HATCH *BoH*  
Associate Counsel to the President

SUBJECT:

Presidential Remarks -- Fundraising Luncheon for  
Susan Molinari

To confirm our telephone call to Stephanie this afternoon, the Counsel's office has reviewed the above-referenced Presidential remarks, and we have no legal objections.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this matter.

cc: James W. Cicconi

90 FEB 27 12:49 PM '90

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/23/90 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 2/26/90 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON FOR SUSAN MOLINARI

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WRAY</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>ANDERSON</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>                    </u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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election of the next Congresswoman from New York -- Susan Molinari.\\\

So here I am in New York, where one of the great contests of 1990 will take place. There's a lot at stake and there's been a lot of money spent on both sides ... so much press attention ... But hey, I'm not here to talk about the Trumps.\\

You all know I'm here to talk about the race in your Congressional District. Guy Molinari leaves some pretty big shoes to fill, but I can't think of anyone better for the job than Susan Molinari.\\\ Like her father, Sue will continue the hands-on leadership the voters have come to expect from the name "Molinari."

Speaking of names, I'll tell you a true story. Sue found a scrawny little mutt on Election Day of 1988. We were all waiting for the returns to come in, but the dog wasn't doing well, and they didn't think it would make it. But it was a good dog -- loyal, cautious and prudent, -- and it pulled through. I still can't figure out why, but she named the dog "George."

But Sue, there's one bit of insider political advice I'd like to give you. Just one single word. \\ Puppies.\\\

I understand that Sue's opponent is charging that she'll do nothing but follow in her father's footsteps. ((Actually, that sounds like a pretty good endorsement to me ...)) \\\

Sue Molinari is a tough, independent leader. She has the determination, the understanding and the experience to get the job done. When she was 27 she was already making history:

youngest member ever elected to the New York City Council; first Republican elected from her district; the **only** Republican elected to the City Council -- and she beat her Democratic opponent for re-election 3 to 1. Susan Molinari is **"the new generation of leadership."**

Time and time again, Sue has been tested by fire. During her tenure as Minority Leader on the City Council, she has held her own -- as the **toughest "minority of one"** anyone's ever seen.

The effects of her leadership will be felt for many year. She opened the door for other Republicans to follow her. She gave this Party a voice where there was none. A great bipartisan leader, she proved that the only fair system is a **two-party** system.

Her opponent says Sue can't possibly be effective in Congress, because she's not in the majority party. Poor guy, he doesn't understand that there's a direct correlation between **effectiveness and experience. Between effectiveness and leadership. Between effectiveness and independence.** And Sue Molinari is the only candidate in this race with all three.

The people of Staten Island need Sue in Congress, because she'll do what's best for them. The Republican leadership needs her in Congress, because they need her **drive, initiative and experience.** And I need her in Congress, because we agree on the important issues -- like a **strong economy, schools and streets free from drugs and violence, and a clean, safe environment.**

**We both agree. We need action on these issues, and we need it now.\\\**

Drug abuse is a threat to all of America, but it's an especially real threat to Staten Island. Only a few miles from here, Everett Hatcher, a veteran DEA agent, was brutally murdered by cocaine cowards. In the days after his death, his wife put the blame for his killing squarely on the shoulders of so-called "casual" drug users. We have to win the war on drugs for Everett Hatcher, and all those who have given their lives to free America of drug abuse. \\\ Sue knows the neighborhoods here. She's dealt with the fight against drugs and crime as a tough City Councilwoman. And now I need her experience in Washington. You deserve safe, drug-free streets and schools. You deserve the leadership of Susan Molinari. \\\,

One of the most vital issues today is protecting our planet. Staten Islanders face some of the toughest environmental problems in this country, and Sue will fight -- and fight hard -- to reduce acid rain, air toxics and urban smog. Right now, our Clean Air legislation is in both the House and Senate, and Sue will take the oath of office just in time to make a difference. We've laid down a fair-minded compromise, to help clean up our air while preserving jobs. Now, let's break the stalemate. Let's protect our environment for decades to come. Let's get moving.

Sue gets action on the environment. When the Exxon spill left oil sludge on the shores of Staten Island, she called

company officials into her office. And by the time they came out the door, Exxon had agreed to her list of nine demands -- including paying for the entire cost of the cleanup. Now that's what I call tough leadership. That's what I call results.

And there's another result we ought to talk about tonight. The result of nine years of Republican leadership at the federal level: lower taxes and the greatest economic expansion in history. But unfortunately, New Yorkers pay the highest state taxes of any American citizen anywhere -- when you add up all the state income taxes, local taxes, property taxes, and sales taxes, they're steepest in the country. That's probably not news to you. And the state Democrats wonder why businesses are voting with their forwarding addresses and the state bond rating is dropping ... I'm sorry I can't do much about state taxes. \\ \\ But the man responsible for the situation will be right here at this podium tomorrow night. And I'm sure he'd be happy to take any questions. \\

You see, Sue and I believe that lower taxes are the key to making America competitive in the global marketplace. She and I know we can outproduce, outmarket, and outsell anybody else -- if we can keep taxes low for American business. \\ \\

Sue knows what the voters want. Because like Staten Island, Susan has a brilliant future and a proud heritage. Let me tell you a story: 86 years ago, a battered steamer pulled into New York Harbor, and a six year-old boy -- one of fourteen kids -- and his mother stepped off onto Ellis Island, ready to join his

father and siblings after leaving their home on the coast of Southern Italy. Looking across the Harbor to the Statue of Liberty, little Bob Molinari took the oath of allegiance and became an American. Years later, the small boy became a successful businessman and decided it was time to give something back to the new land that had given him so much. He entered public service, serving Staten Island tirelessly in the State Assembly.

Bob Molinari taught his five children the value of education and hard work. Holding down three jobs, he put himself through night school. Guy says his father was terribly proud of the United States, "and he never let us forget it." Guy felt the same way about education, about being an American, about serving this great country.

He, too, took an oath at the foot of the Statue of Liberty -- when he was sworn into office -- not far from here. The light that glows from the huge Statue's torch shines over Staten Island, as she stands beside this great community looking forward to the world, and to the future. Now the time has come for Susan Molinari to lead Staten Island forward.\\\

America has given her much -- a wonderful family, an education and the opportunity to be the best she can be. So now, like her grandfather and her father before her, Sue wants to give back some of the blessings America has given her. She cares about this country and she cares about the people of Staten

Island, and she's served Staten Island well. It's time for a new generation of leadership.\\\

Your future and that of your children are too precious to gamble with. We need experience. We need independence. We need leadership -- for a strong Staten Island, and a strong America. We need Susan Molinari. \\\

Thank you, God bless you and God bless America.

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