



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Mapp and Wang Campaigns Challenge Altman Petitions, Cite Serious Irregularities Ahead of Court Hearing**

**12th Congressional District, March 30, 2026** — Ahead of a court hearing scheduled for this morning, the campaigns of congressional candidates Adrian O. Mapp and Sam Wang are calling attention to serious irregularities in nominating petitions submitted on behalf of Sue Altman’s candidacy for New Jersey’s 12th Congressional District.

A formal challenge has been filed after the Plainfield City Clerk reviewed petition signatures against publicly available voter registration records. That review, along with additional examination by the campaigns, identified numerous names and entries that raise significant questions about the validity of a substantial number of submitted signatures.

The challenge also raises concerns about the petition circulators themselves. According to the review, six circulators appear to be disqualified because they are either not registered Democrats or are from out of state. That issue alone raises serious questions about whether basic ballot-access requirements were followed.

Among the names appearing on the petitions were “Jesus Christ” and “Doctor Brown.” Other entries included names such as Joe Jackson, Jane Smith, and Jesse Owens. In addition, multiple petition pages attributed to Plainfield residents appear to contain signatures written in identical handwriting, raising further questions about authenticity.

Of the nearly 200 signatures listing Plainfield addresses, only a small number could be readily matched to registered voters in Plainfield. In many other cases, the listed addresses did not appear to correspond with publicly available voter registration records. Taken together, these apparent discrepancies raise serious questions about whether the petition contains enough valid signatures to withstand review.

“Ballot access is a serious matter, and so is the integrity of the petition process,” said Plainfield Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, a candidate for Congress in the 12th Congressional District. “Voters deserve honesty, accuracy, and respect from anyone seeking to represent them. When petition

signatures, addresses, and circulator qualifications raise significant concerns, those concerns must be taken seriously. At this moment in our country, we need serious public servants,” he said. “If she can’t be bothered to live in the district or conduct a basic review of the petitions she signs, it’s hard to imagine she’s prepared to do the work required to represent it.”

Sam Wang, also a candidate for Congress in the 12th Congressional District, said the findings point to a broader failure of basic campaign diligence. “As a scientist, I always check my work,” Wang said. “Our review of these petitions raised serious red flags. Because it was so straightforward, we then examined every other campaign’s petition. We were shocked to find error rates of close to 100% in some of the Altman petitions. We are grateful to Mayor Mapp’s team for confirming our findings in Plainfield. The petition process is not a technicality. It is one of the most basic tests of whether a campaign is prepared to meet its responsibilities honestly and competently.”

At its core, this issue is about accountability and respect for voters. The petition process is not a box to check. It is a safeguard designed to protect the integrity of the ballot and the democratic process itself.

The Mapp and Wang campaigns respect the role of the court and look forward to this morning’s hearing, where these concerns will be reviewed through the proper legal process. The voters of the 12th Congressional District deserve confidence that every candidate seeking office has followed the rules and treated the process with the seriousness it demands.

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