



**UNION COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**

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October 13, 2011

Tina Renna  
Union County Watchdog Association  
202 Walnut Avenue  
Cranford, New Jersey 07016

**Re: Alleged Open Public Meetings Act Violation by Union County Freeholders  
Appointment of County Manager Alfred Faella**

Dear Ms. Renna:

Please accept this letter in response to yours of August 17, 2011 asking that the Prosecutor's Office investigate whether the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders violated *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12* of the Open Public Meetings Act regarding the appointment of Alfred Faella as Union County Manager on July 28, 2011. We have done so and have determined that there was no violation of the Act.

It is your contention that members of the Freeholders Board discussed this appointment at meetings that were not open to the public in violation of the Act based on the following quotes that appeared in the August 7, 2011 Star Ledger attributed to Freeholder Daniel Sullivan and in the July 27, 2011 Westfield Leader attributed to Freeholder Al Mirabella.

Freeholder Sullivan: "George [Devanney] has been talking about leaving for quite some time—the better part of the last few months or even a year ago. There have been any number of conversations the freeholders had, 'What if George leaves?' Every time we had those conversations, it all came back around to Al."

Freeholder Mirabella: "We have very strong internal candidates that we are going to take a look at initially."

After checking into the matter, our office has determined that these discussions occurred in passing between one or two freeholders after former County Manager George Devanney put in his pension

