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February 17, 2026

SENT ELECTRONICALLY VIA E-MAIL TO: Governor.Hochul@exec.ny.gov, lgny@exec.nygov, Letitia.James@ag.ny.gov, Joshua\_Allbrooks@schumer.senate.gov (Schumer Staffer) kirsten\_gillibrand@gillibrand.senate.gov, Scheduling\_schumer@schumer.senate.gov, kennedy@nysenate.gov, MKenny@buffnews.com, elicata@buffnews.com, mmcandrew@buffnews.com, abesecker@buffnews.com, DHerbeck@buffnews.com, JZremski@buffnews.com, newsroom@wivb.com, investigates@wivb.com, Daniel.telvock@wivb.com, Luke.Moretti@wivb.com, newsdesk@wgrz.com, news@wkbw.com, studio@kiss985.com, editor@buffnews.com, Dave.McKinley@wgrz.com, Charlie.Specht@wgrz.com, News@wkbw.com, 7problemsolvers@wkbw.com, eic@ubspectrum.com, all@ubspectrum.com, belle.clark@ubspectrum.com, news@ubspectrum.com, features@ubspectrum.com, mayorryan@buffalony.gov

**Subject: Buffalo, NY References (Hochul, Jacobs, Hutton, etc.) in DOJ Epstein Files – Request for Review and Public Clarification**

Dear NYS Governor Hochul, NYS Senator Chuck Schumer, NYS Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, NYS Senator Tim Kennedy, NYS Attorney General Letitia James, Buffalo, NY Mayor Sean Ryan, & Buffalo, NY Media Outlets:

I am writing as a concerned Buffalo, New York resident regarding recently published reporting on e-mails contained within the U.S. Department of Justice's released "Epstein Files," which document communications associated with Jeffrey Epstein, a convicted sex trafficker. I am writing to you because you are my elected representatives for my zipcode.

Two investigative articles published by rifordmedia.com outline specific references to individuals and locations connected to **Buffalo, New York** that appear in these files and have not, to date, received meaningful scrutiny from local officials or mainstream media. For clarity and transparency, I am outlining the main individuals and connections referenced, along with their relevance, as reported:

**1. Jeffrey Epstein**

Jeffrey Epstein was a financier convicted in 2008 of soliciting prostitution from a minor and later charged federally with sex trafficking of minors. The DOJ files released include emails and communications recovered from Epstein's accounts and associates, many of which reference individuals across business, political, and social circles.

## 2. Jeremy Jacobs (Buffalo, NY)

Jeremy Jacobs is the billionaire owner of the Boston Bruins hockey franchise and chairman of Delaware North, a global hospitality and concessions company headquartered in **Buffalo, NY**.

According to documents reproduced in the Epstein Files and reported by Riford Media, an email references Jeremy Jacobs in the context of a **staff referral originating from a Jacobs-owned Buffalo, NY property**. This email is part of a larger chain connected to Epstein's operations and raises questions about how and why Buffalo-based employment contacts entered Epstein's network.



View original document < 1 of 50 >

House Manager suggestion DOJ 9



**John Christensen** <John Christensen>  
to jeevacation@gmail.com  
cc Richard Kahn

Jan 5, 2017 7:29 PM

Jeffrey,

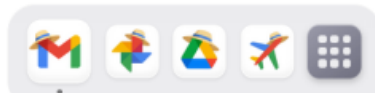
My Org Chart showed a House Manager in the mix. like to personally recommend Her C.V. is attached.

- She is a solid and hard worker. First to arrive, last to leave.
- Great cook.
- Great eye for detail. She will keep the Master Compound in top shape
- Friendly and bubbly, presentable and easy to get along with. No drama. Her and Mwould get along
- Organized and good at reporting back to her superior
- Good manager. Can juggle multiple projects.
- Will do any task needed to keep home in best shape
- She currently manages **Jeremy Jacobs (Delaware North) historic property in Buffalo**. Jerry and his wife are some of the most demanding people to work for. However, she hates cold weather and **want to leave Buffalo**.

Best,

John

EFTA01057117



(Source: Riford Media, Part I – <https://rifordmedia.com/buffalo-ny-jeremy-jacobs-kathy-hochul-in-epstein-files-kevin-rifords-communications-audio-and-more-inside-part-i/>)

E-mail source: <https://jmail.world/thread/vol00009-efta01057117-pdf?view=inbox>

Additional e-mail source:

<https://www.justice.gov/epstein/files/DataSet%209/EFTA01057117.pdf>

### 3. **Amanda Hutton (Buffalo, NY)**

The same DOJ-released materials show that an individual named Amanda Hutton, identified as being from **Buffalo, NY**, was contacted regarding work on **Little St. James**, Jeffrey Epstein's private island in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Little St. James is widely documented as a central location connected to Epstein's trafficking activities.

(Source: Riford Media, Part I – <https://rifordmedia.com/buffalo-ny-jeremy-jacobs-kathy-hochul-in-epstein-files-kevin-rifords-communications-audio-and-more-inside-part-i/>)

(Source: Riford Media, Part II – <https://rifordmedia.com/buffalo-ny-jeremy-jacobs-kathy-hochul-in-epstein-files-part-ii/>)



Lesley Groff <Lesley.Groff>  
to John Christensen

Jan 8, 2017 6:46 PM  

1:30 did not work out for Jeffrey ...rescheduling for tomorrow at 11:30am!

On Jan 8, 2017, at 1:01 PM, John Christensen <> wrote:

Great, thank you Lesley

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 8, 2017, at 12:31 PM, wrote:

1:30 is confirmed for Skype call

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 8, 2017, at 12:24 PM, John Christensen wrote:

Hi Lesley,

Did you manage to connect with Amanda?

Thanks

John

Sent from my iPhone

*Sent from my iPhone*

*On Jan 8, 2017, at 9:12 AM, Lesley Groff wrote:*

*Great. I will organize with JE and Amanda.*

*On Jan 7, 2017, at 11:16 PM, John Christensen > wrote:*

*Hi Lesley,*

*Jeffrey would like to have a Skype interview tomorrow Sunday with Amanda Hutton for the position as house manager on LSJ.*

*I have copied Amanda on this email as well.*

*I think it would be best if you coordinated with Jeffrey and Amanda for the best time to do this.*

*Amanda's number is (716) 472-8552*

*Thank you*

*John*

*Sent from my iPhone*

E-mail source: <https://jmail.world/thread/vol00009-efta00442544-pdf?view=inbox>

Additional e-mail source:

<https://www.justice.gov/epstein/files/DataSet%209/EFTA00442544.pdf>

#### **4. Kathy Hochul**

Kathy Hochul is the current Governor of New York State and a U.S. Representative from Western New York. Riford Media reports that her name appears in the context of the broader Epstein document review involving Buffalo-linked individuals and communications. While inclusion of a name does not imply wrongdoing, its appearance in DOJ-released materials warrants clarification and public explanation, particularly given her current role as the state's chief executive.

## NY Times Endorses DOJ 9

 **Darren Rigger** <Darren Rigger>  
to Jeffrey

Oct 22, 2012 4:10 PM  

Hi Jeffrey, Will you be joining Senator Gillibrand for breakfast tomorrow morning with Kathy Hochul? WAN' be celebrating her New York Times endorsement:

"New York's 27th Congressional District (the state's northwest corner) Representative Kathy Hochul, a Democrat, is in a close race with Chris Collins, a Republican former Erie County executive. He wants to overturn health care reform and has criticized Ms. Hochul for supporting more spending on schools and other services in her area. She describes herself as a moderate and voted against the Ryan budget. She is by far the better candidate."

Tomorrow's breakfast is in midtown let me know if you want details. - Darren

Darren Rigger

Dynamic SRG

Dynamic SRG

193 Malcolm X Blvd - Suite 1

New York, NY 10026

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(Source: Riford Media, Part I – <https://rifordmedia.com/buffalo-ny-jeremy-jacobs-kathy-hochul-in-epstein-files-kevin-rifords-communications-audio-and-more-inside-part-i/>)

E-mail source #1: <https://jmail.world/thread/vol00009-efta00402700-pdf?view=inbox>

Additional e-mail source #1:  
<https://www.justice.gov/epstein/files/DataSet%209/EFTA00402700.pdf>

E-mail source #2: <https://jmail.world/thread/vol00009-efta00402941-pdf?view=inbox>

Additional e-mail source #2:  
<https://www.justice.gov/epstein/files/DataSet%209/EFTA00402941.pdf>

### 5. **Kirsten Gillibrand**

Kirsten Gillibrand is a United States Senator representing New York, first appointed in 2009 and subsequently elected statewide.

In Part I of the Riford Media reporting, a photographed image of a DOJ-released email dated October 22, 2012, shows a political consultant, Darren Rigger of Dynamic SRG, writing directly to Jeffrey Epstein. In the email, Epstein is asked whether he will be joining Senator Kirsten Gillibrand for breakfast, alongside then-congressional candidate Kathy Hochul, following a New York Times endorsement of Hochul's campaign. The email references a planned meeting in midtown Manhattan.

The email does not allege wrongdoing by Senator Gillibrand; however, it documents direct political outreach to Jeffrey Epstein involving a sitting U.S. Senator and a federal candidate. Given Epstein's later-established criminal history, the appearance of such correspondence raises legitimate public-interest questions regarding the nature and extent of his political access during that period.



(Source: Riford Media, Part I – <https://rifordmedia.com/buffalo-ny-jeremy-jacobs-kathy-hochul-in-epstein-files-kevin-rifords-communications-audio-and-more-inside-part-i/>)

E-mail source #1: <https://jmail.world/thread/vol00009-efta00402700-pdf?view=inbox>

Additional e-mail source #1:  
<https://www.justice.gov/epstein/files/DataSet%209/EFTA00402700.pdf>

K

Kirsten Gillibrand <Kirsten.Gillibrand@ny.gov>  
to Friend

Oct 6, 2012 9:39 AM  

Friend,

When John Boehner announces he's coming to western New York for a fundraising breakfast this weekend, we need to take notice.

Boehner has made Tea Party extremist Chris Collins, race against Rep. Kathy Hochul a top priority. Now he's taking a page out of Karl Rove's playbook and opening a so-called GOP Victory Center, to turn out their right-wing base.

This is serious. Polls show this race absolutely deadlocked and far-right groups have bought more than \$775,000 in TV airtime to attack Kathy. If we want to take back the House, we must make sure Kathy wins.

I've set a goal of raising \$30,000 this week to help give Kathy the resources to win her tough new district. Are you with me?

EFTA00402941

Click here to donate directly to Kathy. With less than a month before Election Day, she'll be counting on us to help her fight Tea Party attacks and turn out her voters.

This is a DCCC Frontline race for a reason. Kathy has proven she's *not afraid to stand up to Boehner and Paul Ryan and fight for middle-class families, while multimillionaire Collins says the draconian Ryan budget didn't go far enough.*

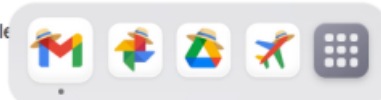
I can't lose a spirited partner like Kathy. So I'm doing everything I can to make sure she beats the Tea Party and returns to the House to fight for all of us. I hope you'll join me \* and donate to Kathy Hochul today.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Gillibrand

EFTA00402942

You are subscribed to this mailing list as Please click here for preferences or to unsubscribe from any future mailings. We will respect all unsubscribe requests.



**The purpose of this letter is not to allege criminal conduct where none has been proven, but to ask reasonable and necessary questions:**

- **Why do multiple Buffalo-linked individuals and properties appear in communications tied to Epstein's network?**
- **Why has there been little to no public response or investigative follow-up from local officials or major media outlets?**
- **Has NYS Attorney General Letitia James investigated the lack of investigation by the NYC Police Department? According to reports by Ms. Farmer her complaint went nowhere.**

Ms. Farmer contacted the New York Police Department, and said she then went to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, offering to share what she knew about Mr. Epstein and the parade of young women being brought to Mr. Epstein's houses. Though the bureau has never acknowledged such a contact, Ms. Farmer said the F.B.I. must have had a record of it, because agents came back to her — years later — with questions. She also went to leaders in the New York art world that Mr. Epstein and Ms. Maxwell frequented, and the sisters tried to tell their story to a national magazine.

In each case, their reports went nowhere.

Finally, facing what she said were threats as a result of the sisters' claims, Ms. Farmer abandoned her New York art career and stopped painting altogether.

"I did not want another young lady to go through what Annie went through," Maria Farmer said in a recent interview. "I could handle what happened to me. I could not handle what happened to her."

source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/26/us/epstein-farmer-sisters-maxwell.html>

Given the seriousness of Epstein's crimes and the enduring public interest in understanding how his network functioned, I respectfully request that your office and/or organization review these materials, seek clarification where appropriate, and provide transparent communication to the public.

Sunlight and accountability are essential, especially when federal documents raise questions involving prominent individuals and institutions connected to our community. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to any response or public statement you are willing to provide.

It makes me sick knowing that my missing sister and her two children were found just 50 minutes away from Jeffrey Epstein's New Mexico Zorro Ranch, allegedly using a fake alias and somehow was able to register her children into public school under fake alias.

<https://www.krqe.com/news/albuquerque-metro/aps-confirms-one-of-katie-rifords-children-attended-local-school/>

Sincerely,

/s/ Kevin Riford  
RifordMedia.com, Founder  
Investigative Journalist  
B.S. Accounting, University at Buffalo