

**Owens, Olivia**

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**From:** Todd Hariaczyi <toddhariaczyi@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2026 8:00 AM  
**To:** Owens, Olivia  
**Subject:** Fw: Peter Vasilion and Erie County Comptroller's Report

[Caution: this email is not from an Erie County employee: attachments or links may not be safe.]

Good morning, Olivia!

As mentioned during last week’s public comment period, I would be forwarding you my email to the Erie County Bar Association and any additional correspondence. Attached, you will find my original email. In a separate email to you, you will find a response from them. Could you include both in next week’s agenda under “Communications from the People and Other Agencies,” please? I would appreciate it if you would also redact Ms. Noble’s cell phone number to ensure her privacy. Thank you so much!

Regards,

Todd Hariaczyi

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**From:** Todd Hariaczyi <toddhariaczyi@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026 2:23 AM  
**To:** baec@eriebar.org <baec@eriebar.org>; info@assigned.org <info@assigned.org>  
**Subject:** Peter Vasilion and Erie County Comptroller's Report

Good morning!

As someone who closely follows county government, I am gravely concerned about the recent Erie County Comptroller’s report detailing several inefficiencies in the Assigned Counsel Program (ACP). Despite assurances from the Assigned Counsel Program’s President, Peter Vasilion, that the program is administered in a “structured and operationally functional manner,” enough red flags were raised in the comptroller’s report for members of both parties of the county legislature to ask the district attorney’s office to review it for potential fraud committed by the ACP’s panel attorneys. I am neither an attorney or a member of law enforcement, but having read the twenty-one page report in its entirety, I likewise share the same concerns as those in county government. In short, I think the report’s findings are pretty damning.

Regardless if those inefficiencies found in the comptroller’s report were due to incompetency or criminality, it is obvious that Mr. Vasilion is no longer fit to lead the ACP. In particular, he was one of two board members who earned in excess of \$200,000 for serving as one of its panel attorneys. Just as any judge would recuse him or herself from trial if there were a conflict of interest, someone serving on the Board of Directors of the Assigned Counsel Program—and no less its president—should have never taken a case due to a perceived conflict of interest. The optics alone are horrible and, frankly, I have to question Mr. Vasilion’s quality of representation to his indigent clients when combined not only with his own private practice but also serving as attorney for the Town of Clarence. Indigent clients are just as deserving of quality representation as anyone else and is a constitutional right.

As you are likely aware, a sign saying, “The buck stops here” once adorned President Harry Truman’s desk. As such, Mr. Vasilion ultimately bears responsibility for the damning inefficiencies found in the comptroller’s report. Therefore, I am calling on Mr. Vasilion’s removal as President of the Assigned Counsel Program. I believe such actions will help to restore the public trust of this worthwhile program while also implementing additional processes to be in compliance with the comptroller’s report. I am forwarding my email and any of your correspondence—which is greatly appreciated—to the clerk of the county legislature so that it may be entered into the public record. I look forward to your prompt reply.

## Owens, Olivia

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**From:** Todd Hariaczyi <toddhariaczyi@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2026 8:01 AM  
**To:** Owens, Olivia  
**Subject:** Fw: Email regarding ACP

[Caution: this email is not from an Erie County employee: attachments or links may not be safe.]

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**From:** Todd Hariaczyi <toddhariaczyi@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2026 11:15 PM  
**To:** Anne M. Noble <anoble@eriebar.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Email regarding ACP

Good morning, Anne!

I wanted to thank you for your prompt reply. In situations such as these, I wasn't entirely sure if I would, in fact, hear anything back. I did express my concerns about the Assigned Counsel Program to the county legislature at yesterday's session. I perhaps should have been more clear to those in the county legislature and to you, as well, that while I am calling for Mr. Vasilion's removal as president, I do find it acceptable for him to continue as one of their panel attorneys going forward. I believe his immediate removal would eliminate any perceived conflict of interest and go a long way to restoring your organization's values of integrity, leadership, and equity as listed at the bottom of your email. Again, thank you so much for the opportunity to share my thoughts with you. I will be curious to see what actions, if any, the Bar Association of Erie County and the Assigned Counsel Program take going forward.

Regards,

Todd Hariaczyi

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**From:** Anne M. Noble <anoble@eriebar.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2026 12:59 PM  
**To:** toddhariaczyi@outlook.com <toddhariaczyi@outlook.com>  
**Cc:** Anne M. Noble <anoble@eriebar.org>  
**Subject:** Email regarding ACP

Good afternoon,

Thank you for your email. We understand your concerns and take them seriously. The BAEC Board continues to assess reform at the ACP and will review the report and consider appropriate action, within our authority, to address matters raised in the Comptroller's report about the ACP Board.

*Anne*

Anne M. Noble