

Statement from Senator Oberacker

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ISSUE: ALBANY CORRUPTION, ETHICS, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



ONEONTA, **04**/**12**/**22** -- State Senator Peter Oberacker (R/C – Schenevus) today commented on the arrest of Lt. Governor Brian Benjamin.

"The charges filed against the lieutenant governor, if true, represent a severe violation of the public's trust. Anyone who uses their elected office for personal gain, rather than working for the people, must be held fully accountable. I have already expressed frustration with the lack of transparency exhibited by Governor Hochul and her administration and this arrest leads to even greater concerns.

"It is now up to the courts to examine the evidence and decide guilt or innocence. In the interim, and in light of the seriousness of these charges, I believe Brian Benjamin needs to step down and certainly should not preside over senate proceedings."