

PRESS RELEASE FROM
PRESIDING OFFICER WILLIAM LINDSAY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 3, 2011



CONTACT: KARA HAHN

Office: 631-853-6356

Cell: 516-639-3788

Email: Kara.Hahn@suffolkcountyny.gov

Lindsay Elected Presiding Officer For a Sixth Consecutive Term

Bipartisan Coalition Re-elects Lindsay to Lead County Legislature



HAUPPAUGE, NY, JANUARY 3, 2011 – County Legislator William J. Lindsay (D-Holbrook) was reelected Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer by a bipartisan coalition at Monday’s organizational meeting of the Legislature.

“It is my pleasure ...no it is my honor to nominate the Honorable William P. Lindsay to be our presiding officer,” said County Legislator Wayne Horsley in his nominating speech. “As they once described Ben Franklin, that so fits Bill. ‘He had a vast imagination He had a wit at will. He had a humor that, when he pleased, was delicate and delightful. He had a satire that was good-natured or caustic. He had the talents for irony, allegory and fable that he could adapt with great skill to the promotion of moral and political truth. He was a master of that infantile simplicity which the French call naiveté, which never fails to charm.”

“Bill Lindsay, the Lion of our Legislature. Bill Lindsay, the Lion that roars when we are attacked, who protects our house and its independence. The Lion that has never forgotten that government can create fairness, who believes in a level playing field for all our constituents.

Governor Cuomo said in his inaugural speech that “without trust in government there is nothing.” Bill Lindsay is the embodiment of that trust! Bill who governs with fairness and understands that members can act independently and not be disloyal. Who governs by persuasion and not a hammer.

“As once stated by Thomas Paine: ‘I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress and grow brave by reflection. Tis the business of little minds to shrink; but he whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves his conduct will pursue his principles unto death.’”

“Let me place in nomination Our Lion- Bill Lindsay.”

“It is my honor to second your nomination,” said Legislator Kate Browning. “Suffolk County residents want a representative in County government who understands their needs. From the wealthiest to the poorest, you treat everyone with the utmost respect. As a legislator, you have taken your skills and fought hard for the residents of Suffolk County.

“Bill, you have been a committed leader for many years and as the Presiding Officer you have been a strong leader. You know how to compromise for the good of the County when there are differences of opinion. As the Presiding Officer, you respect all of us no matter what the party affiliation is. You have fought hard to protect the integrity of this legislature, and keep Suffolk County government open and accountable.”

“Thank you for bestowing on me this honor of being the Presiding Officer of what I believe to be the premiere legislative body in the United States,” said PO Lindsay after his re-election. “We have four different political parties represented at this horseshoe with not one having a clear majority. There are lively debates and we don’t always agree with each other, never mind the County Executive, but that is how a democracy should work. You see very infrequent straight party line votes. These are all good things because our differences are based on issues not politics.

“2010 was without a doubt the most difficult year in my tenure as a Legislator and 2011 looks even more challenging. In spite of these challenges, I think we can be successful as a legislative body if we continue to ask ourselves whether we are doing the right thing for the citizens we represent. I pledge to you that I will do my very best to run this legislative body fairly and honestly for the betterment of the citizens of Suffolk County.”

PO Lindsay was re-elected by a bipartisan coalition of Democrats, Republicans, Independents and Working Family Party members. He became the longest-serving Democratic Party Presiding Officer in the County Legislature’s history and is one year short of Donald Blydenburgh’s seven years as PO.