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O'DONNELL JOINED BY HIGGINS, LENIHAN AND COALITION OF WESTERN NEW YORK PUBLIC SERVANTS IN SUPPORT OF O'DONNELL'S ATTORNEY GENERAL BID

Buffalo, NY- Today public officials and labor leaders from the Western New York area lent their voices in a united show of regional support for Denise O'Donnell's bid to become New York Attorney General. Officials from all levels of government and leaders from the Buffalo Teachers Federation joined together to impart the value of statewide elections that accurately reflect the diversity of the state.

Congressman Brian Higgins, Erie County Democratic Chairman Len Lenihan, Erie County Legislature Chair Lynn Marinelli; 5 current and former Town Supervisors including West Seneca Supervisor Paul Clark, Town of Boston Supervisor Bill Eagen, Cheektowaga Town Supervisor Bob Giza, Lancaster Town Supervisor Dennis Gabryszak, former Amherst Town Supervisor and Democratic State Committee member Susan Grelick; Buffalo Teachers Federation Presidential Assistant Barbara Bieleki and Vice President Edith LeWin; Lackawanna Town Councilmember Bill Siminiski, Chair of the Town of Lackawanna Fran Warthling, and Chair of the Towns Association for ECDC Gayle Syposs stood with O'Donnell at her campaign headquarters on the eve of the New York State Democratic Convention and called upon the state committee to nominate the most qualified candidate in the Attorney General's race.

O'Donnell thanked all the attendees for their support and said, "I am so excited to welcome the state committee to Buffalo, and I want them to know how serious Western New York is about putting a professional prosecutor in the Attorney General's office. It is so important for the Democratic ticket to reflect the true diversity of the state and I know these public servants appreciate the need to offer a qualified candidate to the voters in September."

This week over two dozen regional elected and appointed officials have also endorsed O'Donnell, including Assemblymember Susan John, former Monroe County District

Attorney Howard Relin, State Senator Bill Stakowski, Alden City Councilmember Arlene Cooke, Tonawanda Clerk Cal Champlin, Eden Supervisor Glen Nellis, Hamburg Town Superintendent of Highways James Connolly, Town of Tonawanda Councilmember Lisa Chimera, Boston Town Clerk David Shank, Newstead Superintendent of Highways Michael Basanello, Boston Highway Superintendent Robert Telaak, town of Tonawanda City Attorney Ronald Trabucco, Evans City Councilmember Karen Erickson, Orchard Park Town Supervisor Mary Travis Murphy, City of Buffalo Comptroller Andrew San Filippo, Wyoming County Committee chair Anne Weidman, Erie County Democrats and Chautauqua County Democrats have also endorsed O'Donnell.

Howard Relin, former Monroe County District Attorney, said "Denise was a truly remarkable US Attorney and she will be an outstanding Attorney General for the State of New York. Her prosecutorial and legal experience dwarfs all others seeking nomination."

"I am delighted to stand with Denise O'Donnell, and I enthusiastically endorse her candidacy for Attorney General," said Assemblymember Susan John. "I know that Denise brings the skills, knowledge and the understanding of the law to protect the interests of the people of New York State. Her dedication, compassion and commitment to the hard working families of our state make her the obvious choice to be our next Attorney General."

The Wyoming County Committee chair has also praised O'Donnell, "We Upstate Democrats are pleased to have another upstater do so well, attending local and regional schools, and practicing her trade with distinction," said Anne Weidman. "Denise is a product of Buffalo and has risen to the top. With a great legal record, she has done well by playing by the rules with vigor and good humor. What an asset she will be to the new team in Albany, as a woman and as an outstanding attorney."

O'Donnell was born and raised in New York. She was the first member of her family to attend college, and after graduation she became a social worker in New York City. As a working mother, she attended law school, graduating summa cum laude and became a federal prosecutor. In 1997 she was appointed U.S. Attorney for Western New York and served as vice chair on Attorney General Janet Reno's advisory committee. In total, she has worked as a prosecutor for over 17 years and has tried some of the area's most difficult cases, from the prosecution of Timothy McVeigh to tracking down international fugitive and FBI's 10 most-wanted, James Kopp. To read more about Denise's career and how it has prepared her to be New York's next attorney general, please visit www.odonnell2006.com

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