



**Gabi Madden**  
NYS Assembly, District 103  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Gabi Madden Releases Statement in Response to False Donor Claims**

Kingston, NY —Democrat and experienced public servant, Gabi Madden, candidate for New York State Assembly has released a statement in response to false donor claims:

"My opponent's campaign was the first to go negative in this race with sexist and misogynistic attacks and here they go again. I ask the voters, please, go look at the facts for yourself. It's wild that the endorsees of my opponent would call attention to the campaign finance disclosures, knowing that 1. Shrestha's campaign is under investigation by the NYS Board of Elections for illegal collaboration with the Democratic Socialist of America, For the Many and 2. Shrestha's donors are majority from outside the Hudson Valley. Contributions to my campaign are almost all from in-district residents AND qualify for the public matching fund program, newly in place this year with the intent to grow grassroots efforts.

I'm beholden to no one other than my constituents. Michelle and Michael's press release is not about housing or what's best for our tenants, it's about trying to slander my name with regard to fundraising. I've been transparent with voters from the start, the same cannot be said for my opponent, who claims not to accept corporate donations. Again, check the facts yourselves, while I hate to add that burden to voters already full plate, I strongly encourage it. My opponent's national funding arm - Democratic Socialist America, For the Many - who sustained her 2022 campaign, accepts millions in corporate dollars, then allocates those funds to Shrestha, as outlined by the New York Times publication, exposing the recent lawsuit between State BoE. That's the equivalent of lying to your constituency.

I'm from Kingston, I've been here this whole time. I've watched people get priced out of their homes and their apartments. As Shrestha was just arriving here in the Hudson Valley in 2018, I was working to advance the [Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019](#), a bill authored, introduced and passed by then Assemblyman Kevin Cahill.



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My friends who were born and raised here were struggling to gain housing independence despite working full time jobs, then covid hit and the rest of Brooklyn followed behind Shrestha, and now you want to point a finger at me for the housing insecurity issues we face? And what is it that Tierney and Hirsch's endorsed candidate, Shrestha, have done the past two years to address the housing crisis? Draft and introduce legislation to make systematic changes? No. Bring in affordable housing partners to create new housing infrastructure? No. Secure state grant funding to support our local housing authorities? No. Become a Member of the NYS Assembly Committee on Housing? No.

I've moved more couches the past three years than I can count, as my friends get priced out time and time again. We have to address the housing crisis by rolling up our sleeves and getting to work, not sitting as panelists for a [housing 'forum' co-hosted by the Communists of America.](#)

The Hudson Valley has always been my home. Providing Stable and Safe Housing by supporting affordable housing, tenant protections, responsible development, and delivering real property tax relief is a key pillar of my campaign platform. I'll always work for the community to address the housing crisis including continuing to listen to everyone's voices on these important issues.

These attacks are a red herring to distract true Democrats from my opponent's links to the Democratic Socialists of America and For the Many, coupled with the recent fines for election law violations, as reported by the New York Times that are of serious cause for concern. Elected officials must be held to the highest standards of ethical conduct and transparency to maintain the public's trust. Assemblymember Shrestha and her campaign should immediately address any potential conflicts of interest and clarify her involvement with these organizations to alleviate concerns about her commitment to upholding democratic values and the rule of law." <https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/25/nyregion/dsa-fines-election-ny.html>

Assembly District 103 includes the towns of Esopus, Gardiner, Hurley, Kingston, Marbletown, New Paltz, Olive, Rosendale, Saugerties, Ulster, Woodstock, and the City of Kingston in Ulster County along with the towns of Red Hook and Rhinebeck in Dutchess County.

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