

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

06 CV 15173 ()

VILLAGE OF PORT CHESTER,

Defendant.

-----X

DECLARATION OF BENITO CEBALLOS

BENITO CEBALLOS, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1746,
declares as follows:

1. I reside at 10 West Street in Port Chester.
2. I have owned and operated restaurants in Port Chester for over 30 years.
3. I am an immigrant from the Dominican Republic, and moved to Port Chester in 1970.
4. I chose Port Chester because of its reputation as a welcoming place.
5. Since arriving in Port Chester, I have always known the community to be supportive of all residents, especially immigrants.
6. In my experience, there is not just one Hispanic group in Port Chester that feels the same way about all issues.
7. Instead, in Port Chester there are different Hispanic groups from countries all over the world who have different opinions on different things.

8. For example, while restaurants in Port Chester are welcoming to all patrons, they also serve as social centers for Hispanic groups with specific and unique interests.

9. However, it is this diversity that makes Port Chester so great.

10. I have never felt that I did not belong in Port Chester.

11. Port Chester has allowed me to grow my businesses and become a successful businessman.

12. I am familiar with our local officials, most of whom have come to campaign at my restaurants over the years.

13. I have never felt that our government has not responded to my needs as either a Port Chester resident, a businessman, an immigrant or a Dominican.

14. Many immigrants I know are busy working hard, and often choose not to get involved in the political process.

15. I would like to see more education for immigrants on the importance of registering to vote and getting more involved.

16. I do not want to be limited in who I can vote for in Port Chester. If someone is running who I like, I do not want to be prevented from voting for him or her because they live on a different street from me.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: January __, 2007
Port Chester, NY


Benito Ceballos