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In the matter of the Complaint
 Against
Gina Arresta, Candidate
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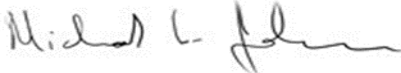
WHEREAS, on or about October 10, 2024, the Division of Election Law Enforcement (DELE) received a complaint alleging that Gina Arresta, a 2024 Village of Southampton Trustee candidate, had submitted a false statement with their independent nominating petition. The complaint alleged that two of the signatures on the petition, purportedly signed by the two witnesses residing at the same address and with the same last name, and on the same date, and submitted to the Village Clerk on May 17, 2024, appear to have been made by the same person. The complainant also states that since the signatures were allegedly made by the same person, Candidate Arresta falsely certified witnessing the signing of the petition; and

WHEREAS, according to New York State Election Law §15-108[4], a subscribing witness is subject to criminal penalties for false statements. *See, e.g.*, Penal Law §§210.05, 210.45, 175.30, 170.25; and

WHEREAS, a DELE staff review of the complaint documents found that the evidence presented by the complainant does not provide a sufficient basis to determine that the subject signatures are fraudulent. DELE staff was able to contact one of the individuals whose petition signatures were questioned. The person stated that they and their spouse were supporters of Candidate Arresta and said both signatures were valid; and

NOW, THEREFORE, based on the foregoing, this matter is closed with no further enforcement action.

DIVISION OF ELECTION
LAW ENFORCEMENT



By: Michael L. Johnson
Chief Enforcement Counsel