

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE MIKE HEIN
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ULSTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE HEIN ASKS DISTRICT ATTORNEY
AND COUNTY SHERIFF TO TAKE IMMEDIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

Kingston, NY (September 2, 2009) - Two days ago, the Ulster County Executive's Office was notified of potentially improper emails on the County computer system and immediately launched an investigation. The preliminary results of this investigation indicate that four individuals appear to have participated in the dissemination of pornographic material, which is a clear and intolerable violation of County policy. The individuals involved are employed by the offices of the Ulster County District Attorney and the Ulster County Sheriff.

County Executive Hein said, "I will not stand for egregious violations of policies and procedures in any way, shape or form. My office has provided extensive preventative training, along with clear notification to County employees, regarding my administration's "Zero Tolerance" policy on workplace harassment. Any inappropriate behavior that brings discredit to the County will be met with the same "Zero Tolerance" stance.

In reference to specific measures taken in response to this incident, the County Executive said, "My administration takes this issue extremely seriously. As such, I have informed the Ulster County Legislature. In addition, I have called upon the Ulster County District Attorney and the Ulster County Sheriff to take swift and decisive disciplinary action. Further, I ordered a complete independent investigation of this incident to be conducted by Special Labor Counsel."

The County Executive added, "My administration is committed to addressing these issues, immediately. I will not tolerate this, or any other inappropriate behavior. I will continue to fight every day to deliver the great government that the people of Ulster County so clearly deserve."