

**CITY OF ONEIDA  
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**

KYLE LOVELL  
City Manager



109 North Main Street  
Oneida, New York 13421  
Tel.: 315-363-4800  
Fax: 315-363-9558  
klovell@oneidacityny.gov

**Statement from the City Manager of Oneida  
Regarding Harassment Allegations Involving Mayor Rick Rossi**

*May 30, 2025*

As the City Manager of Oneida, I am compelled to address recent public commentary and reporting that mischaracterize the actions of Mayor Rick Rossi in a matter involving personal harassment.

Mayor Rossi recently filed a harassment complaint as a private citizen against an individual who has, over time, engaged in repeated, antagonistic behavior targeting him personally. The complaint did not involve the use of his official role, and it followed the same legal process available to every resident of the City of Oneida. To suggest this action constituted an “abuse of office” is both inaccurate and misleading.

Allegations have now been made claiming that the Mayor provided false information to law enforcement in connection with that complaint. These are serious accusations—and they must be handled by the proper authorities, not by public speculation or political maneuvering. Any determination about the validity of such claims rests with the judicial system—not the City Council, not political parties, and not social media.

Importantly, a judge in Otsego County—where the case was transferred to avoid any perception of local bias—reviewed the Mayor’s complaint and found it credible enough to issue an order of protection against the individual involved. That decision reflects the seriousness of the matter and reinforces that this is not a political issue, but a legal one.

Let me be clear: **no one in public service forfeits their right to seek legal protection or to be heard through appropriate legal channels.** The Mayor’s decision to report what he perceived as threatening behavior was his right as a private citizen. Law enforcement reviewed the matter and acted at their discretion— independent of City Hall.

It is disappointing to see a legal process being weaponized for political purposes. Attempts to politicize this issue do not serve the public—they only distract from the serious work of governing.

**In my professional opinion as City Manager** and based on a thorough review of the information known to me, there has been no misuse of city authority, no improper involvement by the Mayor in law enforcement action, and no deviation from ethical or legal norms. Our administration continues to operate with transparency, professionalism, and a commitment to the people of Oneida.

We will remain focused on our mission: delivering results, strengthening our community, and upholding the integrity of local government.

Sincerely,  
Kyle P. Lovell  
City Manager  
City of Oneida