

PRESS RELEASE

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ESSEX COUNTY FREEHOLDERS HONOR ASSEMBLYMAN THOMAS P. GIBLIN

Assemblyman is Lauded for his Contributions as an Outstanding Public Servant



Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin was honored on November 23rd at the Hall of Records. Assemblyman Giblin (Holding Commendation, Front - Center), is pictured above with: Front Row (left to right), Essex County Democratic Chairman Leroy J. Jones, Jr., Freeholder Cynthia Toro, Freeholder Lebbey Jones, Freeholder President Britnee Timberlake and Freeholder Vice President Brendan Gill. Back Row (left to right), Essex County Surrogate Theodore Stephen, II, Esq., Deputy Chief of Staff William Payne, County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. and Freeholder Leonard Luciano. PHOTO BY GLEN FRIESON

(Newark, NJ) – The Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders honored Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin for his contributions as an outstanding Public Servant. The presentation was held Monday, November 23rd, at the Hall of Records. Assemblyman Giblin was presented the Board’s Commendation for his years of distinguished service to Essex County Government and the Labor Movement by Freeholder President Britnee N. Timberlake from East Orange.

Freeholder President Britnee Timberlake led the accolades as she opened the program and stated; “To be clear, this is no farewell or retirement. I have immense gratitude in my heart for this man and took presidential liberty, if you will, to honor Assemblyman Giblin, because he means so much to so many different people.” She further coined the event a “Welcome Back Celebration.” The freeholder’s chambers were filled to capacity, the air was filled with tributes of praise for the recognition of a career boasting nearly four decades of accomplishments. The guests in attendance represented dignitaries on the county level, the state level and the national level. An overwhelming support of well wishes was evident by the many supporters present.

Among the dignitaries present were: United States Senator Robert J. Menendez, United States Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr., Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., and Essex County Democratic Chairman Leroy J. Jones, Jr., to name a few. Senator Menendez noted of Assemblyman Giblin, “A remarkable life that has been lived to date and one can only continue to see it shine in the days ahead.” He further stated, “His voice is incredibly important because he has been at the vanguard for the working men and women. In everything he has done he has put working men and women first.” As Senator Menendez presented him with the American Flag, he told the audience a flag is flying over the nation’s capital in recognition of this date. “May the flag fly proudly to remind you of the contributions you are making to our country”, he said.



Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin (Center) is pictured with (Left to right) Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr., and Senator Robert Menendez who both shared remarks during the recognition. PHOTO BY GLEN FRIESON

Assemblyman Thomas P. Giblin a resident of Montclair, has a lifetime dedication to the Labor Movement, Government, and Irish-American causes. Raised in Newark, he graduated from Seton Hall Prep and Seton Hall University, South Orange. He later attended graduate classes at Rutgers University and Seton Hall University.

He has been a member of Local 68 Operating Engineers since he was 17 and has been serving as its Business Manager since 2004 and was its President from 1976 to 2004 and prior to that, its Treasurer. Local 68 IUOE represents Stationary Engineers and Building Maintenance Mechanics throughout New Jersey. Assemblyman Giblin is also the President of the Essex-West Hudson Labor Council, AFL-CIO serving since 1997. He also serves on the advisory boards of the Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations and the Seton Hall University

School of Arts and Sciences, and is a former treasurer of the Essex County Vocational School Board.

Assemblyman Giblin served as an Essex County Freeholder for ten years, Essex County Surrogate for four years and now is in his tenth year in the New Jersey General Assembly where he serves as Chairman of the Regulated Professions Committee and Vice Chair of the Higher Education Committee. Also, he served as the Essex County Democratic Chairman for nine years and was the New Jersey Democratic State Chairman for four years.

He is the Father of five children: Thomas Jr. (Lee), Patrick (Tara), Edward (Liz), Anne (David), and Noreen (Dave). He is also the loving grandfather of ten: John, Owen, James, Kevin, Finola, Caroline, Natalie, Megan, Ryan and Daniel.

In a poignant moment, Assemblyman Giblin addressed a captivated audience in awe of his wealth of knowledge of the county and its political history. He began by thanking the board for recognizing him and spoke of the feeling of reverence and awe that develops when entering the Hall of Records, a feeling that never gets old. Although public servants don't always get the proper kudos or recognition, he noted in all of his years, some of the best people in public service have been found in Essex County. He spoke of his father who preceded him in government as a freeholder and his encouragement to read the newspaper and learn about current events. He lovingly spoke of his grandchildren when he stated, "After many titles and positions, at the end of the day, the most important treasure is family." He closed by saying he is looking forward to staying in government for the foreseeable future and his philosophy in life has always been to be a "vehicle to help people."

The event was favored with musical entertainment by Carolyne Volpe Curley who performed a high spirited original tune highlighting the assemblyman's name, as well as "*The Star Spangled Banner*". Rev. Paul Donohue, MCCJ from St. Lucy's Church in Newark gave opening and closing prayers.

Other program participants included: Assembly Speaker Emeritus Sheila Oliver, Assemblyman Ralph Caputo, Freeholder Vice President Brendan W. Gill, Essex County Clerk Chris Durkin, Freeholder Budget Consultant Francis McEnerney and Assemblyman Giblin's son Edward M. Giblin.

The event was also attended by Freeholder Patricia Sebold, Freeholder Leby Jones, Freeholder Leonard Luciano and Freeholder Cynthia Toro. A sumptuous reception was enjoyed by all at the conclusion of the program.

For Additional Information:

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