

## **Friends of LSP Sam Pesin, president**

### **Paul Fireman Big Lie of his 7/20 press release stunt saying he's not pursuing the Caven Point Natural Area for golf holes. He's funded and orchestrated a phony group's & other surrogates' attacks on Protection Act & LSP advocates**

As The Jersey Journal editorialized about the smear campaign against the Protection Act and longtime park advocates on Feb. 22, 2021 "What continues to cast a pall over the discussions, though, is the vicious and untruthful campaign (by Paul Fireman's surrogates) against longtime park advocates that appears designed to stop the passage of the Liberty State Park Protection Act proposed in Trenton. Should that happen, the fight to keep the ecologically sensitive and unrivaled outdoor classroom' at the Caven Point Peninsula area of the park free from the threat of privatization would become that much harder. We renew our call for state legislators to pass the act and for Governor Murphy to sign it into law".

Fireman's PR people said in a 7/20 press release which falsely attacked Friends' president Sam Pesin and that he was "aborting" his Caven Point threat but that was 100% a Lie. He "withdrew" after Fireman was embarrassed by editorials and stories including on Politico, various ruthless and even anti-Semitic social media trolling (including that Sam Pesin was :pure evil" and those social media attacks were no doubt done by people paid with Fireman money.

Fireman was caught red-handed by his lobbyists trying to sneak in state park privatization language into the budget bill last July (aimed at LSP and using the same language his lobbyist told Greg and I months before).

- 7/2/20 **The Star Ledger** "[Murphy and his golf course cronies have LSP in their crosshairs. This is a recording](https://www.nj.com/opinion/2020/07/murphy-and-his-golf-cronies-have-liberty-state-park-in-their-crosshairs-this-is-a-recording-editorial.html)" <https://www.nj.com/opinion/2020/07/murphy-and-his-golf-cronies-have-liberty-state-park-in-their-crosshairs-this-is-a-recording-editorial.html>

**But since his fake "aborting", all he did was attack the Protection Act and attack the Friends of LSP and me through his phony front group, the astroturf group** whose CEO Stovell admitted being funded by Fireman (and probably Fireman's lobbyist has written most of the Stovell attack articles for a year in the Urban Times News and through other surrogates on his payroll. -9/25/20 **The Jersey Journal** by Peter D'Auria "[Billionaire-funded group says state's plan to clean up Liberty State Park is not enough](https://www.nj.com/hudson/2020/09/billionaire-funded-group-says-states-plan-to-clean-up-liberty-state-park-is-not-enough.html)" <https://www.nj.com/hudson/2020/09/billionaire-funded-group-says-states-plan-to-clean-up-liberty-state-park-is-not-enough.html>

**Fireman, in the last year since his fake "aborting" public relations stunt to throw the negative spotlight away from him, has used his surrogates in these ways to attack the Protection Act and the Friends, besides his lobbyists pushing legislators to not post in committee or vote for the Act and his phony front group engaging in a smear campaign.**

- Urban Times News stories and ads attacks - in its March issue and in just one of a few "stories" in every issue, associating the Friends of LSP with Q-Anon and me with Trump, calling me a snake, etc. (UTN is owned by Senator Cunningham's closest long-time consultant and close friend, Joe Cardwell,



- press releases by local contributed to politicians and other surrogates
- quotes in LSP news stories by phony front group
- giving donations to local nonprofits run by African-American elected officials (Jersey Journal 8/24/20 <https://www.nj.com/hudson/2020/08/njs-long-fought-battle-whose-park-is-it-anyway.html>)
- Giving \$25,000 to the NJ NAACP president who didn't have his Executive Committee discuss or vote on his going all-in with Fireman. The Friends' great NAACP ally, Keith Bodden of the NJ NAACP Armed Forces/Veterans Committee has been stonewalled by the NAACP president about its president meeting with Fireman and Keith Bodden's Committee voted to support the LSP Protection Act.
- hiring or maybe phony group Stovell's hiring, Elnardo Webster, prominent Black attorney, who spoke at city council/DEP meetings, and was in a group of Fireman surrogates who met with DEP in the last year with their pretense of representing the "community" when they really represented Fireman's goal. The phone group issuing press releases on behalf of other African-Americans who got money from his group or Fireman.
- DEP interior public meeting attacks (except for last DEP active recreation meeting) on Friends and Sam Pesin by surrogates like Bruce Alston (who told a reporter Sam Pesin "wanted to poison Black and Brown children"), former Mayor McCann, Stovell, etc.
- Months of Google ads that appeared at the top of any search for Liberty State Park or The Friends of LSP and linking to their vicious website attacking the Friends and DEP and full of lies including Fireman's lobbyist writing the Fireman-version of history of LSP. The google ads directed people to the astroturf website of "Liberty Park for All", a cynical and ludicrous title as LSP wouldn't be for all if Fireman privatizes the Caven Pt. Natural Area.
- his well-connected lobbyist has continued to give its disinformation to legislators and gave a tour to a legislator last fall with a bunch of falsehoods.
- paying people (from a first hand report) to be counter-protestors at our Sept rally for the Protection Act and putting a couple hundred big signs on poles attacking me on Pacific and Johnson Ave that day
- flyering with attack pieces, hundreds of cars in Lafayette on at least a couple of Sundays
- social media attacks which reached a peak last summer and then waned, probably ordered by the lobbyist Eric Shuffler because they were embarrassing Fireman.
- Sam Pesin heard from a political operative that the Hudson County Black Democratic Caucus got \$200,000 in spring, 2020 for them to give to their own or others' nonprofits.

Fireman gave \$150,000 to the nonprofit of Lewis Spears before he announced his mayoral campaign against JC Mayor Fulop. <https://bit.ly/3x7IZIY>

Astroturf groups CEO Stovell's "vicious and untruthful" attacks, phrase from **Jersey Journal's** editorial) attacks on the Friends and Sam Pesin and Protection Act in smear campaign of Fireman-puppet Stovell and Fireman's lobbyist, etc. <https://www.nj.com/opinion/2021/02/so-many-hopes-dreams-in-lsp-discussions-jersey-journal-editorial.html>

**The Jersey Journal** historic, well-research powerful 4 stories on 8/24/20, especially in its main one featured on the front page, strongly refuted Fireman's lobbyist and Stovell's lies about LSP. <https://www.nj.com/hudson/2020/08/njs-long-fought-battle-whose-park-is-it-anyway.html>