

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, May 13, 2008

Democratic Leaders Raise Money for Soares' Re-Election
After Event Attended By Over 40 Elected Officials & Activists,
Soares Banks More Than \$70,000

Albany County District Attorney David Soares continued to rake in support and contributions for his campaign for re-election this fall.

County Executive Michael Breslin, Assemblyman Ron Canestrari, Assemblyman John McEneny, John J. McNulty, and Common Council President Shawn Morris were among the Democratic leaders attending a fundraiser for Soares Tuesday evening at the home of former Common Council President Helen DesFosses.

With contributions collected at the event, Soares has more than \$70,000 cash on hand – halfway through the second quarter campaign finance filing period, primarily from small donors, local labor unions, and Capital Region activists.

The host of Tuesday's event, Desfosses, is now an associate professor at the State University of New York at Albany. She was elected President of the Albany Common Council in 1997, and served two four-year terms. In 2004, Desfosses was an outspoken advocate for David Soares' challenge against incumbent Paul Clyne, based partly on their shared commitment to reform Rockefeller drug laws.

At her house on Tuesday night, she spoke enthusiastically about Soares' re-election campaign: "When we supported Soares back in 2004, we knew he was the right man for the job based on his principles and experience. This time around, we need only look at his first few years in office -- David has done us all proud by leading fearlessly and independently," said Desfosses.

County Executive Michael Breslin commented on the strong track record in the District Attorney's office. "I think the County has benefited in a big way from David's work and I'm excited to see what he does next. I am glad to be able to co-host tonight's event and show my enthusiastic support his re-election. David is going to enjoy strong support from Albany County Democrats and independent-minded voters because he has proven he has what it takes to effectively and responsibly reduce crime and make Albany a safer place for all."

"I'm thrilled that we're here today to show our support for David. It's inspiring to see independent elected officials who never lose sense of why they are here and what they set out to do – and David is a perfect example of that. Clearly, David is the clear choice for the Democratic nominee and I'm proud to be supporting him," said longtime Democratic leader John J. McNulty, Jr.

Since taking office on January 1, 2005, DA Soares has built an accomplished record of independent high-profile and sophisticated investigations and trials. Soares expanded the office's prosecutions to include crimes of public integrity, financial crimes and sophisticated long-term investigations targeting organized crime networks.

###