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Anne Dicker Declares her Campaign "FBI Free"

Candidate reassures voters that calls to her will never be taped

PHILADELPHIA - Anne Dicker, the independent Democrat running for state representative in the 175th district, today declared herself and her candidacy to be "FBI Free."

"The only FBI agents that are ever going to call me up are my aunt and uncle," said Dicker, a Queen Village resident. "My constituents will be able to call without worrying whether they are being taped. This campaign is 100 percent FBI-Free."

Political life in Philadelphia has been the subject of numerous federal investigations over the last several years, and the drumbeat continues.

- From the *Inquirer*, April 22, on the ongoing investigation into state Sen. Vince Fumo and his non-profit, the Citizen's Alliance for Better Neighborhoods: "prosecutors investigating Fumo won a legal victory in their attempt to build an obstruction-of-justice case against his former aide, Ruth Arnao."

- From the *Daily News*, April 7, on the January FBI raid of the home of Donald Dougherty: "labor leader John Dougherty acknowledged in an interview 'there's no doubt' that among federal investigators, 'there's interest into [Donald's] relationship with myself.'...Grand-jury subpoenas have been served on the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority, which John Dougherty chairs, and the Pennsport Civic Association, of which John Dougherty is president."

Each of the two figures is supporting one of Dicker's opponents.

"Casino developers are trying to come to Philadelphia – massive multi-million-dollar projects that will change our city," Dicker said. "My neighbors should trust that I put their interest first – not that of my friends or business associates. Crucial decisions like this need to be made in the cleanest and most ethical manner possible."

The 175th state house district is the location of 4 of 5 of the proposed casino sites in the city; the Gaming Control Board will be giving out licenses in November. The district covers parts of Bella Vista, Queen Village, Pennsport, Society Hill, Old City, Northern Liberties, Fishtown, Kensington and Port Richmond. Licenses will be awarded this fall, after the Gaming Board hears public comment.

Dicker, 33, a former strategic planning executive and resident of Queen Village, is running to replace retiring Rep. Marie Lederer.