

## Citation Services

418-430 Lafayette Street, Utica, NY 13501

March 6, 2017

New York State  
Office of the State Comptroller  
**Mr Thomas P. DiNapoli**  
110 State Street  
Albany, NY 12236

### **Re: Downtown Utica Hospital**

Dear Mr. DiNapoli,

My name is Joe Cerini, owner of Citation Services in Downtown Utica. In 2001 my office equipment repair, sales, and IT business purchased and setup at 418-430 Lafayette Street. My buildings are circa ~1880 and were the manufacturing site of Utica's first boilers, produced by the Carton Furnace Company: <https://archive.org/details/CartronSteamAndHotWaterHeaters>

Back in 2001, before even closing on these properties, I was repairing their roofs and fixing some failing brick walls. Much sweat equity and treasure has kept these historical properties intact. I've been told they are rare and valuable remnants to Utica Erie Canal history.

For almost two years I've fought plans for a hospital that would bulldoze my properties. My business is not going anywhere. My supporters and I vow to fight eminent domain in successive court battles that would stall any attempts to construct the hospital. Other business and building owners are voicing similar opinions.

Some may believe a check or deal worth \$1.5 million will send me packing, but they're wrong; this is a matter of principle and personal property rights. I haven't spent the last 15 years of my youth maintaining history that my children are now investing too, just to see it bulldozed.

Politicians promoting this hospital concept have done a great disservice to taxpayers, residents, and the many that love historic Downtown Utica. The day the hospital concept ends cannot come too soon, but please be assured the fight has just begun.

Respectfully, I'm requesting that you use your influence to relocate the Mohawk Valley Healthcare investments.

Sincerely,  
Joe Cerini

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Owner**

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