



EXCLUSIVE: Riddle of why George Soros-backed political action committee Color Of Change pulled \$500,000 in funding from super-liberal Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg's campaign after disturbing allegation was made against him by unnamed woman

Description

A disturbing allegation against Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg during the primary led a George Soros-backed political action committee, Color Of Change, to pull a half million dollars in funding from his campaign last spring, DailyMail.com can now reveal.

'Color of Change Political Action Committee ceased our independent expenditure on this electoral campaign after receiving this information,' a Color of Change source with firsthand knowledge of the situation told DailyMail.com.

Color Of Change PAC, the political action committee of the nation's largest online racial justice group, received \$1 million in May from billionaire philanthropist George Soros to support Bragg's progressive candidacy for district attorney, one of the biggest and most important races in the country.

But following the allegation the group pulled back the \$1million donation by half.



A disturbing allegation was made against Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg during the primary election last spring, DailyMail.com can reveal

Voting While Black

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We endorse Alvin Bragg

FOR MANHATTAN DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Alvin Bragg (D) is an experienced attorney and a former chief deputy attorney general of New York. For over twenty years, Bragg has committed himself to defending the rights of New Yorkers without status or power. He is running to become the next Manhattan District Attorney to bring his professional and lived experiences to the forefront of criminal justice reform. If elected, Bragg would become the first Black District Attorney to lead the Manhattan DA's office.

As a lifelong Harlem resident and the only Black man in this race, Alvin Bragg has had direct encounters with the criminal legal system that have shaped his understanding of injustices and informed his policy positions.

Growing up in Harlem, Bragg experienced and witnessed violence firsthand. As a teenage boy, Bragg was repeatedly stopped and frisked by the NYPD, including 3 times at gunpoint. He's seen loved ones arrested and has opened his own home to support a close family member post-incarceration.



The allegation, made by an unnamed woman, caused Color of Change, the political action committee backed by billionaire George Soros, to pull funding

‘For too long, New Yorkers have lived under two systems of justice,’ Rashad Robinson, spokesperson for the Color Of Change PAC, declared in the press release from May. ‘One system protects and privileges the powerful and well-connected; the other victimizes and penalizes people of color and the powerless.’



Liberal philanthropist George Soros has poured millions of dollars into Color of Change PAC and other nonprofits to promote like-minded candidates and reforms such as abolishing bail and defunding the police

‘Alvin Bragg has the experience to run this critical office and the commitment to reform the criminal justice system to make New York safer and more just for everyone.’

The group was just ramping up its efforts in May, reaching out to New York City voters, when a woman on the list made a serious allegation against Bragg, 48, multiple sources told DailyMail.com.

‘It threw a wrench into the PAC that was just gearing up,’ one source said.

The woman shared her allegation via text message, according to a source inside Color Of Change.

‘Color Of Change PAC responded to her initial message, but did not receive any further communications, so had no basis to evaluate the credibility of her allegation,’ that source said.

Word of the allegation, however, spread among volunteers who discussed it in private group chats.

The organization responded by quietly withdrawing its support for Bragg, which was to include hosting

virtual events, running digital advertisements and phone banks.

When Bragg proceeded to win the general election in November, Color Of Change remained conspicuously silent.

The organization issued no press release, even as it publicly congratulated other victorious district attorney candidates the group had supported across the country.

DailyMail.com was unable to locate the woman to confirm her allegation.

DA Bragg told DailyMail.com, responding the claim, 'I have held myself to the highest standards my entire life and the suggestion that I did something disturbing is patently false.'

Danielle Filson, spokesperson for DA Bragg, added: 'It is deeply problematic that a single text from an anonymous phone number received during a text campaign is being used to attempt to discredit a public servant with an impeccable track record.'

A source familiar with the allegation told DailyMail.com that he finds it hard to believe the political action committee would cut its funding to Bragg without vetting the allegation, at least a little bit.



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'I think they made a really ugly decision to semi-absolve themselves by dropping him without making any sort of announcement.'

The decision to drop Bragg proved a rare exception for an organization that has shown unwavering support for similarly leftist prosecutors.

In recent years, the organization, which boasts seven million online members, has helped elect progressives in cities including Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and Dallas.

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police.

Upon taking office, Bragg has faced heavy scrutiny for his soft-on-crime approach, derided by cops and public safety advocates after he announced in a memo that he 'will not seek carceral' sentences for criminals, unless they were guilty of murder or a handful of other crimes he deemed serious enough to warrant prison.

Under pressure, Manhattan's new prosecutor backtracked on some of his new policies on Friday, insisting, for one, that gun crimes will be prosecuted as felonies.

A NY Democratic operative tells DailyMail.com: 'Text campaigns routinely receive replies that are deeply troubling, contain offensive and threatening language, and are never taken seriously by operatives. The fact that Color of Change never received a reply should cast extreme doubt on its legitimacy. For all they know, it could have come from one of Alvin's political opponents trying to hurt him in a competitive primary election. If anything, this is political malpractice by Color of Change.'

By SHAWN COHEN

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