

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Watchdog Group Files Complaint Against Readington Township

*Taxpayers' Alliance Says Township Mislead Voters in Cost of Takeover of Solberg Airport Property*

**Readington, N.J.** --The Taxpayers' Alliance of Readington (T.A.R.), a watchdog group comprised of resident and businesses dedicated to working for effective and efficient fiscal responsibility in Readington Township, New Jersey, filed a lawsuit on September 7, 2006 to fight Readington Township's wasteful abuse of authority by spending more than the publicly approved to purchase the development rights to Solberg-Hunterdon Airport.

"The cost of seizing Solberg Airport is sky rocketing. This land grab could cost so much money that our town could be in serious financial trouble," said concerned taxpayer Kevin J. Devine. "As an organizer of the Taxpayers' Alliance of Readington, I'm committed to representing the best interests of our taxpayers and right now the Township's eminent domain action against Solberg is jeopardizing the future of Readington as we know it."

The complaint claims that Readington voters were misled by ballot language into believing that the Township would not spend more than \$22,000,000 to acquire development rights at the airport. T.A.R. fears that the Township's appraisals do not present a realistic resolution because they indicate that the actual cost to acquire the property will exceed what voters authorized the Township to spend.

In fact, when appraisals of the Solberg property indicated it could cost \$40 million to take the land from the airport, concerned taxpayer Kevin Devine, inspired by feedback from outraged citizens that would be paying off this debt for decades to come, organized T.A.R. to educate voters about the related bond referendum in May of 2006.

"Not only is it fundamentally wrong to seize private property, it's is unfair to ask the taxpayers of Readington to pay millions more in higher taxes to do it," said Devine.

The lawsuit, filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Law Division, Hunterdon County of New Jersey, is Kevin J Devine and Taxpayers' Alliance of Readington v. Mayor and Township Committee of Township of Readington and Township of Readington, Docket No.: L-447-06.

The complaint is also available online at [www.readingtontax.org](http://www.readingtontax.org)

## **ABOUT T.A.R.**

The Taxpayers' Alliance of Readington (T.A.R.) is a group of residents and businesses dedicated to working for effective and efficient fiscal responsibility in Readington Township, New Jersey. If you are interested in joining T.A.R., or are interested in helping educate area residents about the issue, please e-mail us at [StopWastingMyMoney@readingtontax.org](mailto:StopWastingMyMoney@readingtontax.org) or visit us online at [www.readingtontax.org](http://www.readingtontax.org)

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