

# PRESS RELEASE

Taxpayers' Alliance of Readington  
PO Box 797  
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08899-797  
[stopwastingmymoney@readingtontax.org](mailto:stopwastingmymoney@readingtontax.org)  
[www.readingtontax.org](http://www.readingtontax.org)

For Immediate Release: October 3, 2006

## **Watchdog Group Criticizes Readington's Secrecy Surrounding Solberg Airport Land Grab**

### ***Taxpayers' Alliance Criticizes Township's Week-Long Delay in Reporting Solberg Airport Eminent Domain Action***

**Readington, N.J.** --The Taxpayers' Alliance of Readington (T.A.R.), a government watchdog group comprised of local residents and businesses dedicated to working for fiscal responsibility in Readington Township, New Jersey, today expressed concerns about the Township Committee's decision to keep private an eminent domain lawsuit against Solberg-Hunterdon Airport until a week after it was filed.

"Quietly but systematically, the Readington Town Committee is taking aim at a property owner and advancing its unending quest to expand their power and influence over Readington residents," said concerned taxpayer and T.A.R. founder Kevin Devine. "Last year, when a U.S. Supreme Court ruling made it easier for local governments to use their eminent domain powers, critics warned of widespread abuses. That warning has come true – right here in our backyard with the Solberg catastrophe."

Last month, T.A.R. filed a complaint against the Township claiming 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, when in actuality the cost could potentially skyrocket to over \$40 million, exceeding what voters authorized the Township to spend.

T.A.R. first took up the issue in May to educate voters about the related bond referendum when Devine was called to action by outraged citizens who would be paying off this debt for decades to come.

"We must demand an open, transparent, and fair process," said Devine. "Once a government entity gets away with taking advantage of taxpayers, it is likely to continue to do so unless a massive effort is undertaken to stop the pattern of abuse," said Devine.

Devine urges anyone interested in joining T.A.R., or helping to educate area residents about the issue, send an e-mail to [StopWastingMyMoney@readingtontax.org](mailto:StopWastingMyMoney@readingtontax.org) or visit the organization 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 resident and businesses dedicated to working for effective and efficient fiscal responsibility in Readington Township, New Jersey. For more information, please visit [www.readingtontax.org](http://www.readingtontax.org)

###