

Somethin's goin' on people

Neither written nor sung about a relationship between a Mayor and his constituents, this [Blood, Sweat and Tears tune](#) (written and sung by fellow Queensite [Al Kooper](#)) came to mind after reading Wayne Barrett's Village Voice investigative [report](#) (too long to just call it an article) on the Deutsche Bank fire that killed two NYC firefighters and the actions, inactions and general irresponsibility exhibited at the highest levels of an administration that seeks to continue to lead NYC:

*You know I woke up this mornin' people
the first thing I did was to look into your eyes
in that space where I used to find so much truthfulness
there was a stone cold pack of lies*

*You know that somethin' goin' on
Somethin' goin' on and I don't know what it is
Somethin's goin' on people
All right*

In my senior year at [Hofstra](#) my project while studying [Metropolitan Government](#) under now Professor Emeritus Herbert [Rosenbaum](#) (who to this very day raises good questions about the issues of the day in the emails he shares with colleagues and former students), I focused on the causes and aftermath of the fiscal crisis that ultimately toppled a mayor. A decade and half later, I followed – as [counsel and chief of staff](#) to the council's public safety chair and as a newly elected Jewish community council president – what became a pogrom in Crown Heights fatally wound another mayor. Fast forward to 2009, another election, and one has to wonder if teflon coats the current administration as a story that should have more than a few legs does not appear to get the notice it deserves in the days since its posting and my reading it. Just consider its conclusion:

“No one in the New York press printed that conclusion. Bloomberg's onetime closest aide, who now runs his company, approved a contractor under indictment for killing two firefighters; Bloomberg's own top investigator says categorically that the contract should never have been awarded; and not one news outlet in New York thinks it's a story. Similarly, although every city paper published penetrating stories in the aftermath of the fire, not one quoted the DOI's more recent searing language about Scoppetta's executive team or cited the issues that the DOI implicitly raised about the DOB's top management. It's as if a curtain has been drawn on the mayoral election, and the only show that will go on is the one Mike buys on the air.”
Read the entire [article](#).

- Corey Bearak, Pres., QCC