

It's up to the state justice department now, to decide whether the La Crosse County administrator should be charged with a crime...

The La Crosse Tea Party says its complaint about administrator Steve O'Malley has been referred by the La Crosse County D-A to the Justice Department, to avoid conflict of interest. The county ethics board did not punish O'Malley for his efforts to pass a La Crosse city referendum calling for the hiring of a city administrator. Opponents of the referendum claim the failed issue was an attempt to take powers away from Mayor Matt Harter...and they say e-mails and other documents prove that O'Malley broke a county ordinance against trying to seek donations for a political campaign. The ethics board did not rule on that specific ordinance.