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## **N.J. Attorney General will address why protestor was thrown out of hearing, but vows to fight any subpoena**

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State Attorney General Gurbir Grewal promised to release parts of a report about why State Police removed a protestor from a hearing in Trenton last month, but he vowed to fight state lawmakers who want the entire review.

In November, Troopers pulled Sue Altman out of the room where a South Jersey political boss was set to defend himself against allegations that he had taken advantage of the state's tax break program. Altman has criticized the program, and her removal triggered concerns that she was targeted because of her political beliefs.

State Police launched an investigation, and Democrats in the state Senate recently threatened a subpoena to get the full report.

"That's not something that we're going to abide by without fighting it in court," Grewal told NJ Advance Media Monday. Grewal's office oversees state troopers. "This process has to be confidential for it to work."

Internal reviews are generally not released, and Grewal said witnesses and officers would be less likely to speak to investigators if they thought the final report would be public.

Some of its conclusions, however, will be released.

"There are a lot of questions out there about political influence and policing" Grewal said. "After the confidential process has run out, then we will make public certain answers to those types of broad questions."

When asked if his office would publicly address whether Altman was the victim of a "politically directed arrest," Grewal said: "We will answer that concern, and others that have been raised."

Grewal said his office will also address related concerns raised by advocates about what is allowed at the Statehouse.