



## Pride, Power and Independence

Check out the video from the New York County Independence Party rally this week attended by hundreds of community leaders and supporters. It tells the fascinating story of Adolfo Carrion--former Bronx Borough President and appointee to the White House--who left the Democratic Party and ran for Mayor as an independent. This coming Tuesday, New Yorkers will have the opportunity to invest their vote in the long term fight for nonpartisan reform and for the future of New York City. Independents around the country applaud Adolfo for his courage to do the right thing!



**Pride. Power. Independence.**



Omar Ali

## North Carolina Independents in the News

The Raleigh News and Observer ran an article about Dr. Omar Ali and the independent movement in North Carolina, [UNCG Professor Helps Mobilize Independent Voters to Push for Political Reform](#). The article talks about their efforts to build networks of independents across the state. In the same edition of the News and Observer, North Carolina Independent activist, Andrew Sleeth voiced his opinion in a [letter to the editor](#).



Andrew Sleeth

## Political Reforms in the News

In the wake of the Federal Government shutdown, there has been a growing dialogue about the importance of [structural political reforms](#) that reduce the power of the parties and empower the voters. In other words, the independent reform agenda is gaining traction.

Here are several articles and interviews that recently appeared.

### *The Solution to Hyperpartisanship Exists...*

[Washington Post - October 18](#)

...There's another solution to the partisan extremism that seems to dominate Congress today, one that's already in practice in two states: A top-two primary system, one that incentivizes candidates in even the most conservative or liberal districts to appeal to the vast middle that otherwise plays a limited role in picking members of Congress.

### *California Sees Gridlock Ease in Governing*

[NY Times - October 18](#)

The new atmosphere in Sacramento also offers the first evidence that three major changes in California's governance system intended to leach some of the partisanship out of politics - championed by reform advocates - may also be having their desired effect in a state that has long offered itself as the legislative laboratory for the nation.

### *California-type Changes Could Repair New York's Broken Political System*

[The Buffalo News - October 22](#)

For those who thought California was good only for sunshine and earthquakes, consider this: Political reform in the nation's largest state is turning it from an economic basket case into a model of democracy and progress. That's fine for California, but does its transformation hold any lessons for that other political and economic basket case, the State of New York?

### *Congressional Districts, Demographics, and Prospects for Moving Beyond Gridlock in Washington*

[NPR - October 21](#)

The 16-day federal government shutdown and last week's near default shine a bright light on political divisiveness in Washington. Tea party conservatives, a minority group within the Republican party, instigated and lost the most recent battles but did succeed in garnering national attention. What this attention may mean for future election results is unclear. Polls suggest the Republican brand was damaged, but many say our current electoral process practically guarantees polarized results.

## Next Spokesperson Training Sunday, November 17 7pm ET

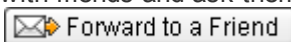
Join a  
**Spokesperson Training Call**  
with Sarah Lyons,  
**IndependentVoting.org's**  
**Director of Communications**

These are interactive calls. For those of you who would like to develop your skills talking to others and writing about the independent movement and learn how to effectively project your message.



[Register Here for the call](#)

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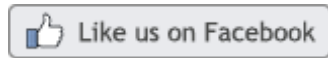


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