

A Message From ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN



Dear Neighbor,

I will start by addressing the protests we have seen take place across the country in response to the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor by police officers. To say I'm appalled by these killings is an understatement. It is beyond devastating to witness how black people are dehumanized in this country. We must all look to systemic changes to undo the legacy of hatred and violence that plagues our city, state and country. Two of my legislative colleagues Diana Richardson and Zellnor Myrie both went to observe protests as elected officials. Both were identified as such, but even still were pepper sprayed and Zellnor was handcuffed. How dehumanizing to be state representatives, but only seen as other during the protest.

This is a moment for us to act. In the legislature we are considering a range of bills that would increase police accountability and transparency. This is an important first step. For people who have privilege, I urge you to recognize that and think about how you can be an ally. Protest peacefully and safely, listen and show compassion.

We are living through multiple crises and I understand many are feeling overwhelmed right now. We need to work together to stay healthy: wear a face covering, wash your hands, keep up social distancing. People are going to protest. I support that. I'm out there too. If you do decide to protest, please do it in a way that limits your risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19 and does not support the physical destruction of communities we have fought so hard to build. There's more than one way to get involved. Assess your personal risk level and keep those who may be at greater risk in mind.

See you around the district,

Harvey

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Upcoming Events

Tenant Forum - Tomorrow

PANDEMIC TENANTS' RIGHTS VIRTUAL TOWN HALL
Know Your Rights During the Pandemic

 Council Member BEN KALLOS	 Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY	 Borough President GALE BREWER	 State Senator LIZ KRUEGER	 State Senator BRIAN KAVANAUGH	 State Senator BRAD HOYLMAN	 Assembly Member REBECCA SEAWRIGHT
 Assembly Member HARVEY EPSTEIN	 Assembly Member DAN QUART	 Assembly Member RICHARD M. GOTTFRIED	 Assembly Member ROBERT I. RODRIGUEZ	 Council Member CARLINA RIVERA	 Council Member KEITH POWERS	 Council Member DIANA AYALA

Co-Sponsored By: Community Board 8 and Community Board 6

June 4, 2020 • 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Learn about pandemic eviction protection, tenants' rights, exemptions from rent increases for seniors and disabled, how you can fight rent increases on stabilized apartments, win a rent freeze, and get your questions answered by attorneys.

PRESENTATIONS BY:



RSVP REQUIRED at 212-860-1950 or visit BenKallos.com/Events.
Questions must be submitted with RSVP or by email to Questions@BenKallos.com.
Meeting will be hosted on Zoom and streamed at Facebook.com/BenKallos/live

50-A Forum with East and Temple and Assembly Member Catalina Cruz

Join us on Friday, at 7pm to talk about repealing 50-a and other criminal justice measures we must enact. The zoom info is below:

<https://zoom.us/j/98206629887?pwd=VGhJa3hjUEpsSnpVM214c0E2U0wyZz09>

Meeting ID: 982 0662 9887

Password: 392212

PPE Distribution with Assembly Member Dan Quart- Friday, June 5th 10am

This Friday at 10am I will be joined by Assembly Member Dan Quart to give out PPE at St. Vartan Park while supplies last. We will be located at E 35th Street and 1st Avenue by the entrance to the park.

Police Reform Rally

LET US BREATHE PRESS CONFERENCES

IN SUPPORT OF NEW YORK STATE POLICE REFORM
THURSDAY, JUNE 4 • 3:00 PM

BRONX
 COMMUNITY BOARD 12: 4101 WHITE PLAINS RD.

BROOKLYN
 THE ARCH: 20 GRAND ARMY PLAZA

BUFFALO
 NIAGARA SQUARE: BUFFALO, NY 14202

LONG ISLAND
 NASSAU SUPREME COURT: 100 SUPREME CT. DR.

MANHATTAN
 STATE OFFICE BUILDING: 163 WEST 125TH ST.

QUEENS
 BOROUGH HALL: 120-55 QUEENS BLVD

STATEN ISLAND
 BOROUGH HALL: 10 RICHMOND TERRACE

SYRACUSE
 FORMAN PARK: 717 EAST GENESEE ST.

ORGANIZED BY:
 NEW YORK STATE BLACK, PUERTO RICAN,
 HISPANIC, AND ASIAN LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS



Twitter Facebook Instagram @BPHACaucus

Tomorrow there will be rallies held all over NYC in support of Police Reforms. Join us if you can. I will be in Harlem

Giving out PPE - Friday 6/5 2:00

Come by Ave C and 10th St on Friday from 2:00-3:00 to get PPE or while supplies last!

Small Business Town Hall - Thursday, June 4 from 6 pm-7:30 pm

JUNE 4, 2020 6:00 PM

SMALL BUSINESS TOWN HALL

Learn about the Commercial Lease Assistance Program, hear from business owners who have been helped by the program and ask questions to CLA attorneys

For the Zoom link email sblock@bka.org



Brooklyn A, TakeRoot and Volunteers of Legal Service (VOLS), who run the Commercial Lease Assistance (CLA) Program will host a Virtual Town Hall for Small Business Owners on Thursday, June 4 from 6 pm-7:30 pm. This event will give an overview of the services offered by the program and feature the voices of small business owners. They will share their experiences, concerns and the importance of access to free legal services.

Link to Small Business Town Hall:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hdiy2AizQ0Kg6MGAI1xXHA

My Public Statement on the Protests

On Monday June 1st, I released the statement below:

Over the weekend New Yorkers stood in solidarity with Americans across the country as they took to the streets to express outrage at the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, who were killed by police officers. The NYPD's brutal response to peaceful protests is something I will never forget. We won't stand for it.

We must take immediate action to hold police officers accountable, including repealing 50-a and charging all officers who committed crimes against protestors this weekend.

Dermot Shea must resign effective immediately. He has presided over unconscionable behavior by his officers, many of whom started conflicts with peaceful protesters by shoving, macing, pointing their guns at them, and driving their cruisers into them. These officers must lose their jobs.

Commissioner Shea and the Mayor have sidestepped responsibility for their bad cops and instead emboldened them to commit further acts of violence against New Yorkers by publicly supporting their actions.

We cannot let this moment pass us by. New Yorkers are sending a clear message that we must change the status quo. I look forward to working with my colleagues to make the badly needed changes to our criminal justice system. We can't wait.

On June 2nd, I also released a statement on the decision to extend the curfew in New York City:

On top of infringing on New Yorkers' first amendment rights, last night's curfew did not keep people safe, it created a higher risk for the spread of COVID-19 by increasing the potential for police and protesters contact, and created opportunities for mayhem and destruction instead of diminishing them.

Our leadership must help channel the outrage people are feeling. Instead, Mayor de Blasio and Governor Cuomo can take immediate action on the legislative proposals being advanced by advocates who represent communities harmed by the criminal justice system. I am ready to vote today to repeal 50-a and number other reform bills advanced by the Black Latino and Asian Caucus of the State Legislature. This is an important time to pass legislation that will increase police accountability and transparency, and outlaw the use of disgusting tactics such as chokeholds. That is only the first step.

City Plan to Reopen

New York City is poised to begin re-opening on June 8th. In Phase 1 of re-opening, the following types of businesses and their workers will be allowed to return to work:

- Construction
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
- Retail - (Limited to curbside or in-store pickup or drop off)
- Manufacturing
- Wholesale Trade

For more information visit: <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-one-industries>. If you have questions about how this may affect you, feel free to reach out to my office at help.district74@gmail.com.

Open Street Recommendations

Please submit suggestions of streets in our community that could safely be closed with staffing of community partners [here](#). Submitting an application does not guarantee acceptance. Please submit separate applications for each corridor you are proposing to pedestrianise in your community. Email openstreets@dot.nyc.gov if you have any questions.

Small Business Resources

If you are a small business owner that needs legal assistance, please refer to the resources below:

The Small Business Legal Relief Alliance is providing legal assistance to small businesses and nonprofits struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Who is eligible?

- (1) Small businesses
- (2) Self-employed
- (3) Nonprofits
- (4) Cooperatives

What issues can SBLRA assist with?

1. Loan & Grant Programs (What programs are right for me and how do I apply?)
2. Tax (What are the tax implications of raising funds for employees?)
3. Commercial Leases (Do I need to pay rent next month? How do I negotiate?)
4. Contracts (What to do if the crisis prevents me or another party from performing?)
5. Employment (What should I consider if I need to let employees go?)
6. Insurance (Does my policy cover loss of income?)
7. Intellectual Property (How do I protect my work and trademarks?)
8. Other General Business Issues Interested?

Contact any of us at the email addresses below:

VOLS: microenterprise@volsprobono.org

IMPACCT: dale_charles@impacctbk.org

Julian Hill: <https://takerootjustice.org/areas/capacity/> and 929-506-0303

Legal Aid Society: communitydevproject@legal-aid.org and 212-426-3000

Legal Services: <https://www.legalservicesnyc.org/what-we-do/covid-resources> and 917-661-4500

Lawyers for Good Government launched a COVID-19 Small Business Remote Legal Clinic - learn more here: <https://www.lawyersforgoodgovernment.org/covid-smallbusiness>

Resources

If you need help filing for unemployment, obtaining SNAP benefits, paying rent, have a small business issue, or have another concern, please call my office at 212-979-9696 and leave a message or send an email to help.district74@gmail.com. My staff and I will work to promptly return your call or email.

Check out our full resources list [here](#).

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND WELLNESS:

IN HOME WORKOUTS

[YMCA of Greater New York at Home Fitness Classes](#)

[How to help your children cope with staying inside?](#)

NYC Well is your connection to free, confidential mental health support. Speak to a counselor via phone, text, or chat and get access to mental health and substance use services, in more than 200 languages.

[Link to CHAT with a professional](#)

Text WELL to 65173

NYC-WELL (1-888-692-9355)

Office of Mental Health Emotional Support Line: 1-844-863-9314

Cornell Small Farms Resiliency Resources:

<https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

Financial & Mental Health Resources for Farmers:

<https://www.nyfarmnet.org/>

Information for Farm Employees Including Spanish & Mam Language videos on COVID-19:

<https://www.trabajadores.cornell.edu/> and www.farmworkers.cornell.edu

ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES ONLINE:

Abrons Arts Center

[Abrons Arts Center Vimeo Performance Archive:](#) Abrons has made their performance documentation public on their Vimeo page. Each video has provided contact and donation information for the artists whose work you are viewing.

[Abrons Arts Center -Virtual classes.](#) Abrons Education is making all of their arts instruction available online through Google Classroom as well as Zoom. Must be registered.

Bowery Poetry

Daily online poetry readings and workshops via IG – announced via Instagram [@bowerypoetry](#)

Dixon Place

[DP TV](#) for virtual literary, dance, variety arts, and theater programs... new live streams added and pre-recorded events weekly!

FABnyc

[Hero Next Door shout outs in the LES](#) (simple submission)

Contribute to the People's LES online archive — a people's history of stories, articles, photos, and projects

Hemispheric Institute

[Online archive:](#) Digital archive of past events, digital collections, publications and initiatives

International Center of Photography

[Photography from Isolation to Communication Workshop](#) : lecture series to help guide your creative output. A series of three 60-minute online lectures will each be taught by

photographers [Elinor Carucci](#) and [Ben Gest](#), and writer, curator, and editor [David Company](#).

[Online course catalog](#) – ICP offers a variety of Continuing Education classes online, including digital workflows, writing about photography, and documentary practice, for imagemakers of all levels.

[Online courses, workshops, and events](#) – Various online open houses, workshops, and classes offered daily.

La MaMa

[La MaMa Livestreams](#): La MaMa is working with CultureHub to provide online streaming of select productions and events on Howlround Theatre Commons.

Lower East Side Girls Club

[Tough Broads Online Film Festival](#): weekly themed programs of short films created by LES Girls Club girls happening throughout April, along with favorite picks made outside the Club!

Mabou Mines

Mabou Mines is [streaming past archival](#) footage via their website and Instagram.

Movement Research

[Virtual Dance Classes](#) offered daily taught by a variety of teachers.

[Moving for Life](#) Free online dance classes and lectures.

Museum at Eldridge Street

Offering online classes, story-time, concerts from their archive and Passover Programming

[Learning from Home](#): dose of history and culture (and fun) to add richness to your family's experience at home.

Museum of Chinese in America

[Digital Tour](#): Experience the Museum of Chinese in America's permanent exhibition With a Single Step: Stories in the Making of America.

[Free live webcasts](#) of their popular series, MOCA Talks

New York NeoFuturists

[Hit Play hear](#) a selection of new Neo-Futurist experiments in audio every Saturday and Sunday until they're back performing The Infinite Wrench. Join their Patreon to get exclusive access to new NY Neo-Futurist short films and extra digital content.

New York Theatre Workshop

[Masterclass @ 3](#): Members of NYTW's artistic community will be leading master classes on directing, writing, performance and beyond on Monday afternoons.

[Workshop Wednesdays](#): Fireside Chats and Afterwards: Informal conversations with artists from the NYTW community.

Nuyorican Poets Cafe

[Weekly open mics // Virtual Mic Challenges](#) on their Instagram page, with weekly poetry prompts, encouraging participants to record and post a poem (5 minutes or less) about the prompt.

Poetry Project

[House Party](#): performance and publication series out of The Poetry Project with readings, songs, dances, writings and prompts from the past, present, and future. Within each issue, is a living list of resources, emergency grants, and other recommendations.

Queer | Art

Various online events, workshops, and talks – usually announced via Instagram – [@queerart](#)

The Tenement Museum

[Digital Exhibit](#): The Census: Reading Between the Lines

[Life in a Tenement](#): Meet the former residents of our two historic buildings and find out what life was like in a tenement.

[Life on the Lower East Side](#): Explore the history of the iconic Lower East Side, long considered a beacon for newcomers to America.

[Featured Podcast Episodes](#): Hear the American stories not shared in your standard history book on featured episodes of "How To Be American," a Tenement Museum Podcast.

[Featured Tenement Talks](#): Watch in-depth panel discussions featuring experts on a wide range of topics.

[Remote Learning](#): Browse reading and writing activities, listening and watching activities, interactive games, and more.

Tompkins Square Library

[Online reading groups, yoga classes, workshops for adult and children](#)

Village Preservation

[Online conversations, workshops, and dives into local history via Zoom; go to website for current schedule](#)

[Building Blocks](#): Take a tour and explore the East Village online.

Volunteer if You Can

If you can volunteer, please email us at help.district74@gmail.com. We need all the help we can get to make phone calls, put up posters or distribute food. If you can help, help in the way you feel comfortable doing.

In the News

[New York City to have curfew from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. amid protests over George Floyd death](#) - LoHud