Rebecca Seawright



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am proud to have voted with my colleagues this week for a 'Rise and Unite' state budget that will launch recovery and growth in the post-pandemic era. This budget provides the funding to complete the recovery, restart the economy and restore and rebuild our communities. We must look to the future even as we press ahead to vaccinate every New Yorker and defeat COVID-19.

This week I joined with advocates, including constituent Joyce Short and Weinstein trial witnesses to announce that I am introducing legislation to define consent in statute. Our legislation, guided by advocates, will define the meaning of consent as "Freely given, knowledgeable, and informed agreement..." The United States Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that a sex crime is committed every 73 seconds. We must stop this rising trend by clearly defining consent, thereby empowering our police and prosecutors to take action. The proper definition of consent in our laws will clarify lawful sexual conduct, guide behavior, and make it possible to hold sexual predators accountable. This vital concept must no longer be left to chance.

Join us for one of the events that I am pleased to sponsor:

- Tuesday, April 13 at 2:00 pm by telephone- No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic. RSVP here.
- Thursday, April 15 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)- No-Cost Face Covering Giveaway. RSVP here.
- Thursday, April 15 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Zoom- Virtual Knitting Social. RSVP here.

• Tuesday, April 20 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Facebook live and Zoom- Town Hall Tuesday: Earth Day & The Fight Against Climate Change. RSVP here.

Stay safe, wash your hands frequently, keep your social distance, and wear your face-covering! Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,

Releven a Security

Assembly Member Seawright and Weinstein Sexual Assault Trial Witnesses Seek Pioneering Penal Law Reforms to Protect Victims



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright unveiled new legislation that would, for the first time, define the meaning of consent in the state of New York's penal law for sexual assault and all crimes.

Under the Seawright proposal, consent is defined as "freely given, knowledgeable and informed agreement... obtained without the use of malice such as forcible compulsion, duress, coercion deception, fraud, concealment, or artifice."

The measure would replace the current practice at criminal trials of leaving juries to deliberate over the meaning of consent without any guidance from the statute. Advocates for victims of sexual assault say the Seawright law, as proposed, would significantly reduce disparate outcomes in sexual predator convictions.

As Featured In...



Rebecca Seawright Announces New bill that would define 'consent' NEWS in New York has the support of 2 Weinstein accusers



Key Harvey Weinstein Trial Witnesses Call for Defining Consent in Law to Prevent Sexual Assaults at Seawright Press Conference



Tarale Wulff, a New York actor and model who helped convict motion picture executive Harvey Weinstein on rape and criminal sexual assault in March 2020, said, "Before testifying in the trial of Harvey Weinstein, I didn't know there wasn't a true definition of consent in our laws," she said. "Weinstein claimed to be confused, and that he thought most men are confused...There's a generation of woke individuals who won't be silenced. By clearly defining consent, there will be no confusion."



Dawn Dunning, a creative director and model who also testified in the Weinstein trial, said, "Consent is consent in all things, not only sex. Applying consent in the general law makes it clear that the same "consent" that protects your property also protects your body."

Read full story here.



Seawright Introduces Consent Legislation



Joyce Short, the founder of the advocacy group Consent Awareness Network (CAN) and the author of Your Consent - The Key to Conquering Sexual Assault, said the measure is the first of its kind in the nation.

"Defining consent in our laws will consistently hold sexual predators accountable and conquer sexual assault as well as laying down the law in other crimes," she said. "Whether consent is applied to your COVID19 vaccination, placing data on the internet, revenge porn, sex trafficking or sexual assault, consent is always... freely given, knowledgeable and informed agreement. New Yorkers desperately need this law---yesterday!"

The definition for consent in this legislation conveys the same principles as those used by Model Penal Code, Nuremberg Code, and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR.) All three highly regarded and currently administered codes guide behavior in medical experiments, medical treatment, statutes that pertain to theft, and the protection of cyber privacy on the internet, as recognized in international law.

States have been slow to adopt definitions for consent. The jurors in the Weinstein case asked Judge James Burke, "What is the definition for consent." Judge Burke responded, "Use your commonsense." His response was almost identical to Judge Steven O'Neill's response several months earlier in the Bill Cosby trials in Pennsylvania.

Judge O'Neill had responded to the juries in both the first and second trials, "That is a question that cannot be answered. You are reasonable people. Use your commonsense." With no guidance from Judge O'Neill, the initial jury for Cosby's case could not agree on a verdict. The foreperson for the second jury, a cyber security expert familiar with the definition of consent in GDPR, explained this definition to fellow jurors who rendered a guilty verdict.

Read more in Our Town.

Helping Workers Affected by COVID-19

- \$51 million for the direct care cost-of-living adjustment
- \$50 million for the COVID-19 Recovery Workforce Initiative to support those who have been hardest hit during the pandemic
- Continues middle-class tax cuts and rejects changes to the STAR program
- \$1 billion to help small businesses, restaurants and arts programs recover
- \$2.4 billion in federal aid to expand child care access and provide grants to providers

Seawright Joins Congresswoman Maloney At Eleanor Roosevelt High School For Announcement of \$5.2 Billion In School Funding From American Rescue Plan



Back row left to right: Eleanor Roosevelt High School Principal Dimitri Saliani, Council Member Ben Kallos, UFT District 1 Representative Dennis Gault. Front row left to right: Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney.

"As Chair of the Task Force on Women's Issues and a Member of the Education

Committee, I commend Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney for standing up for our students and their families in Congress to ensure that we receive \$5.2 billion for New York City in the American Rescue plan for our schools. With this critical funding, we can begin to confront the childcare crisis and expand opportunities of education with the expansion of 3-K for all to every corner of our city. Thank you, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, for setting students and their families on a path to a swift recovery!," said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright at the press conference on Tuesday.

Read more here.

New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Announced Approval of Historic 'Rise and Unite' Investment and Funding Plan

Helping Children and Students

- \$1.4 billion increase in Foundation Aid to help ensure students and teachers have the resources they need to recover and thrive
 - \$105 million more for pre-K programs for a total of \$924 million
 - Addresses college affordability by increasing the maximum TAP award by \$500 and blocking tuition hikes at SUNY and CUNY schools

New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright announced the approval of a historic 'Rise and Unite' investment and funding plan that targets health care, housing, education, higher education, and local support for seniors and the working and middle class.

"I am proud to have fought for this 'Rise and Unite' state budget that will launch recovery and growth in the post-pandemic era," said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright. "This budget provides the funding to complete the recovery, restart the economy and restore and rebuild our communities. We must look to the future even as we press ahead to vaccinate every New Yorker and defeat COVID-19."

Speaker Heastie said the Legislature has delivered "a budget that will help New York rise from this health crisis and its devastating economic impacts while upholding our commitment to putting New York families first. We have been able to make historic investments in our schools, keep higher education within reach, deliver the relief that our small businesses need to get back on their feet, and provide critical funding for child care that families need to get back to work."

Approximately \$3 billion in combined federal and state dollars is allocated for rent and homeowner relief. Funding includes \$100 million for a hardship fund for those who cannot access funds from the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, \$100 million to reduce homelessness, and \$575 million in federal homeowner relief, including a three year, \$60 million commitment to provide legal assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure.

The approved budget provides \$800 million to help small businesses struggling to keep their doors open over the last year. It also includes \$25 million for the NY Restaurant Resiliency Grant program and \$35 million in tax credits for restaurants in areas impacted by enhanced COVID-19 restrictions.

The approved spending plan includes \$200 million for Pandemic Emergency Assistance, which will provide federal funds to local social services districts for flexible emergency services, as well as funding for services for survivors of domestic violence and food assistance for older New Yorkers.

Increases in support for schools are on the way. The enacted budget includes \$19.8 billion in Foundation Aid and provides a multi-year commitment to fully fund Foundation Aid over the next three years. The plan allocates \$29.1 billion in funding to General Support for Public Schools, increasing \$3.1 billion, or 12 percent above last year. The budget includes a multi-year investment in pre-kindergarten, including \$105 million for this year.

The budget includes \$13.7 billion in funding for higher education. It rejects proposed tuition increases for the State University of New York and the City University of New York . It restores \$46.4 million in operating aid to SUNY and \$26.2 million to CUNY. The budget also provides SUNY and CUNY, each with \$100 million for expansion projects. The funding plan would increase the maximum Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) award by \$500, bringing it from \$5,165 to \$5,665.

The Legislature approved significant investments in public transportation that will create jobs in construction and ensure New Yorkers can get where they are going safely and efficiently. The budget provides \$3.1 billion for the MTA projects for maintenance and expansion of services.

The COVID-19 pandemic has put severe stress on our health care system and demonstrated the essential need for quality, affordable health care. The SFY 2021-22 budget includes \$193.8 million for health care services and systems throughout New York. It provides \$542 million in restorations to the Medicaid program, including \$204.4 million for hospitals and \$51.75 million for nursing homes.

The budget provides \$72.4 million for the Office of People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) to create new service slots, including an expansion of certified housing supports, community habilitation, respite services, housing subsidies, self-direction of services and an expansion of day programs and employment options.

The approved spending plan invests \$1.84 billion in funding for the environment. This includes \$500 million for clean water infrastructure, and \$300 million for the New York State Environmental Protection Fund.

Seawright Speaks on Financial Literacy Legislation Signed into Law NGPF PRESENTS

The Most Important Class You Never Had

SCREENING PARTY

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

3:00PM PT/6:00PM ET





Thomas P. DiNapoli is the 54th Comptroller of the State of New York. Tom was raised in a middle-class, union household and saw the value of hard work and stretching every dollar in the example set by his parents. Tom was elected

State Comptroller on February 7, 2007, by a bipartisan majority of the State Legislature. Tom is known for his integrity, independence & even-keeled leadership. He identified billions in waste, fraud and cost savings in government, developed an early warning system to identify municipalities and school districts showing signs of fiscal stress, and managed the 3rd largest public pension fund in the nation through difficult losses during the Great Recession and reformed how it operates.

Keynote: NY State Comptroller, Thomas P. DiNapoli Speakers: Assemblywoman Rebecca Seawright & Senator Leroy Comrie



Rebecca A. Seawright represents the Upper East Side, Yorkville, and Roosevelt Island in NY's 76th Assembly District. As the 1st woman to serve the district, she's known as a strong voice for over 133,000 constituents, securing over \$12M in

funding for public schools, senior centers, parks, and nonprofits.

Appointed by the Speaker in 2021, she holds the Leadership position of Chair of the Assembly Task Force on Women's Issues. Previously, she served in leadership as Secretary of the Majority conference. Nominated by her colleagues, she serves as a Director of the Legislative Women's Caucus and is motivated to protect her constituents' quality of life in the great State of NY.

In the Assembly Education Committee, she champions public schools and helped obtain more than \$1B in new state support. A recent bill has been signed into law implementing a study on consumer financial literacy.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!



New York State Senator Leroy Comrie was elected to represent the 14th Senatorial District of Queens. His committee assignments have included Agriculture, Cities, Finance, Procurement and Contracts, and Rules. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Committee

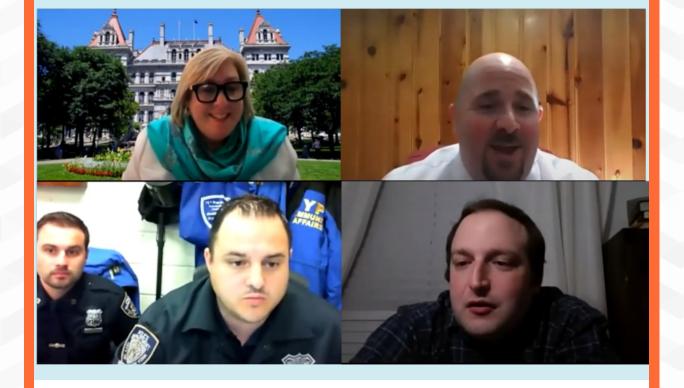
on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions, which gives him oversight over the state's 150+ public authorities such as the MTA, Port Authority, and NYCHA.

Senator Comrie's positive impact in government is evident with his long track record of legislative accomplishments such as increased tax exemptions for seniors, instituting the city's first foreclosure prevention program, curtailing "pay-day" loans, improving the criteria for safety on construction Sites, reducing truck traffic emissions, improving electrical and building codes, advocating for the containment of waste transfer stations, and increasing job opportunities

by establishing direct-to-work training programs for residents across NYC.



In Case You Missed It: Environment & Sanitation Town Hall Tuesday



COVID-19 Vaccination Information

All New Yorkers 16 years and older are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. *Learn more here*.

Seniors 75+ do not need an appointment if they walk in to the following vaccination sites in Manhattan:

(Bring a companion and they are eligible too!)

Essex Crossing 224B Broome Street, 10002 Thursday- Sunday, 12pm-4pm

City College 1549 Amsterdam Avenue, 10031 Thursday- Sunday, 12pm-4pm

Ford Foundation 320 East 43 Street, 10017 Monday- Saturday, 9am-5pm

Yeshiva University 2495 Amsterdam Avenue, 10033 Sunday-Thursday, 9am-7pm Friday, 9am-5pm

Abyssinian Baptist Church 132 West 138 Street, 10030 Tuesday- Saturday, 9am-5pm

Fulton Community Center/Hudson Guild 441 West 26 Street, 10001 Tuesday- Saturday, 10am-5pm

See how Excelsior Pass can help you be a part of NY's safe reopening. To help revitalize New York's economy safely, the State launched Excelsior Pass—a free and voluntary platform for businesses & individuals that can be used to easily access secure proof of a

recent negative COVID test or vaccination. Learn more.

<u>Visit the New York State Vaccine Site Locator</u> Call 1-833-NYS-4-VAX (1-833-697-4829)

or <u>Visit the New York City Vaccine Site Locator</u> Call 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692

Vaccination Sites in the 76th Assembly District:

AdvantageCare Physicians - 215 East 95th Street, Manhattan, 10128

Lenox Hill Hospital - Einhorn Auditorium- 131 East 76th Street, Manhattan, 10021(844) 919-8222

Rite Aid Pharmacy

1535 2nd Avenue, Manhattan, 10075

Site only serves those age 50 and older and/orP-12 school faculty and staff and childcare workers and/or those with eligible underlying conditions

Walgreens/Duane Reade

Sites only serves those age 50 and older and/orP-12 school faculty and staff and childcare workers and/or those with eligible underlying conditions (800) 925-4733

1524 2nd Avenue, Manhattan, 10075 1328 2nd Avenue, Manhattan, 10021 401 East 86th Street, Manhattan, 10028 1111 3rd Avenue, Manhattan, 10065 1498 York Avenue, Manhattan, 10075

Fully homebound New Yorkers who wish to receive an in-home vaccination: Please <u>click here</u> or call 877-829-4692. You will receive a phone call to confirm your eligibility and schedule the appointment; on that call, please also make sure to request in-home vaccination for other eligible household members (<u>eligibility criteria listed here</u>). Please note that there is high interest in this program -- you will receive a call back.

The Vaccine for All Corps is enlisting 2,000 New Yorkers to support City vaccination efforts across the five boroughs. Hiring for the first tranche of these positions is live at <u>nyc.gov/vaccinejobs</u>. Healthcare experience is not required for many of the positions. Residents from NYC communities hit hardest by COVID-19 are especially invited to apply.

Assistance with Pandemic-Related Funeral Expenses. FEMA has announced that it will provide financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020. Additional guidance is being finalized and will be released as soon as possible. In the meantime, people who have COVID-19 funeral expenses are encouraged to keep and gather documentation. *Please check FEMA's website regularly for updates*

Veterans: VA New York Harbor is offering vaccinations to veterans 65 and older who are enrolled in VA Healthcare. *Click here* to learn more or call *1-877-877-9267*.

Transportation for Seniors to Vaccination Appointments

- New Yorkers age 65+ who make a vaccination appointment at a City-operated site will be asked if they need transportation to get to and from their appointment.
 Transportation is available if you:Have Access-a-Ride: (877) 337-20172.
- Have Medicaid-provided transportation: Use your regular contact number to schedule transport, or call (844) 666-6270.
- Are a homebound 65+ or disabled New Yorker who needs ambulette services: Call Hunter Ambulette at (718) 991-2211.

Anyone 65 and older who does not qualify for 1-3 above can schedule a free ride with Curb at (646) 349-0289.

New COVID-19 Relief Updates For Small Businesses

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) recently provided updated guidance on calculating Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, plus a launch date, application portal, and further instructions for the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG). The SBA also extended the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) payment deferment period for new and existing loans, and increased the EIDL loan limit from \$150k to \$500k! <u>Learn more here.</u>

The City of New York has created a FREE application assistance program called Curtains Up NYC to help secure Shuttered Venues Operators Grants. Curtains Up NYC offers free webinars and one-on-one counseling for people interested in applying. For more Information visit: nyc.gov/curtainsupnyc or call 888-SBS-4NYC.

For Public School Families

New NYC School Coronavirus Closure Rule Sets 4-Case Limit

Apply for Gifted & Talented Programs Through April 9th

3-K for All Expansion

The DOE is expanding 3-K for All to every school district, and will be adding up to 15,000 more seats by the end of the 2021-22 school year. The City says there will be approximately 43,000 3-K seats available across all 32 community school districts.

Applications for 3-K for All have been extended to May 28th. Programs in new school districts will be added to the applications as options for families in April and May. Families can visit nyc.gov/3k to sign up to receive email updates when new programs are added, and to learn how to create a MySchools account to explore and apply to programs.

New York City's Summer Youth Employment initiative is back and offering paid work experiences and project-based learning opportunities for 70,000 young people. Application deadline is April 23rd.

Applications and information now available by <u>clicking here!</u> You can also call 311 or the NYC Dept of Youth & Community Development's Community Connect at 1-800-246-4646.

Navigating College Financial Aid Forms

The <u>Student Leadership Network</u> has put together free resources to help guide high school seniors through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application process. <u>Click here to learn more!</u>

Small Business Spotlight

ABEL NAJHER BOUTIQUE SALON



A friendly, owner operated salon, Abel Najher has over 23 years of New York City experience and has begun to curate talented and experienced stylists.

1706 1st Avenue, New York, NY, 10128 646-692-8580 info@abelnajhersalon.com

Submit your favorite small business here to be featured in our next e-newsletter!

Upcoming Events

Senator Krueger's Virtual Town Hall: New York City: What Can We Do After Getting a COVID-19 Vaccination?

Now that we have three COVID vaccines available, there appears to be light at the end of the tunnel. However, we live in a densely populated city where variants are rapidly spreading and COVID-19 cases are rising. The White House COVID-19 Response Team recently emphasized the importance of continuing to follow safety precautions, and the dangers of reopening too quickly. Now, many New Yorkers are asking: what is safe to do after getting vaccinated and what are the implications for reopening the City?





DATE: Thursday, April 15th TIME: 7pm – 8:15pm

Go to:

FACEBOOK.COM/STATESENATORLIZKRUEGER

REGISTER at www.tinyurl.com/Post-VaccineNYC

MSK HONORS National Minority Cancer Awareness Month

Please Join MSK for Free Virtual Community Events



Understanding Your Health Insurance

Monday, April 12, 2021, 4:00-5:00 PM EST

Understanding your insurance is an important part of managing your healthcare, join us to learn the basics about health insurance.

Cómo mantenerse al día con las pruebas de detección y el tratamiento del cáncer de mama durante una pandemia

Viernes, 16 de abril de 2021 de 3:30-4:30 PM EST Únete La Oficina de Equidad en Salud de MSK y SHARE para compartir en un programa en español sobre el COVID-19 y la importancia de las pruebas de detección del cáncer para las comunidades afroamericanas y latinas.

Take a Deep Breath

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 1:30-2:30 PM EST

Exercise your lungs and mind as our experts walk you through deep breathing exercises, provide you with tips and information on how to quit smoking, and provide education on lung cancer screening.

Cooking with Karla Nutrition Workshop Thursday, April 22, 2021, 1:00-2:00 PM EST

Learn from MSK Ralph Lauren Center's registered dietician about healthy eating habits including a live food demonstration on how to prepare easy, affordable, nutritious meals.

Keeping up with Breast Cancer Screening and Treatment During a Pandemic

Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 2:30-3:30 PM EST

Join MSK's Office of Health Equity and SHARE for a program on COVID-19 and the importance of cancer screenings for the African American and Latinx communities.

Reducir el riesgo de padecer cáncer mediante una alimentación saludable

Viernes, 29 de abril de 2021 de 3:00-4:30 PM EST

La nutrición es un componente importante para mantenerse saludable. Únete al Centro de MSK para la Promoción de la Salud y la Eliminación de Disparidades en el Cáncer entre los Inmigrantes, al Consulado General de México en Nueva York y a la Ventanilla de Salud para compartir un programa educativo en español y aprender sobre hábitos de alimentación saludable para reducir tu riesgo de padecer cáncer. Unete por Facebook Live @consulmexnuevayork @ventanilla.desaludny

Free Support Groups:

April 6 Life After Cancer Support Group April 7 Spanish Speaking Support Group

April 7 Finding Our Way: A discussion of Spirituality and Survivorship

April 27 Legal Advice for the Older Adult

These support groups are open to cancer patients treated at MSK or in the community. Programs may change or be subject to cancellation. No observers without prior approval. If you are new to Resources for Life After Cancer support groups, registration is necessary. Please call 646-888-8106 or email rlac@mskcc.org if you have any questions.

If you have any questions about the events and/or to sign up to be notified about future events, please contact: **communityaffairs@mskcc.org**. For more information, visit us at **mskcc.org**.



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER ESCANEE AQUÍ PARA REGISTRARSE



https://bit.ly/3cyvhqc

Click here for more information and to register.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA SEAWRIGHT
PROTECTIVE
FACE MASK
GIVEAWAY



THURSDAYS

12:00PM-2:00PM

COMMUNITY OFFICE 1485 YORK AVENUE (78/79 STREET)

SCAN ME TO RSVP!

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA SEAWRIGHT

PHONE: 212.288.4607

EMAIL:

SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV



RSVP to the Face Covering Giveaway on 4/15



RSVP for Virtual Knitting Social on 4/15

ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!



SCAN ME TO RSVP!

TUES. APRIL 13

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 2:00 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSINGRELATED MATTERS AT NO-COST
FOR CONSTITUENTS OF THE
76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

DUE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS, A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL HOST A ONE -ON-ONE PHONE SESSION WITH ATTENDEES.

RSVP REQUIRED:

CALL: 212-288-4607

EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlordtenant law. The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorneyclient relationship. Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.

RSVP to the Legal Clinic on 4/13

View as Webpage







/seawrightforny