

The Chief

Civil Service LEADER

THE CIVIL EMPLOYEES' WEEKLY

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Report of Straw-Donor Probe Tied to '13 Run A New Blow to Mayor

Political Damage Added to By Spokeswoman Quitting And Senate Leader's Rebuke

By RICHARD STEIER Mayor de Blasio, reeling from a string of investigations involving fund-raising for both his 2013 campaign and a 2014 effort to swing control of the State Senate to Democrats in that November's elections, has a new worry: reports of the use of straw donors to allow big contributors to give more money to his mayoral run than is permitted under the city Campaign Finance Law. Compounding his troubles, Press Secretary Karen Hinton resigned last week after less than a year in the job. And the residual damage done by the inquiry into whether aides to the Mayor committed campaign violations during the Senate push reared its head when Senate Republican Leader John Flanagan said May 5 that he was not inclined to agree to an extension of mayoral control of the city school system because Mr. de Blasio "left too many unanswered questions"



BILL DE BLASIO: When it rains, it pours.

Postal IG: Pre-Fund Of Health Care Has Hidden Cost for USPS

By SARAH DORSEY The Inspector General for the U.S. Postal Service echoed longtime union concerns in a recent report, saying that a 2006 Congressional health-payment mandate accounts for 90 percent of the organization's financial woes. The USPS must modernize and step up service to make it in the coming years, the IG said. The Postal Service has lost more than \$50 billion since 2007, according to Tax Foundation, a conservative non-profit. IG David C. Williams examined its finances on the 10th anniversary of the Postal

Continued on Page 8



FOLLOWING A 9/11 HERO: Thomas Palombo, pictured with Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro (left) and Chief of Department James Leonard, graduated from the Fire Academy May 3. His father, Firefighter Frank Palombo, was killed on Sept. 11, 2001 while responding to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Despite their loss 15 years ago, Mr. Palombo said his family's nerves were far outweighed by their excitement as he followed in his father's footsteps.

310 Make Grade, Head for Firehouses For Some Fire Probies, Dads' Deaths Give Special Resonance to Graduation

By SARAH DORSEY Though Thomas Palombo was just nine years old when his dad passed away, he'd been around long enough to hear a few stories about the Fire Department. He already wanted to be a firefighter before Sept. 11, 2001, but when his father, Firefighter Frank Palombo, died that day responding to the terrorist attacks, it probably made him want it more, he said. Anthem Hit Home On May 3, Mr. Palombo, now 24, finally reached that goal, graduating with 309 classmates as a probationary Firefighter. The most-powerful moment of the ceremony at Brooklyn's Christian Cultural Center may have been when Firefighter Regina Wilson sang the national anthem, he said. Ms. Wilson served with the elder Palombo at the firehouse hosting Engine Co. 219 and Ladder Co. 105 in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn. She, too, responded to the Sept. 11 attacks. "Frank was a very nurturing, caring, loving person—that would put you in your place," Ms. Wilson said with a laugh, describing her affection for a man who had 10 children at home, and sometimes took a paternal role in the firehouse, as well. Seeing his son take the oath would make Firefighter Palombo proud, she said. "[Thomas] has always been the kind of kid that's been fascinated with the firehouse ...and was always very helpful and just a kind-hearted person. And it's good to see him as a grown man now taking a step to serve his community," she said. Thomas Palombo admitted to some nerves

Continued on Page 16

Appeals Court Reinstated Teacher Protection Parent Behind Suit Challenging Tenure Law Says California Ruling No Worry

By DAN ROSENBLUM The co-plaintiff in a lawsuit seeking to change the state's tenure and disciplinary policies insisted she would prevail despite the California ruling that inspired her case having been thrown out last month by an appeals court in that state. 'Shock the Conscience' The New York City Parents Union, led by Mona Davids, sued the state Education Department in July 2014 after California Superior Court Judge Rolf M. Treu ruled that state's tenure statutes pro-



MONA DAVIDS: Predicts 'grassroots' play better here. tected enough ineffective Teachers to "shock the conscience." The Partnership for

Educational Justice, created by former CNN anchor Campbell Brown, filed a similar lawsuit soon afterward. Staten Island Supreme Court Justice Philip Minardo consolidated the Parents Union and PEJ cases and allowed the United Federation of Teachers and New York State United Teachers to intervene in the lawsuit. The Second Department of the court's Appellate Division is hearing an appeal of Justice Minardo's denial of the unions' motion to dismiss the case. Though California's Second District Court of Appeals

Continued on Page 11

Workers Sought For Food Service Jobs Around N.Y. State

Applications Accepted Continuously, No Fee; Pay Range is \$26G to \$32G

Must Pass Written Test for Positions In Health Facilities, Other Locations

State agencies are continually looking for part-time and full-time Food Service Workers. Applications are accepted continuously and exams are scheduled periodically. There is no application fee. The starting salary for Food Service Worker 1 is \$26,274. The job rate is \$32,602. Appointees who work in New York City or in Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland or Westchester counties receive an additional \$3,026 annual downstate adjustment. Those in Dutchess, Orange or Putnam counties receive a \$1,513 mid-Hudson adjustment. All Over the State Most of the positions exist in facilities around the state run by the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities, the Office of Mental Health and the Department of Health. Food Service Workers are also employed in the

Continued on Page 17

'Didn't Take Necessary Steps' DOI: ACS Breakdowns Led to 2 Kids' Deaths

By DAN ROSENBLUM Failures by the Administration for Children's Services and its providers to follow basic protocols and conduct consistent investigations "may have contributed" to two deaths and a near-fatal injury suffered by another child in its care, the Department of Investigation said May 3. While the 18-month inquiry looked into the 2014 incidents—all from families already known to the agency—investigators found systemic problems that needed to be addressed, including deficient casework, little oversight of foster-care providers, a lack of data collection by the agency and noncompliance with state and Federal laws. 'Failed to Protect Children' "ACS is the first line of defense for the defenseless," said DOI Commissioner Mark Peters. "DOI's investigation found that on several occasions ACS and its provider agencies failed to take necessary steps to protect children and at times may actually have put them in harm's way. Equally troubling, data obtained by DOI suggests that these are not isolated instances and that ACS may have repeatedly failed to meet legal and procedural requirements." In response to the report, the de Blasio administration said it has since increased



MARK PETERS: 'These aren't isolated instances.' staffing and training. Anthony Wells, the president of Local 371 of District Council 37, said that while the report raised some questions, it focused too much on blaming workers instead of looking into the root causes plaguing ACS. The DOI focused specifically on three children (whose names were changed to protect confidentiality): "Morgan," who died suspiciously despite years of ACS interventions and 11 investigations of neglect; "Alex," whose mother beat him to death after a provider agency returned him to the home; and "Chris," who was malnourished and was severely injured during an improperly conducted ACS investiga-

Continued on Page 11

THE NEWS INSIDE Judge Gives Silver 12 Yrs. To Contemplate His Sins

The former Speaker of the Assembly will have to serve more than 10 years of his sentence and pay a total of \$7 million in fines and restitution for selling his office. His lawyer had asked for no jail time, but Judge Valerie Caproni said the stiff sentence was both appropriate and a potential deterrent for other legislators with larceny in mind. P2

Razzle Dazzle A Tough Judge Reflects While Starting New Life

Shira Scheindlin, who stepped down last month as a Federal District Judge after signing off on an agreement to limit solitary confinement in state prisons, noted her ruling against the stop-and-frisk program never produced the crime spike that critics predicted. P4



Unhappy With Givebacks MEA Sues on Impact Of Parental-Leave Benefit

The advocacy group for managers—which can't formally bargain for them—says Mayor de Blasio's attempt to impose concessions including a cut of two vacation days to offset the cost of paid parental leave is 'arbitrary and capricious' and unfair to the majority of the generally older managers who figure to be less likely to take advantage of the new benefit. P3



Violation of Cuomo Order? State AG Sues Rensselaer DA Over Rush To Clear Cop Case

Eric Schneiderman's suit accused DA Joel Abelow of defying an executive order issued by the Governor, giving the State Attorney General jurisdiction as a special prosecutor in cases where civilians die at the hands of police, by swiftly moving the matter through a grand jury. P5

CITY CERTIFICATIONS P2
MAYOR IN LION'S DEN P3
TAX COLUMN P4
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR P5
EXAMS FOR JOBS P17

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Will Fill Jobs

CITY CERTIFICATIONS

The Department of City-wide Administrative Services has certified sections of the eligible lists below for appointments and promotions in city agencies, subject to the 1-in-3 rule. Some of the appointments and promotions may already have been made.

OPEN COMPETITIVE

ASSISTANT CIVIL ENGINEER—9 eligibles between Nos. 48 and 462 on List 1036 for 1 job in Department of Environmental Protection.

ASSISTANT MECHANICAL ENGINEER—21 eligibles between Nos. 37 and 203 on List 1039 for 1 job in Department of Parks and Recreation.

ASSOCIATE STAFF ANALYST—From List 0107: 227 eligibles between Nos. 639 and 1720 for 4 jobs at Human Resource Administration/Department of Social Services, and 122 eligibles between Nos. 639 and 1618 for 1 job in Department of Homeless Services.

BOOKKEEPER—Nos. 1-54 on List 5015 for 1 job in Department of Education.

COLLECTING AGENT—213 eligibles between Nos. 62 and 411 on List 2616 for 10 jobs at NYC Transit.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGER—5 eligibles between Nos. 48 and 244 on List 2034 for 1 job in DEP.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION REPRESENTATIVE—9 eligibles between Nos. 71 and 384 on List 3020 for 4 jobs in Department of Consumer Affairs.

MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR—From List 2324: 184 eligibles between Nos. 4 and 288 for 3 jobs at Administration for Children's Services, and 95 eligibles between Nos. 29 and 361 for 1 job in DEP.

OILER—From List 4010: 135 eligibles between Nos. 8 and 198 to replace 2 provisionals in DEP, and 85 eligibles between Nos. 49 and 196 to replace 1 provisional in Department of Sanitation.

PARALEGAL AIDE—From List 0135: 31 eligibles between Nos. 86 and 362 for 1 job at HRA/DSS, and 9 eligibles between Nos. 66 and 358 for 1 job at ACS.

PROCUREMENT ANALYST—8 eligibles between Nos. 19.5 and 216.5 on List 3037 for 1 job in DEP.

SOCIAL WORKER—3 eligibles (Nos. 115, 256 and 299) on List 4028 for any of 3 jobs at HRA/DSS.

STATIONARY ENGINEER (ELECTRIC)—5 eligibles between Nos. 5.5 and 18 on List 4061 to replace 30 provisionals in DEP.

STEAM FITTER—3 eligibles (Nos. 52, 54 and 70) on List 2033 for 1 job in DSNY.

TRANSIT PROPERTY PROTECTION AGENT—440 eligibles between Nos. 31 and 513 on List 2617 for 19 jobs at NYC Transit.

PROMOTION

ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATOR—116 eligibles between Nos. 27 and 153 on List 3505 and 38 eligibles between Nos. 2 and 40 on List 3004 to replace 44 provisionals at HRA/DSS.

ASSOCIATE JOB OPPORTUNITY SPECIALIST—74 eligibles between Nos. 353 and 440 on List 0505 for 3 jobs at HRA/DSS.

PRINCIPAL POLICE COM-

MUNICIPATIONS TECHNICIAN—25 eligibles between Nos. 30 and 55 on List 1519 for 5 jobs in Police Department.

SENIOR POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE—151 eligibles between Nos. 31 and 180 on List 5510 for 3 jobs in NYPD.

SERGEANT (POLICE)—75 eligibles between Nos. 1 and 192 on List 3539 for 46 jobs in NYPD.

SUPERVISING POLICE COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN—16 eligibles between Nos. 3 and 18 on List 2514 and Nos. 1-84 on List 5539 for 29 jobs in NYPD.

SUPERVISOR OF MECHANICS (MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT)—47 eligibles between Nos. 26 and 68.5 on List 2506 for 1 job in NYPD.

Confirm Kaminsky Win But Democrats Still Won't Rule in Senate

By MARK TOOR

The Nassau County Board of Elections has certified Democratic State Assemblyman Todd Kaminsky as winner of the race to replace State Sen. Dean Skelos, who lost his Long Island seat in December when he was convicted on Federal corruption charges.

Mr. Kaminsky's victory gave Democrats a one-vote majority in the 63-seat State Senate, which is now controlled by a coalition made up of 31 Republicans, five members of the Independent Democratic Conference, and Simcha Felder, a Democrat from Brooklyn who caucuses with the Republican Conference.

IDC Keeping Options Open

That is unlikely to change anytime soon. "The IDC will continue to remain a third conference for many years to come," said its press secretary, Candice Giove.

The conference is chaired by Jeffrey D. Klein, who represents parts of The Bronx and Westchester. He and Diane Savino of Staten Island established it in 2011, saying they were horrified at the be-

Continued on Page 15



TODD KAMINSKY: Gets official nod to replace Skelos.



The Chief-Leader/Ellen Moynihan
NEXT STOP, PRISON: Former State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver looks wary as he leaves the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse through a scrum of security officers and media after his sentencing May 3 on his Federal corruption conviction. Judge Valerie Caproni ordered him to serve 12 years in prison and pay \$7 million in restitution and fines. Mr. Silver apologized before the sentencing, but said afterward that he would appeal. 'I believe in the justice system, and we will pursue all remedies that are available,' he said.

'Cast Shadow Over Himself, Colleagues'

Big Shot Bound for Big House: Judge Gives Silver 12 to Contemplate Sins

By MARK TOOR

They say the bigger they are the harder they fall, and Sheldon Silver, for more than 20 years one of the three most powerful men in state government, fell hard.

The former State Assembly Speaker was sentenced to 12 years in Federal prison last week on his conviction late last year on counts including money-laundering, extortion and fraud in two schemes.

Big Money for Little Work

In one, he funneled state grants to a cancer researcher in return for referrals of his patients to Mr. Silver's law firm, which paid him several million dollars for their business. In the second, he told prominent real-estate developers seeking reductions in their real-estate taxes to hire another law firm in which a former aide was a partner, and the firm paid him a cut of its fees. He took some stands that benefited the developers.

Mr. Silver "unlawfully solicited and obtained client referrals worth millions of dollars in exchange for Silver's official acts, and attempted to disguise this money as legitimate outside income earned from his work as a private lawyer," according to U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara.

Under Federal law, Mr. Silver must serve 85 percent of his sentence; the rest can be forgiven for good behavior.

That means he is unlikely to serve more than 10 years and three months—still a heavy lift for a man who turned 72 in February.

The financial penalties were equally harsh. U.S. District Judge Valerie E. Caproni ordered Mr. Silver to repay the government \$5.2 million—the amount he netted from the two influence-peddling schemes plus the income he earned from investing the money. After his arrest in January last year, Federal prosecutors froze his bank accounts.

Justice Served Harshly

She also levied a fine of \$1.75 million, a potential hit on his state pension, which the State Comptroller's Office has put at \$79,224 a year, and his other savings. The pension is protected under the State Constitution, but Mr. Bharara has vowed to strip crooked politicians of their pensions. In other cases, he has eaten into them by requesting similarly steep fines and restitution payments.

"Today's stiff sentence is a just and fitting end to Sheldon Silver's long career of corruption," said Mr. Bharara, who sat in the last row of the spectators' seats during the sentencing.

Mr. Silver issued a brief apology, saying, "I let down my family, I let down my colleagues, I let down my constituents. I am truly, truly sorry for that." It was not clear

whether by "constituents" he meant residents of his Lower East Side district, on whom he lavished millions of dollars in state funds to buy perpetual re-election, or citizens of New York State.

"He is absolutely crushed," said one of his attorneys, Joel Cohen. "He is devastated."

Mr. Silver's attorneys asked that he be sentenced to probation and community service, citing the good they said he had accomplished during nearly 40 years in the Assembly.

Cites Deterrent Effect

But in passing sentence, Judge Caproni said, "Silver's corruption cast a shadow over everything he has done and has thrown into doubt every difficult decision any legislator has ever made."

She told him, "I hope that the sentence I'm going to impose on you will make the next politician hesitate just long enough before taking a bribe or a kickback for his better angels to take over. Or, if there are no better angels, and for some people there are not, then maybe his fear of living out his golden years in an orange jumpsuit will put him on the straight and narrow."

Outside the courthouse, Mr. Silver told reporters that he would appeal. "I believe in the justice system, and we will pursue all remedies that are available," he said.

Judge Caproni allowed him to remain free until July 1, when he must report to begin serving his prison term. His lawyers requested that he be assigned to a minimum-security section at Otisville Federal Correctional Institution, which is located in Orange County about a two-hour drive from his home.

Religious Compatibility

Mr. Silver is an Orthodox Jew, and Otisville has full-time rabbis and observes Jewish holidays. Judge Caproni said she would recommend Otisville, but the final decision was up to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

The scene at Mr. Silver's sentencing May 3 was scheduled to be repeated this week. His counterpart in the State Senate, former Republican Leader Dean Skelos, is being sentenced along with

Continued on Page 15



PREET BHARARA: 'A just and fitting end.'

Teen's Convicted For Fire That Killed Cop; Faces 25-to-Life

A teenager whose penchant for setting fires led to the death of one Police Officer and severe injuries to his partner was convicted May 5 of murder, arson and assault and faces up to life in prison for his crime.

The wife and mother of Police Officer Dennis Guerra, who died while trying to ensure the safety of residents inside the Coney Island building, broke down in tears when the verdict was read in Brooklyn Supreme Court. Patrolmen's Benevolent Association President Patrick J. Lynch expressed satisfaction with the outcome, even while noting it was "an emotional day for this family" that lost a son, husband and father of four children.

'It Brings Justice'

"This doesn't fix everything, but it does bring justice," he told a large crowd of officers who had applauded Mr. Guerra's family and his injured partner, Rosa Rodriguez, as well as prosecutors Howard Jackson and Lauren Silver. "It sends the message that you cannot kill a New York City police officer."

Officer Rodriguez, who testified at the trial, was barely audible because she sustained severe damage to her lungs when exposed to the fire after the door to the elevator that carried them upstairs opened.

She has been unable to return to her job in the 25 months since the teen, who was then 16, set the fire, initially telling cops he did it because he was bored. He later claimed he made a false confession because cops assured him he would be free to leave if he admitted setting the fire. Under law, police officers are permitted to lie to a suspect in order to gain a confession.

Mr. Dockery had agreed to a plea bargain under which he would have received 22 years in prison, but later changed his mind. He now faces 25 years to life behind bars, and the jury's request

Continued on Page 15



DENNIS GUERRA: Some comfort for his family.

Lieutenant Promotions Cleared: Judge Kicks Motion by Failing Sgts.

By MARK TOOR

Nine NYPD Sergeants suing the city over a flawed promotion exam marred by allegations of cheating lost their bid to block the first scheduled set of promotions to Lieutenant.

U.S. District Judge Paul Engelmayer ruled May 4 that he could not stop the department from making new Lieutenants in the next round of promotions, scheduled for early June. Despite a shortage of more than 50 Lieutenants, the NYPD skipped

Continued on Page 9



RANDOLPH McLAUGHLIN: Are candidates really qualified?

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3 Licenses, 1 Course Connecticut, New Jersey & Westchester Master Electrician Preparation Course	January 4, 2016 <i>(Monday Nights)</i> 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
2016 Electrical Estimating Course	February 17, 2016 <i>(Ten Wednesday Nights)</i> 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
OSHA 10 Hour Outreach Training	Mandated Two Days <i>(Saturday and Sunday Mornings)</i> January 30 and 31 – 5 Hours Per Day February 27 and 28 – 5 Hours Per Day March 26 and 27 – 5 Hours Per Day 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
8 Hour New York City Master Electrician License Renewal Course	One Day Seminar (8 Hours) <i>(Saturdays)</i> 8:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

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PREET BHARARA: 'A just and fitting end.'



Mayor's Office Photo

TAKING HIM TO SCHOOL: Lingering anger among Republican State Senators, including Education Committee Chairman Carl Marcellino (center in red shirt), over Mayor de Blasio's efforts—now being probed for possible campaign violations—to get a Democratic majority in that body two years ago made for a chilly climate when he and Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña (seated at hearing table) made their pitch for a seven-year extension of mayoral control of the schools.

Campaign Probes Reopen Old Wounds

Senate Education Hearings: In Lion's Den, Mayor Gets Chewed, Not Devoured

By DAN ROSENBLUM

Those expecting a heated confrontation between Mayor de Blasio, whose investigative woes include probes of whether his aides violated campaign-finance laws during a 2014 push to gain a Democratic majority in the State Senate, and hostile Senate Republicans, may have been disappointed by their May 4 face-off on mayoral control over city schools.

There were no fireworks; on the other hand, the GOP Senators seemed disinclined to give the Mayor the lengthy extension he sought.

'Seven' Not So Lucky Last Year

During his portion of the Education Committee hearing in Albany, which stretched to nearly four hours, lawmakers interrogated Mr. de Blasio on his stewardship of the Department of Education after he asked for a seven-year extension of mayoral control, which expires next month.

Though he requested a similar extension

last year, the State Legislature last June granted Mr. de Blasio only one year, a rebuke when compared to the seven- and six-year periods of mayoral control given to then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg after he won oversight of the DOE in 2002.

The Mayor, appearing with Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña, said the ability to unilaterally set policy led to successes, including the pre-kindergarten expansion to nearly 70,000 students, more after-school programming, progress at 94 "renewal" schools and a push to increase literacy, math and computer-science skills.

"Mayoral control works," he said. "It allows us to get things done, it allows us to have real accountability, it allows us to move major new initiatives like pre-k, after-school, Equity and Excellence..."

In the most-contentious moments of the hearing, Terrence Murphy, a Republican whose opponent two years ago was one of the beneficiaries of the campaign contributions

Continued on Page 18

MEA Sues on Mgrs. Being Charged For Paid Parental Leave

By SARAH DORSEY

City managers have filed suit against the de Blasio administration for revoking two vacation days and a small wage hike to pay for the Mayor's paid parental leave program, which he implemented in January.

The Managerial Employees Association, which represents 20,000 members but lacks collective-bargaining rights, filed an Article 78 complaint May 6 in State Supreme Court in Manhattan. The suit also targets Comptroller Scott Stringer and Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña.

'Arbitrary and Capricious'

"The Mayor's elimination of previously granted pay raises and annual leave is arbitrary and capricious, a breach of contract, and discriminates against older workers," the suit said. The union cited local laws and the right to equal protection under the state constitution.

MEA President Stuart Eber said he and his members support paid parental leave—they just don't want their members to suffer for it. Senior managers had 27 vacation days, which Mr. de Blasio cut to 25 to offset the cost of the six weeks of

Continued on Page 17



STU EBER: Mayor generous at managers' expense.



ANTHONY WELLS: 'Happy we reached understanding.'

Local 371 Persuades Mayor to Keep HA Senior Centers Open

By DAN ROSENBLUM

Social Service Employees Local 371 of District Council 37 cheered the de Blasio administration for keeping 15 senior centers run by the Housing Authority funded in the Mayor's April 26 executive budget proposal.

The HA, which is seeking to reduce its non-housing-related obligations as part of its "NextGeneration" program, planned to shift its remaining centers to the Department for the Aging, which manages 114 other senior centers at public-housing developments. Operations are traditionally outsourced to non-profits and non-civil-service employees.

A Running Battle

In previous years, the local rallied against proposals to shift or close the centers, which offer recreation, meals and socialization. Though money was left in last June's budget agreement to keep the remaining centers under the HA, their workers hadn't been assured that the centers would be open past June 30, when the fiscal year ends.

Local 371 President Anthony Wells said it negotiated the change with the Mayor's Office. "We've been working with them and we're very

Continued on Page 7

HRA Assoc. JOS Saw Her Opportunity And Pulled \$1.8M Ripoff

By DAN ROSENBLUM

A former Human Resources Administration supervisor pleaded guilty May 2 to stealing more than \$1.8 million from two public-assistance programs, according to U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara.

Prosecutors said Cherise Watson-Jackson, who worked as an Associate Job Opportunity Specialist II in the Jamaica, Queens office, was involved in two schemes between 2012 and December 2013.

Wholesaled Red Bull

In one of those, Ms. Watson-Jackson issued fraudulent Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program benefits on EBT cards that her associates bought from public-assistance clients, prosecutors said. Some used the cards to buy \$120,000 worth of Red Bull from a wholesale store to sell to smaller stores and bodegas at a profit. In the other scheme, the Queens resident issued rent-supplement checks—called "One Shot Deals"—to fake low-income landlords in exchange for some of the money.

"Because of Watson-Jackson's crimes, money meant for the needy went instead to the pockets of the corrupt," Mr. Bharara said in a statement.

Ms. Watson-Jackson, who

Continued on Page 7



PREET BHARARA: A one-way ticket for 'one-shot deals.'

Cite Harassment Including 'Got to Go' List

Suit Claims Success Academy Biased Against Students With Learning Woes

By DAN ROSENBLUM

Five families have filed a lawsuit against Success Academy, claiming the charter-school network discriminated against their kids, who have learning disabilities and other behavioral issues.

The children were named on a "Got to Go" list that a Principal at the Fort Greene school briefly distributed, which had 16 hard-to-teach children he wanted to withdraw from the school. The list, which was revealed by the New York Times last October, helped bolster critics who accuse the network of pushing out difficult students in order to boost its test scores.

Draconian Tactics

The allegations in the lawsuit include "harsh and exclusionary" tactics, such as calling police on a 6-year-old during a field-trip to the American Museum of Natural History and having him escorted to a psychiatric hospital. They also include threatening to call the Administration for Children's Services

when a parent couldn't leave work to pick up a child during an "early dismissal."

"This lawsuit is important to me," said Shawn Lawton, a plaintiff-parent in the case. "The school treats children like robots. I couldn't believe this was happening to my child, or that his school Principal planned to kick him out of the school once he saw that my child was having a hard time."

His son, who has learning disabilities, entered the Fort Greene school in September 2014 and allegedly received "harsh consequences" that included a lack of disability accommodations, segregation from other students when he didn't score well on tests, and no academic instruction when he was removed from class, the lawsuit said. Because of the school's "refusal to implement appropriate accommodations for [the child] and with the school's relentless campaign of imposing disciplinary consequences," the parents removed him the following February.

Success Academy CEO Eva Moskowitz

Continued on Page 11



The Chief-Leader/Michel Friang

THINKS IMPROPER TACTICS ARE PASSED DOWN FROM THE TOP: Parent activist Nicely Givens and attorney Arthur Schwartz are among those contending that pressure tactics they say have been exerted by Success Academy to prompt the transfer of students with learning disabilities and behavioral issues are orchestrated by its founder, Eva Moskowitz, rather than a few isolated teachers and principals within the charter-school network.

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Violated Cuomo Order?

State AG Sues DA Over Rush to Clear Cop Case

By MARK TOOR

Backed by a 2015 executive order signed by Governor Cuomo, State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman is suing an upstate District Attorney who hastily went to a grand jury concerning a police shooting that Mr. Schneiderman says should have been under his jurisdiction.

Rensselaer County DA Joel Abelow has declined to comment on his decision to defy an executive order signed by Mr. Cuomo last July that allows Mr. Schneiderman to determine whether to appoint himself a special prosecutor in cases of civilians who die at the hands of law-enforcement officers.

Spurred by Garner Case

The order applies to shootings in which the civilian was or might have been unarmed. It was issued in the wake of public protests and confusion over the decision of a Staten Island grand jury in December 2014 not to indict a police officer who wrestled Eric Garner to the ground shortly before the 400-pound petty criminal died of a heart attack.

Executive orders generally remain in effect for a year, but Mr. Cuomo issued an amendment to the order April 29 specifically authorizing Mr. Schneiderman to investigate the shooting in Rensselaer County.

"District Attorney Abelow's actions not only violate the law, but directly undermine the public's confidence in law enforcement, making the jobs of police officers and District Attorneys throughout the state more difficult," Mr. Schneiderman said in a statement.

The case at issue involved Edson Thevenin, 37, who was shot to death April 17 in Troy. Police said he fled a traffic stop, tried to make a



ERIC SCHNEIDERMAN: Says DA tried to bum-rush him.



JOEL ABELOW: Sued for not deferring to AG.

U-turn and crashed into a barrier. He backed his car toward Sgt. Randall French, pinning him against a police car, according to police. Mr. French fired eight shots through the windshield of Mr. Thevenin's car, killing him.

Used Car As Weapon?

Law-enforcement sources said Mr. Thevenin did not have a gun, although the car he was driving could be considered a weapon. Police said they believed Mr. Thevenin was driving drunk.

On the day of the shooting,

Continued on Page 7

Lied to FBI About Son's Job

Libous, Ousted Deputy Senate Leader, Dies

By MARK TOOR

Thomas W. Libous, the No. 2 Republican in the State Senate until he was convicted last July of lying to the FBI about whether he used his influence to get his son a job, died May 3 of prostate cancer. He was 63.

Mr. Libous represented Binghamton and parts of the Southern Tier from 1989 until he was automatically expelled from the Senate after his conviction.



THOMAS W. LIBOUS

Binghamton City Council. He then sought and won the seat vacated by the retirement of Warren M. Anderson, the Senate Majority Leader. Mr. Anderson had told Mr. Libous he was leaving before announcing it publicly.

'Saw Fire in Belly'

"I think Warren Anderson saw a work ethic, a fire in the belly, in him at the ripe age of 33 that he wanted in who ever ran when he decided to retire," Mr. Datta said. "A lot of people were ahead of [Libous] in line, so to speak, but Anderson was very wise in that move because Tom Libous certainly filled those shoes."

Mr. Libous told the Press &

Continued on Page 8

Letters to the Editor

Station Agent's TWU Gripe

To the Editor:

Late in April, at our monthly division union meeting, we were told that our section, Station Agents, would in the future be holding our meetings quarterly instead of monthly. This is a breathtaking temper tantrum by the president of TWU Local 100, John Samuelsen.

We were told the reason for this was "budgetary." Poppycock. John is upset because the slate he ran in our section election lost to an insurgent slate. He has decided that the best way to exact revenge is to ignore decades of precedents and go to quarterly meetings. That means he doesn't have to release the section officers on a monthly basis to run meetings.

"Budget"? In 2007-2008, we lost the dues checkoff for 17 months and didn't cut back on meetings. At that time approximately 50 percent of the members were paying their dues. Station Agents always broke into section meetings after the division meeting was finished. Now, at a time when our job is facing an existential threat, King John feels we should hold four meetings a year instead of 12.

We were also told we should have our section meetings on a different day instead of, as in the past, immediately after the division meeting. Unbelievable.

And, instead of the King informing us of this himself, he had one of his minions inform us of these changes. All this to spite the newly-elected section officers. Of course, the fact that the members are being inconvenienced is of no concern. Dictator, anyone?

ARTHUR CLEMENTS

Retired COs' Raw Deal

To the Editor:

To all active COBA members, this is what you have to look forward to: Your dental, optical and prescription plans are vastly inferior in comparison to the NYPD and FDNY.

Retro checks that you earned will not be mailed out to you in a timely manner. They will sit in a DOC payroll office until they decide to do their jobs.

Your COBA union will say they cannot afford to raise your benefits because it costs too much. Again, compare NYPD or FDNY retirement benefits to ours, and you active members will realize the need to demand that our benefits be raised to a higher level. Retirees have no voice or say at all in this matter. All we get is a retiree luncheon, where you hear how great everything is.

Speak up, because one day you will be in that retiree boat.

GEORGE RODRIGUEZ
Correction Officer (retired)

Hoosier Daddy? No Biggie

To the Editor:

Bernie Sanders is singing Dean Taylor's song "Indiana Wants Me," but it's only one small bump on the inevitable path of Hillary Clinton to the Democratic nomination.

So Bernie is not singing that line in the song yet—"I'm gettin' so tired of runnin'"—but the day is coming when he will stop running, whether he's tired or not. His hope for a contested convention is nonsense, and he knows it. As they say in sports, "It's all over but the shouting."

Donald Trump will find it extremely difficult to debate Hillary Clinton, since he knows almost nothing about anything except real estate, and she has had over 20

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years to be ready for opponents much more knowledgeable than Trump.

He will try to dodge every question that requires something that Trump lacks—knowledge. He will look like someone taking an oral bar exam who never went to law school. He'll try to turn every difficult question into one of his canned pep talks, the "America First" jingoistic nonsense. That won't work, and neither will the anti-women rhetoric that has turned most women off. Of course, Mexico won't build Trump's fictitious "wall," and he knows it.

Many in the media give Trump a fighting chance to win the presidency, but I think that is just to drum up interest in a hopeless quest by a race-baiting bully and ruthless real-estate mogul. We Democrats can't wait for Hillary to chew Donald up and spit him out during the debates.

If the Democrats can take back the Senate and a few seats in the House, that will be icing on the cake. Bring it on, GOP!

MICHAEL J. GORMAN
Editor's note: The writer is a retired NYPD Lieutenant and an attorney.

Obama, No; Bernie, Yo

To the Editor:

The American Postal Workers Union is currently in arbitration against proposals to weaken the union's no-layoff clause, lower cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) and to create a new tier of workers who would not get these adjustments at all.

President Obama, who is the boss of those running the United States Postal Service, finds no problem with this hard-line anti-worker stance.

Also under the current President, there have been Federal worker pay freezes and three years of no COLA increases for Social Security recipients. When oil prices went up, they were not counted in COLA calculations. But they were counted when they went down. At one point, Obama suggested changing the COLA formula to make it less "generous."

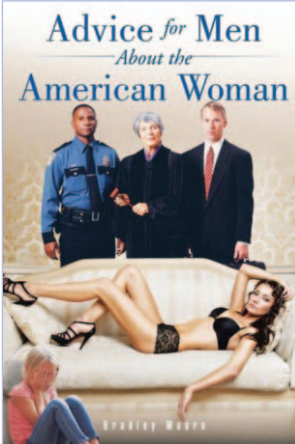
On Wall Street, banks that were too big to fail are even bigger. Most of those who caused the recession received slaps on the wrist.

Federal enforcement of anti-marijuana laws increased under Obama. So did actions against whistleblowers.

But Martin Luther King III, whose father spoke of the day when "people will be judged not by the color of their skin but the content of their character," feels that a black man getting elected and re-elected President, by

Continued on Page 17

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A Tough Judge Reflects on Civil-Rights Cases While Starting New Life

Continued from Page 4

issue that requires attention, we put it on the list” of cases that should be taken up.

It just happens that she has been involved in several of the more-charged cases involving law enforcement over the past two decades. Her “legacy” case was her ruling in August 2013 that NYPD officers had repeatedly performed stop-and-frisks that did not meet the constitutional standard for conducting them: that there must be “reasonable suspicion” that an individual had just engaged in a crime or was about to do so. But that case is best understood in the context of two others over which she presided: the 1998 trial of ex-Police Officer Francis Livoti for violating the civil rights of Anthony Baez, and a 1999 case challenging stop-and-frisk as practiced during the Giuliani administration that was brought in the wake of the most-tragic consequence of its abuse: the fatal shooting of Amadou Diallo by four Street Crime Unit officers who mistook him for a rape suspect.

A Cop With Issues

Mr. Livoti was a cop with a knack for escalating confrontations and attracting brutality complaints. In 1991, his commanding officer at the 46th Precinct in The Bronx, Capt. William Casey, became sufficiently concerned about his behavior that he advised Mr. Livoti to undergo psychological counseling or face a transfer to a quieter precinct. The cop was able to resist those choices because he was a Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association delegate who had managed to ingratiate himself with both union President Phil Caruso and Bronx Borough Commander Louis Anemone, who rejected the transfer order from Mr. Casey.

His powerful protectors allowed Mr. Livoti to continue getting into scrapes on the streets that led to civilian complaints of excessive force, and to survive serious disciplinary action even when he shoved an NYPD Lieutenant during an argument. There were two concessions made to his bad behavior: he was ordered by Captain Casey to avoid unnecessary confrontations, and he was required to ride with a Sergeant, William Monahan, to make sure that he complied.

On Dec. 22, 1994, they parked their vehicle on a Bronx block in a neighborhood where drug-dealing and prostitution were common. On this particular street, however, the only action involved a football game being played by Anthony Baez and his brothers, who had come home for Christmas. Their football accidentally struck the patrol car twice. The second time, Officer Livoti emerged from the car screaming profanities and looking to make arrests, notwithstanding his Sergeant’s caution against doing so.

Choking Off Dissent

The two cops had no actual police business on the block; the Baez family lived there. But when Anthony Baez ob-



The Chief-Leader/Michel Friang

GLOVES CAME UP BEFORE ROBE CAME OFF: Judges are often reluctant to defend themselves when publicly criticized, Shira Scheindlin said, but she felt compelled to do so in 2013 in the midst of the stop-and-frisk trial after both Mayor Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Ray Kelly made what she considered unwarranted attacks on her impartiality. Even though she avoided talking about the specifics of that trial, she was later censured by an appellate panel for doing newspaper interviews during that period, but she said last week, ‘I’m a great believer in the public’s need to understand what the courts do. So I’ve not been reluctant to interact with the media.’

jected to his brother being arrested, Mr. Livoti put him in a chokehold—the kind that had been banned by the NYPD a year earlier. By the time he was done, Anthony Baez, who suffered from asthma, was breathing his dying breaths.

There would be a trial in Bronx Supreme Court on a charge of criminally-negligent homicide. Prosecutors established that in the wake of the fatal incident, there were three separate meetings among the officers who had responded to the scene, including one in the PBA’s offices, that were presented as attempts to get everyone’s story in order, with a female officer, Daisy Boria, serving as a prime witness against her fellow cops.

The judge who was deciding the case, Gerald Sheindlin, issued a disjointed decision in which he declared there had been a “nest of perjury” among 46th Precinct officers, yet he acquitted Mr. Livoti. Asked afterwards about the seeming contradiction, he claimed he had been referring to Officer Boria rather than the cops involved in those three meetings. Justice Sheindlin and his wife, better known as Judge Judy, would subsequently become dinner companions of Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

Officer Livoti was subsequently fired by the NYPD in early 1997, after a departmental trial in which he was found guilty of using the banned chokehold. Federal prosecutors brought charges against him for violating Mr. Baez’s civil rights, and the case was assigned to Judge Scheindlin. In June 1998, a prosecutor in a blistering summation described the Sergeant assigned to babysit Mr. Livoti as “sleeping at the wheel” and said of the angry cop, “This defendant wasn’t a police officer. He was a bully, engaged in brutality.”

Had Second Choking Rap

He was convicted, and in October of that year came up

for sentencing, with the U.S. Attorney’s Office asking that he be given the maximum 10-year sentence—for an offense for which Federal guidelines prescribed less than half that—while his PBA-appointed attorney requested that he be given between 8 and 14 months. Normally, one justification a defense attorney would cite for such leniency was the convicted officer’s lack of any prior criminal record; in this case, Stuart London was hamstrung by the fact that late in 1997, Mr. Livoti had been sentenced to seven months in prison for choking a teenager who had been riding a go-cart on the sidewalk in an incident prior to his encounter with Mr. Baez.

Few cops had been visible in the courtroom supporting Officer Livoti during the closing arguments in the case, but roughly 50 off-duty officers were there for the sentencing; Judge Scheindlin last week recalled the massive police presence on one side of the courtroom and the Baez family on the other.

In a statement to the court, Officer Livoti briefly touched on the pain the dead man’s family must be feeling but focused mainly on how a lengthy sentence would affect his own life and that of his parents, saying that his employment prospects had been severely compromised by his conviction but that he had one job opportunity that would remain available to him if he were given a year or less behind bars.

Judge Scheindlin gave him the bad news gradually, saying she agreed with the jurors who had concluded that fellow cops perjured themselves during the trial to aid Mr. Livoti, and noting that one reason cited by the U.S. Attorney’s Office for seeking a sentence well above the Federal guidelines given his background as a cop was its belief that the tarnished officer had perjured himself be-

fore the state grand jury in the initial case against him.

‘Disgraced That Badge’

She reminded him of the warning he had ignored from his commanding officer not to engage in unnecessary confrontations, and said that his “violent and unprovoked behavior caused the death of an innocent man... You disgraced the badge that you wore, and you will have to live with that as well.”

Judge Scheindlin sentenced him to 7½ years in prison, and said that it would have been more except for the degree to which the NYPD bore responsibility for his being on the street that night. “The Police Department did Mr. Livoti and the people of this city a great disservice when it left Mr. Livoti on patrol knowing his propensity for violence,” she said.

Mr. Giuliani, not surprisingly, took exception to that final comment, even while calling Mr. Livoti “a brutal criminal who deserves a long sentence in Federal prison.” He called Judge Scheindlin’s comments about the department “gratuitous,” adding that they “certainly don’t reflect the department’s excellent record in uncovering corruption and disciplining and dismissing rogue cops.”

It would not be the last time she would raise the hackles of a Mayor and Police Commissioner. It would also not be the last time that a vigorous defense of the NYPD’s conduct would be belied by its actions away from the courtroom: eight months after the sentencing, Mr. Anemone—who had defended Mr. Livoti right after the fatal incident as the kind of active, aggressive cop who was needed in a rough precinct, and a short time later was promoted to Chief of Department—retired from that job.

He was reportedly frustrated at being frozen out of key decisions by then-Police Commissioner Howard Safir. But one administration official at the time said this wouldn’t have happened if Mr. Giuliani hadn’t wanted it, remarking, “The Mayor liked him a lot. But that was then.”

‘Diallo’ Spurred ‘Stop’ Suit

What had also occurred in the intervening period was the incident on another Bronx street in which four Street Crime Unit officers fired 41 bullets at Mr. Diallo after his reaching into his pocket led them to think he had pulled out a gun. The four cops were working together for the first time that night and had no supervisor present, a product of a hasty expansion of the SCU that was desired by Mr. Giuliani and ordered by Chief Anemone over the objections of its commander, who said the unit had been so good at getting guns off the street because its members had been carefully selected and meticulously trained.

There had been complaints before that about SCU members stopping people—particularly black residents—without good reason for do-

ing so. By more-recent standards, the unit did spectacularly well: in 1997 and 1998 10,000 of the 45,000 stop-and-frisks it conducted resulted in an arrest, a 22-percent rate that was nearly four times the percentage compiled by officers during the Bloomberg administration in the years leading to the 2013 trial before Judge Scheindlin. When it came to stopping black residents, however, arrests resulted only once in every 16 stops—roughly the same rate that would be found more than a decade later.

Public outrage over the Diallo shooting convinced the Center for Constitutional Rights and other attorneys that it was time to legally challenge the SCU’s use of stop-and-frisk, and later in 1999 they filed a class-action suit in the Southern District—which covers Manhattan and The Bronx, as well as several counties north of the city—and the case was assigned to Judge Scheindlin.

Settled by Bloomberg

Four years later, a settlement was reached, and it was approved by the Judge in December 2003. It required the NYPD to institute a policy prohibiting racial profiling and required the department to audit cops involved in stops and their supervisors to ensure that they were using the constitutional standard, established in a 1968 Supreme Court ruling, of “reasonable suspicion” in making all stops.

It may have been easier for Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who had taken office at the beginning of 2002, to make a deal in that instance because the misconduct at issue involved Mr. Giuliani’s administration. Judge Scheindlin did not encounter a similar willingness to resolve a serious problem a decade later after a similar lawsuit, known as *Floyd* for one of its plaintiffs.

“Mayor Bloomberg and Commissioner [Ray] Kelly and Corporation Counsel [Michael] Cardozo did not want to settle the case,” she recalled. “I think they really believed that what they were doing was right and protecting the city.”

On the other side of the ledger were the dismal results: 88 percent of the stops were not resulting in either arrests or summonses for wrongdoing, and the overwhelming concentration of those stops in heavily minority neighborhoods had soured relations between the police and the black community in particular.

‘Seemed Out of Touch’

In an interview with the New York Times published May 2, Ms. Scheindlin said of the Mayor and Police Commissioner, “They seemed out of touch with the issues that the communities cared about. They didn’t seem to understand the impact of these policies on real people and real neighborhoods and real communities and the detrimental impact it was having, even on policing.”

The following afternoon, sitting in her 32nd-floor office at Stroock across from the South Street Seaport, she remarked, “After the decision, they said the city was going to blow up; there would be blood in the streets.”

There wasn’t; in fact both crime and the homicide rate continued to decline even as the number of stops plummeted from 685,000 in 2011 to 24,000 last year under Mayor de Blasio and Police Commissioner Bill Bratton.

The strangest part of the florid rhetoric on the part of Mr. Bloomberg and Mr. Kelly was that by the time Judge Scheindlin issued her decision 33 months ago, there had already been a dramatic decline in stops that was accompanied by nearly as great a percentage decrease in homicides. There was one step taken by the NYPD that was the most-logical explanation for why stops—which in the first quarter of 2012 put the department on pace to wind up close to 800,000 for the year—had dropped so precipitously by the end of the year, totaling 533,000, or 152,000 fewer than in 2011.

In early spring of 2012, Mr. Kelly issued a departmental

memo telling officers to focus on “quality” stops rather than quantity. This change was first referred to by an anonymous cop in an interview with the New York Post in which he said a good program had been made even better as a result. A PBA official later said the memo had been a signal to officers that the unofficial quotas that existed for stops—as well as arrests and summonses—were no longer in effect, and that the huge decline in them after that was predictable.

Schizophrenic Posture

Yet Mr. Kelly never publicized the memo, and the city’s posture in court took on a kind of schizophrenic quality: it was warning of dire consequences if the ruling in the case went against the city, even as its voluntary loosening of the reins had produced a major decline in stops with no adverse effect in terms of a crime spike.

Asked why Mr. Kelly—who declined to testify in the case despite several invitations that she extended—hadn’t tried to help the city’s legal cause by conceding that yes, the department had gone too far as stops rose to seven times the 97,000 it conducted during the first year of his second tour on the job, but it had corrected the situation, and the drastic decline in stops made clear that no intervention was needed by the court, Ms. Scheindlin, judiciously, said that was a question better addressed to the ex-Police Commissioner.

But it’s reasonable to believe that where Mr. Bloomberg, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Cardozo had been willing to work out a deal in the earlier case known as *Daniels* in 2003 because the wrongdoing at issue hadn’t gone out of control on their watch, they resisted doing so in the more-recent lawsuit out of hubris and concern about how it might affect their legacies.

Before the case was over, Judge Scheindlin took some bruising on that front as well.

Empire Struck Back

Shortly after the trial began, the Daily News published a story in which aides to the Mayor claimed that 60 percent of her written search-and-seizure rulings had gone in favor of the defendants, suggesting she had a bias against law enforcement. Stung by what she told the Associated Press was a “below-the-belt attack” on her independence, Judge Scheindlin took the unusual step of granting interviews to the wire service and the New York Times to defend herself while steering clear of the stop-and-frisk case itself.

She said the one way in which she might differ from other Federal Judges—particularly those who had worked for the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District prior to going on the bench—was that “I treat the government as only one more litigant.”

After Commissioner Kelly—who had been aggrieved by her finding against the NYPD on constitutional grounds in January 2013 regarding stops at Bronx buildings whose landlords consented—suggested she was biased in favor of civil-rights lawyers, calling her “very much in their corner,” she spoke to the Times about her role in having the stop-and-frisk case wind up before her. When the plaintiffs from the 1999 *Daniels* case came before her in late 2007 to say that the practices of the Giuliani administration that Mr. Bloomberg had agreed to correct had begun reappearing with the increased use of stop-and-frisks, she told the newspaper that she had responded, “If you’ve got proof of inappropriate racial profiling in a good constitutional case, why don’t you bring a lawsuit? You can certainly mark it as related,” which would mean that because of her past experience with such litigation, she would have the case assigned to her rather than a trial judge being chosen randomly.

And so after her ruling finding the NYPD had executed the stop-and-frisk pro-

Continued on Page 7

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Scheindlin Reflects Upon Leaving the Federal Bench

Senior Centers Rescued

Continued from Page 6

gram in a discriminatory fashion and in violation of the Constitution, Bloomberg administration attorneys sought a stay of her remedies. A three-judge appellate panel granted the stay and ordered that Judge Scheindlin be removed from the case, saying that the combination of her suggestion to the plaintiffs that they file a new lawsuit as a related case in order to get it assigned to her and the interviews she did with the media “ran afoul” of the Judicial Code of Conduct and created “the appearance of partiality.”

‘Intended to Intimidate’

At the time she gave the interviews, Judge Scheindlin defended doing so in her AP conversation by saying, “To attack the judge personally is completely inappropriate and intimidates judges or it is intended to intimidate judges or it has an effect on other judges, and that worries me.” And so having her impartiality questioned by the appellate panel left her “pretty upset,” she said last week, and her lawyer appealed the ruling. That prompted a softened response by that panel stating, “We do not find that there was any judicial misconduct or violation of any ethical duty.” She said of that opinion, “I view it as an apology.” She contended the appellate judges had given too much credence to “a hearsay statement” by one of her former clerks who had stated, “Well, she never did like cops.” “I’ve worked very well with lots of law-enforcement personnel,” Ms. Scheindlin said. “I had a good relationship with police until those attacks on me.”

A Measured Skepticism

Which didn’t mean she wasn’t skeptical when it came to cops always telling the truth, a quality instilled in her even before the clear indications of police perjury in the Livoti case. After grad-



RAY KELLY: Curbed stops even as he warned against doing so.

uating from Columbia Law School, she worked as an attorney with Stroock and then as a Court Clerk for U.S. District Judge Charles Brieant before moving over to Brooklyn as a prosecutor for the U.S. Attorney’s Office there. During that period in the Eastern District, she said, “I remember interviewing police officers in a case and being concerned about the accuracy of the reports I was getting.” The appellate court’s softened remarks in response to her appeal were not accompanied by an order restoring her as the presiding judge in the case, but she takes comfort in the ultimate outcome: not the de Blasio administration’s decision to drop its predecessor’s appeal of her ruling but the fact that even as the number of stops has continued falling, to just 24,000 last year, it’s had no negative impact on the crime rate. Whatever genuine concern Mr. Kelly may have had on that subject, Ms. Scheindlin said, “It certainly is at odds with what he can see are the actual results.”

Not Why She Left

Asked whether she might still be on the bench if not for the ordeal that resulted from her removal from the Floyd case, she replied, “No, I would not. I was ready to do other things for a whole host of reasons.” Money was not one of them. It had been when she gave up



MICHAEL BLOOMBERG: Claimed stats showed judicial bias.

a position as the first woman serving as a Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District in 1986, at a time when she was raising two children and “we were terribly underpaid,” to spend eight years with the law firm Herzfeld and Rubin. But she gave up her law practice in 1994 because “I wanted to get back to court,” and with President Clinton having taken office a year earlier after 12 years of Republicans in the White House, she figured it was then or never for a District Judge appointment. Born in Washington but raised in Detroit, she has had a long passion for criminal law, and she hopes to remain involved with it both through the law practice and her work as a mediator.

Stay With ‘Rights’ Cases

“It’s private judging,” she said of the job with JAMS, “and I actually think that’s my talent, more than lawyering. I said to them, ‘I don’t want to come to you if you think I’m going to just do commercial work and make money. I really want to stay in the public sector’” handling cases that deal with civil rights and institutional reforms. She’s certainly had plenty of experience with both, although she couldn’t help but notice that even important rulings like her strict sentence for Francis Livoti don’t necessarily bring permanent changes.

“And here we are with Eric Garner,” Ms. Scheindlin said. The officer who used the chokehold in that case, Daniel Pantaleo, was not indicted by a grand jury in Staten Island, and Federal prosecutors in the Eastern District have not yet decided, nearly three years after the incident, whether to bring civil-rights charges. “My reaction,” Ms. Scheindlin said, “was, why isn’t this being prosecuted by the state or Federal authorities? If you do something that’s not permitted, there are consequences, or should be.”

AG Sues on Shooting

Continued from Page 5

according to an announcement from Mr. Schneiderman’s office, “representatives from the Attorney General’s office visited the scene of the incident and informed D.A. Abelow that more information was needed to determine whether the shooting did or did not fall within the Attorney General’s jurisdiction.” “The next day, D.A. Abelow publicly contradicted that message in an inaccurate statement to the Albany Times Union, saying, ‘It was relayed to me...that the Attorney General...is not going to be claiming jurisdiction in this case.’ In a subsequent conversation, D.A. Abelow assured the Attorney General’s office that he had been misquoted.” On April 19, two days after the shooting, Mr. Schneiderman’s office asked Mr. Abelow’s office for information on whether Mr. Thevenin was armed, according to the announcement.

An Abrupt Disclosure

“On Friday, April 22, with no prior notice to the Attorney General’s office that a grand jury had been convened or that he was contesting the Attorney General’s

Continued on Page 11

Continued from Page 3

happy we came to an understanding,” he said last week. There won’t be layoffs, but some employees in the Family Services and Community Operations departments will be redeployed. It is expected to be “significantly” fewer than the roughly 70 who were originally slated to be moved, though the local is planning to meet with HA and city Office of Labor Relations representatives within the next few weeks to work out the details, Mr. Wells said. “It was a collaborative effort between the advocacy of this union, discussions with City Hall and NYCHA,” he said. “And really, the leadership of NYCHA actually listened to the people.”

Shifted 41 Last Year

Last year, the HA shifted 24 community centers to the Department of Youth and Community Development and 17 senior centers to “Aging,” a move it projected would save the agency \$16 million annually. “We are firmly committed to being the best landlord we can be and these streamlining efforts will help us improve residents’ quality of life,” an HA spokesman said in a statement. “We will be meeting with staff and their union representatives over the next two weeks to discuss these changes further.”



MAYOR DE BLASIO: Found money to avert shift.

The Mayor’s Office also proposed spending \$4.8 million to rehabilitate senior centers run by DFTA. It operates 251 centers serving 28,000 people. Aging also plans to phase in salary increases for Case Management vendors, bringing the average pay for the social workers from \$35,000 to \$50,000 over two years.

Scammer Stole \$1.8M

Continued from Page 3

worked for the agency since 1993, was arrested in December with a co-worker and 11 other co-conspirators, eight of whom have since pleaded guilty to their involvement in at least one of the schemes, according to Mr. Bharara’s office. The Department of Investigation released a report coinciding with the arrests that detailed systemic issues with HRA’s case-management and payment systems that contributed to that fraud and an unrelated plot to steal more than \$300,000 in benefits. The agency adopted some of those changes.

Not Fired Yet

HRA suspended Ms. Watson-Jackson without pay in December and recommended firing her in March, according to an agency spokeswoman. HRA has scheduled a hearing that will result in her termination. Ms. Watson-Jackson, 45, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, each of which could land her 20 years in prison. She has also agreed to pay more than \$1.8 million in restitution and is scheduled to be sentenced by U.S. District Judge John Koeltl on Aug. 5. The DOI, state Office of the Welfare Inspector General and FBI helped investigate and prosecute the crime. **D.R.**

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Postal IG: Pre-Funding Health Care’s Hidden Cost

Continued from Page 1

Accountability and Enhancement Act, a 2006 law that required the Postal Service to spend billions each year pre-funding the health-care costs of its future retirees.

‘Manufactured Crisis’

The American Postal Workers Union and its sister organizations have long characterized the Service’s financial woes as a “manufactured crisis,” attributing its losses overwhelmingly to the Congressional mandate.

The IG last week confirmed the outsized role played by pre-funding, which isn’t required of other government entities.

The USPS would have broken even had it saved just 3.1 cents on every letter sent since the mandate, which took effect in 2007, according to the report. But 2.8 cents of every letter was spent on pre-funding, accounting for more than 90 percent of the debt.

And even those sacrifices weren’t enough, the oversight office noted. The Postal Service has defaulted on several pre-funding payments, despite cutting billions in costs, particularly in labor.

“Overall, the Postal Service is doing better financially than sometimes reported in the press,” Mr. Williams said. But he urged managers to find new ways to raise revenue, saying they “must continually seek to improve customer service and be allowed to make appropriate capital investments” to integrate with the “digital world.”

Since 2006, postal officials have slashed costs by \$13.7 billion. They did so by consol-



DAVID C. WILLIAMS: Low pay costs USPS workers.

idating mail-processing plants and post offices throughout the country, but most dramatically through labor savings. Officials slashed personnel costs by \$10.2 billion, a 20-percent drop.

Kept Wages ‘Relatively Flat’

Mr. Williams noted that as Americans began sending far fewer first-class mail pieces in the late 2000s, the USPS began replacing retiring employees with lower-paid part-time or non-career counterparts. Officials reduced work hours by nearly 3 percent each year, and kept wages “relatively flat.”

But such savings came with a price, the IG found.

“The Postal Service’s quit rate has increased to 29 percent for non-career employees for the fiscal year 2014, perhaps due to low wages and low benefits,” he noted. “This is problematic for the Postal Service because it raises training costs.”

The IG also warned that the service has invested far less in capital needs than its private competitors, FedEx



LUKE T. GROSSMANN: Been forced to ‘stave off disaster.’

and UPS. Though the USPS has modernized its technology somewhat, Mr. Williams warned that the private companies are using the latest tech innovations to process parcels and keep costs low.

‘Immense Challenges’

Postal Service officials objected to the idea that the agency is doing better than the press has reported.

“Our press releases are accurate and consistent with our GAAP numbers and informative,” Finance and Planning Vice President Luke Grossmann said in an April 11 letter after receiving a draft of the report. “The Postal Service has made substantial cost reductions in response to extremely challenging financial circumstances and...these actions have staved off disaster or additional defaults. The financial challenges facing the Postal Service continue to be immense without legislative change.”

Mr. Grossman said managers were “well aware” of the need to invest in up-



MARK DIMONDSTEIN: Service cuts weakening ‘treasure.’

grades, and noted that officials were already planning to modernize the delivery fleet.

The USPS did not comment on the final report.

APWU President Mark Dimondstein in a statement called for major changes. The union has pushed to save post offices and processing plants, and wants to add services such as postal banking.

“This report underscores concerns we’ve been raising for quite some time,” Mr. Dimondstein said. “Cuts to service and jobs are hurting the people of the country and jeopardizing the future of our great national treasure.”

“If management takes this report with the seriousness it deserves, they will stop delaying America’s mail and make sure the Postal Service is properly staffed so that we can carry out our mission. In the end, the Postal Service is a service, not a business.”

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Ex-Senator Libous Dies

Continued from Page 5

Sun-Bulletin years ago that the biggest challenge he faced when running for the seat was his age, 35. “The people were used to having a Senator, and I was a kid,” he said.

But he moved up relatively quickly, becoming Deputy Majority Leader after Joseph Bruno resigned as Republican Leader in 2008. “We were always able to work together because of his good nature,” said Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins, leader of the mainstream Democratic Conference. “He will be truly missed.”

He was an advocate for disabled people and childhood literacy and encouraged fracking until Governor Cuomo killed the proposal at the end of 2014. He joined most of his fellow Republicans in voting against same-sex marriage in 2011 and opposed the gun-control act Mr. Cuomo pushed through the Legislature after 20 first-graders and six adults were gunned down at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newton, Conn.

Had Cancer Since ‘09

Mr. Libous announced in 2009 that he had prostate cancer. It went into remission, then returned, spreading to his lungs.

Preet Bharara, the U.S. Attorney for Manhattan, convicted Mr. Libous last year of lying to the FBI about efforts to get his son a job. Mr. Bharara also successfully prosecuted the Majority Leader for whom Mr. Libous worked, Dean Skelos, and former Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver on corruption charges.

At Mr. Libous’s trial, Anthony Mangone, a former partner in the law firm that



ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS: ‘He’ll be missed.’

hired his son Matthew, testified that the Senator had promised “enough business to build a new wing of offices” if Matthew was taken on.

U.S. District Judge Vincent L. Briccetti said during sentencing that Mr. Libous—who never publicly addressed the charges that he lied to FBI agents—had behaved disgracefully and showed no remorse for his actions.

Telltale \$50G Payment

Judge Briccetti referred to “the elephant in the room”—a \$50,000 payment to the law firm from a lobbying firm that dealt frequently with the Senator. He said that during the trial the defense had never addressed this payment. “What’s up with that?” he asked.

Prosecutors contended that Mr. Libous arranged the payment to defray the cost of his son’s salary and the law firm’s lease of a Range Rover for him.

“At the end of the day, anyone could fall into a trap like I did,” Mr. Libous said after he was sentenced.

Citing the precarious state




Continued on Page 11



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Judge Won't Block Lieut. Promotions

Continued from Page 2

over that rank at the beginning of both April and May.

Lacked Standing to Sue

He said that because the Sergeants had failed the test and were not eligible to be promoted, they lacked the legal standing to contest the promotions since they had not made the eligible list. The decision was first reported by the Daily News.

Their attorney, Randolph McLaughlin of the firm of Newman Ferrara, told THE CHIEF-LEADER that his clients feared that promotions would be given to Sergeants who had not passed the test honestly and would therefore be unqualified to make life-and-death decisions in their new rank.

He said Judge Engelmayer also raised that issue. "The Judge was clear that he was concerned, both as a Judge and a citizen, about how thoroughly the NYPD was going to investigate the allegations of cheating," he said. The NYPD has handed the probe over to the Department of Investigation.

Besides the cheating allegations, the suit challenges about six test questions asked about topics that were not described in the announcement of the exam issued by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. It seeks to have those questions invalidated, and if that occurred, most of his clients would have passing scores, Mr. McLaughlin said.

'Still a Viable Case'

"It's still a viable lawsuit," he said, "and we're going to pursue it until we get some relief for the Sergeants and the residents of this city."

The allegations of cheating arose after a much-greater percentage of Sergeants passed a makeup test than the original test about six weeks earlier. Less than 7 percent of the 2,401 candidates who took the first exam passed, compared with 48 percent of the 80 Sergeants who took the makeup.

In between the first exam and the makeup, DCAS held a hearing in which those who took the test could challenge specific questions. An answer key distributed at that session found its way onto a bulletin board run by the Rising Star Promotions School, which tutors officers taking such tests. Specific questions and their answers also were posted on the bulletin board.



EDWARD MULLINS: Minus proof, can't withhold promotions.

An official of the school compared the postings with the pre-Internet era when officers who took promotion tests would share information orally in locker rooms and be overheard by others planning to take the makeup.

Unions' Reaction

Louis Turco, president of the Lieutenants Benevolent Association, has said the low passing rate for the original

test was evidence that it had problems. Edward D. Mullins, president of the Sergeants Benevolent Association, said that without evidence that specific Sergeants cheated, the department has no choice but to promote them.

Deputy Commissioner for Legal Matters Lawrence Byrne told the Daily News last month that the NYPD was vetting each officer up for promotion to weed out those who might have cheated. Among the issues the department was examining was whether their excuses for taking the make-up held up. Officers can take a make-up

Continued on Page 11

Tax Strategies

Continued from Page 4

you clicked on links in a suspicious e-mail or phishing website and entered confidential information, visit the IRS and enter the search term 'identity theft' for more information and resources to help.

3. The address of the official IRS website is <http://www.irs.gov>.

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4. If you receive a phone call, fax, or letter in the mail from an individual claiming to be from the IRS, but you suspect he or she is not an IRS employee, contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 to determine if the IRS has a legitimate need to contact you. Report any bogus correspondence.

5. You can help shut down these schemes and prevent others from being victimized. Details on how to report specific types of scams and what to do if you've been victimized are available at <http://www.irs.gov>, keyword 'phishing.'

Barry Lisak is an IRS Enrolled Agent, meaning that he has passed special U.S. Treasury Department exams that qualify him to represent clients dealing with audits or tax-resolution cases. Any questions can be directed to him at (516) TAX-SAVE, or mrbarrytax@aol.com.



Ed Reed/Mayor's Photo Office

DOWN WHERE THE ACTION IS: Mayor de Blasio and Police Commissioner William J. Bratton, at far left, in the 105th Precinct in southeast Queens. The pair announced that the precinct, one of the largest in the city in terms of both population and size, will be broken into two. That's years away; a site for the new 116th Precinct has yet to be selected.

116th Will Ease Strain on 105th

City Fleshes Out Mayor's Plan For New Police Pct. in Southeast Queens

By MARK TOOR

Mayor de Blasio and Police Commissioner William J. Bratton officially announced May 3 that the city will split the 105th Precinct in southeast Queens into two, an action the community has been seeking since the 1970s.

The new 116th Precinct will be created out of the southern portions of the 105th—Laurelton, Rosedale, Brookville and Springfield Gardens—they said at a press conference at the existing stationhouse. Currently, the "105" ranks fifth among the city's 77 precincts in population (118,577 residents) and in size (12.43 square miles).

Cites Community Concern

"The local community has long expressed concerns over the lack of a base of operations" in the southern section of the precinct, Mr. Bratton said. Planning documents from 2014 show a request for a new precinct in 1977.

The change had been revealed a week earlier in Mr. de Blasio's executive-budget proposal.

The Mayor said the precinct was still years away from opening, noting a site had not been selected yet. The Police Commissioner noted that the 105th has a satellite station, which is located near

the Long Island Rail Road tracks on North Conduit Ave.

That station, which opened in 2007, had been used from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., but in March its hours were extended around the clock. Eighteen additional officers and two Sergeants were assigned there at the time. It will be used for other purposes when the new stationhouse is created, Mr. Bratton said.

Tribute to Slain Detective

Mr. de Blasio noted the anniversary of the death of Det. Brian Moore, who was assigned to the precinct. Detective Moore was shot to death May 2, 2015 by a man he and his partner stopped after they noticed him fiddling with his waistband, often a sign that a gun is present. The accused killer, Demetrius Blackwell, is awaiting trial.

"Just about a year since we lost him and he is very much on our minds today and will continue to be in our hearts for years and years to come," the Mayor said.

The NYPD used the occasion to announce crime statistics for April. Mr. de Blasio and Mr. Bratton began the monthly announcements this year, even though the Police Commissioner and other criminologists have said that crime trends take more than 30 days to become apparent.

Deputy Commissioner for Operations Dermot Shea said that overall index crime for the month of April fell 4.2 percent. Since January, he said, crime is up 1 percent. Index crimes are murder, rape, robbery, felony assault, burglary, grand larceny and auto theft.

Mr. Shea blamed the small rise on both the fact that 2016 is a leap year, giving criminals an extra day to commit crimes, and an increase in grand larcenies, particularly skimming, which involves copying a credit-card's number and putting that number on another card.

2 More Homicides

The number of homicides recorded in April rose from 25 last year to 27 this year, although he said two of them were deaths in previous years that had been reclassified as homicides last month.

There were 19 fewer shooting incidents in April, a decline of 21 percent over the previous year, Commissioner Shea said.

"I think even the most seasoned people sitting amongst me here—and throughout the ranks of the NYPD—continue to be amazed at the shooting levels in New York City that we are seeing right now," he said.

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MARQUESEE, if living; and, if any of them be dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest, whose names are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence; being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, devisees, beneficiaries, distributees, or otherwise in the estate of Edward Cohen, a/k/a Edward L. Cohen, a/k/a Edward L. Cohen, Jr., deceased, who at the time of his death was a resident of 30 West 60th Street, Apt. 8G, New York, New York 10023. A petition having been duly filed by the Public Administrator of the County of New York, who maintains an office at 31 Chambers Street, Room 311, New York, New York 10007, YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the New York County Surrogate's Court at 31 Chambers Street, New York, New York, on June 17, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 503, why the following relief stated in the account of proceedings, a copy of the summary statement thereof being attached hereto, of the Public Administrator of the County of New York as Administrator of the goods, chattels and credits of said deceased, should not be granted: (i) that her account be judicially settled; (ii) that the above named persons be cited to show cause why such settlement should not be granted; (iii) that a hearing be held to determine the identity of the distributees, at which time proof pursuant to SCPA 2225 may be presented, or, in the alternative, that the balance of the funds, less an appropriate reserve for the preparation of fiduciary income tax returns and the payment of taxes, if any, shown thereon to be due, be deposited with the Commissioner of Finance of the City of New York for the benefit of Decedent's unknown distributees, or for the benefit of any distributee who is under a disability and for whom no fiduciary has been appointed, or who has post-deceased Decedent and for whose estate no fiduciary has been appointed, or whose whereabouts are unknown; (iv) that, if any claim is asserted herein by New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for estate, individual income or fiduciary income taxes, the same be fixed and determined, or if not so fixed and determined, deemed rejected; (v) that the claims of Time Warner Cable, Con Edison, Coliseum Park Apartments Co., Columbus Cleaners, Advanced Dermatology, P.C., Riverside Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine Associates, P.C., Central Park West Medical Group, P.C., Hartford Wealth Management Global Annuities and MobileHelp in the respective amounts of \$398,79, \$47,07, \$1,755.18, \$20.75, \$29.90, \$16.31, \$53.17, \$1,711.50 and \$83.90 for utility services, utility services, rent, dry-cleaning, medical services, medical services, medical services, annuity overpayments and monthly medical alert charges, respectively, be rejected for failure to file a proper claim in accordance with the provisions of SCPA §1803(1); (vi) that the Surrogate approve statutory commissions and the Petitioner's administration expenses pursuant to SCPA §1106(3), and the reasonable amount of compensation to the attorney for the Petitioner for legal services rendered to the Petitioner herein, as reported in Schedules C and C-1 of the account of proceedings; (vii) that the persons above mentioned and all necessary and proper persons be cited to show cause why such relief should not be granted; (viii) that an order be granted pursuant to SCPA §307 where required or directed; and (ix) for such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper. HON. NORA S. ANDERSON, SURROGATE, Dated, Attested and Sealed, April 21, 2016, Diana Sanabria Chief Clerk, Steven R. Finkelstein, Esq. Counsel to Public Administrator of the County of New York, 90 Broad Street, Suite 1700, New York, New York 10004, (212) 363-2500 Note: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed that you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney-at-law appear for you, and you or your attorney may request a copy of the full account from the petitioner or petitioner's attorney.

Notice of formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC). Name: **TILLER PROPERTIES OF ROCHESTER LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on April 19, 2016. Office location, Richmond County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: P.O. Box 70025, Staten Island NY 10307. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

643 04/29/16-06/03/16

LEGAL NOTICES

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK, Index No. 3003901/2015; Date Purchased: January 13, 2015 SUMMONS WITH NOTICE Plaintiff designates NEW YORK County as the place of trial Basis of venue: PLAINTIFF RESIDES IN NEW YORK COUNTY. NOEMI GOMEZ, Plaintiff against RAFAEL EMILIO PEREZ, Defendant. ACTION FOR A DIVORCE To the above-named Defendant YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to serve a notice of appearance on Plaintiff's attorneys within thirty (30) days after the service of this summons is complete and in case of your failure to appear, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the notice set forth below. Dated: January 13, 2015. LAW OFFICE OF ROBERT GROSS PLLC, Attorneys for Plaintiff 1695 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10029, 212-537-6919 NOTICE: To the above-named Defendant, the above Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Geoffrey Wright of the Supreme Court; County of NEW YORK, dated March 25, 2016. The nature of this action is to dissolve the marriage between the parties, on the grounds: DRL Section 170 subd. (7) - Irretrievable Breakdown in Relationship for at Least Six Months. The relief sought is a judgment of absolute divorce in favor of the Plaintiff, dissolving the marriage between the parties in this action. NOTICE OF AUTOMATIC ORDERS. Pursuant to Domestic Relations Law Section 236 part b sec. 2, the parties are bound by certain automatic orders which shall remain in full force and effect during the pendency of the action. Notice: please be advised that once the judgment of divorce is signed in this action, both parties must be aware that he or she will no longer be covered by the other party's health insurance plan and that each party will be responsible for his or her own health insurance coverage, and may be entitled to purchase health insurance on his or her own through a COBRA option, if available.

671 05/06/16-05/20/16

Notice of Formation of **Mom & Mom Homes, LLC**, a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secy. Of State of N.Y. (SSNY) on April 25, 2016. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 1688 Victory Boulevard, Ste. 300, Staten Island, New York 10314. The principal business address of the LLC is: 161 Radcliff Road, Staten Island, New York 10305. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

668 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Formation of **Yares Art Projects, L.P.** Certificate filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/20/2016. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Goetz Fitzpatrick LLP, One Penn Plaza, Ste. 3100, NY, NY 10119. Name/address of each genl. ptr. available from SSNY. Term: until 5/1/2023. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

666 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Formation of **451 West 24th Street Realty LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/24/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Wachtel Missry LLP, Attn: Jordan Mautner, 885 Second Ave., 47th Fl., NY, NY 10017. Purpose: any lawful activity.

664 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Formation of **SPEAR PENN PLAZA, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/21/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 120 E. 56th St., Ste. 1010, NY, NY 10022. Purpose: any lawful activity.

663 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Formation of **2110 Warren Street LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/21/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 101 Warren St., Unit 2110, NY, NY 10007. Purpose: any lawful activity.

665 05/06/16-06/10/16

Yee Chen Family Limited Partnership, a domestic LP filed with the SSNY on 4/4/16. Office Location: Richmond County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LP may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 33 Michael Loop, Staten Island, NY 10301. Latest date to dissolve 12/31/2075. General purposes.

669 05/06/16-06/10/16

Bianchi & Co., LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 10/23/15. Office location: New York. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave., Ste. 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. General purpose.

670 05/06/16-06/10/16

Nesenoff & Miltenberg Associates LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 3/30/16. Office location: New York. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 363 Seventh Ave., 5th Fl., NY, NY 10001. General purpose.

662 05/06/16-06/10/16

WEB THAT MATTERS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/23/2016. Office loc: NY County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 277 Broadway, Ste 510, NY, NY 10007. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

556 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice is hereby given that an on-premise license, #TBA has been applied for by 2nd City West Village LLC d/b/a 2nd City to sell beer, wine and liquor at retail in an on premises establishment. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 525 Hudson Street New York NY 10014.

672 05/06/16-05/13/16

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Qualification of **69 EAST 125 STREET CONSTRUCTION MANAGER LLC** Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/23/16. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 03/21/16. Princ. office of LLC: 152 W. 57th St., 60th Fl., NY, NY 10019. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the princ. office of the LLC. DE addr. of LLC: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, Div. of Corps., John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

560 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice of Qualification of **Nalco Contract Operations, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/4/2016. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 370 Wabasha St. North, St. Paul, MN 55102. LLC formed in DE on 3/17/1995. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: The Corporation Trust Co., 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

576 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice of Qualification of **Battle Opportunities GP, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/25/16. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE on 10/13/15. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., 13th Fl., NY, NY 10011. DE address of LLC: The Company Corporation, 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

574 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice of Qualification of **All3Media International America, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/24/16. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE on 11/23/15. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Candis C. Hoffman, c/o Loeb & Loeb LLP, 10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 2200, Los Angeles, CA 90067. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

573 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice of Qualification of **215 Sullivan 6B LLC**. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/7/16. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE on 2/29/16. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011. Attn: CT Corporation System, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

572 04/08/16-05/13/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF **Wild Dogs International, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/2/2015. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 200 E 10th St., #510, New York, NY 10003. The principal business address of the LLC is: 166 Manhattan Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11206. Purpose: Art Production.

553 04/08/16-05/13/16

PARM 42 WEST LLC, Authority filed with the SSNY on 02/08/2016. Office loc: NY County. LLC formed in DE on 01/26/2016. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Pryor Cashman LLP, Attn: Ronald Kremnitzer, Esq. 7 Times Square, NY, NY 10036. Address required to be maintained in DE: 160 Greentree Dr., Ste 101 Dover, DE 19904. Cert of Formation filed with DE Div. of Corps, 401 Federal St., Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

557 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice of Qualification of **200 Madison Owner LLC**. Authority filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/8/05. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE on 2/23/05. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: National Corporate Research, Ltd., 10 E. 40th St., 10th Fl., NY, NY 10016. Principal office address: c/o George Comfort & Sons, Inc., 200 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10016. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, P.O. Box 898, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

575 04/08/16-05/13/16

Tactical Supply Group, LLC: Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 29, 2016. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 54 Wall Street - #32, Staten Island, New York 10301. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

548 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice of Formation of **21st and 11th Parking LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/13/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Icon Parking Systems, 270 Madison Avenue, 2nd Fl., NY, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful activity.

652 04/29/16-06/03/16

Notice of formation of **154 SPRING STREET 3RD FLOOR LLC**. Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/18/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against LLC to: 136 Madison Ave., 16th Fl., NY, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful act.

577 04/08/16-05/13/16

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Qualification of **Carlyle GMS Structured Credit GP, L.P.** Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/12/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: c/o The Carlyle Group, 520 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10022. LP formed in Cayman Islands (CI) on 2/8/16. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011. CI addr. of LP: Walkers Corporate Ltd., Cayman Corporate Centre, 27 Hospital Rd., George Town, Grand Cayman KY1-9008, CI. Name/addr. of genl. ptr. available from NY Sec. of State. Cert. of LP filed with Asst. Registrar of Exempted LPs, Ground Fl., Govt. Admin. Bldg., 133 Elgin Ave., George Town, Grand Cayman KY1-9000, CI. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

675 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Qualification of **Carlyle GMS Structured Credit Fund, L.P.** Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/12/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: c/o The Carlyle Group, 520 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10022. LP formed in Cayman Islands (CI) on 2/8/16. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011. CI addr. of LP: Walkers Corporate Ltd., Cayman Corporate Centre, 27 Hospital Rd., George Town, Grand Cayman KY1-9008, CI. Name/addr. of genl. ptr. available from NY Sec. of State. Cert. of LP filed with Asst. Registrar of Exempted LPs, Ground Fl., Govt. Admin. Bldg., 133 Elgin Ave., George Town, Grand Cayman KY1-9000, CI. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

676 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Qualification of **CA 413 86TH STREET LLC** Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/22/16. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 03/18/16. Princ. office of LLC: 767 Fifth Ave., 24th Fl., NY, NY 10153. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co. (CSC), 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: CSC, 2711 Centerville Rd., #400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Secy. of State of the State of DE, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

622 04/22/16-05/27/16

Notice of Formation of **Camer-Health, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/21/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 222 E. 104th St., Apt. 1002, NY, NY 10029. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

674 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Formation of **Bedford AARE Developer LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/14/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The Company, c/o Adam America Real Estate, 850 Third Ave., Suite 13D, NY, NY 10022. Attn: Omri Sachs. Purpose: any lawful activities.

684 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice of Formation of **SD Builders and Construction LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/14/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The Company, c/o Slate Property Group LLC, 38 East 29th St., 9th Fl., NY, NY 10016, Attn: Martin Nussbaum. Purpose: any lawful activities.

686 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice of Formation of **SKRIVER, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/13/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o ML MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC. ATTN: Dan Reed, 250 W. 5TH ST., 26TH FL., NY, NY 10107. Purpose: any lawful activities.

682 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice of Formation of **Quint Capital Management LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/11/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Quint Capital Management LLC, 230 Park Ave., Ste. 460, NY, NY 10169. Purpose: any lawful activities.

683 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice of Formation of **SH Main-Street Property, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/19/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Shannah Laumeister, c/o Bert Stern Productions, Inc., 330 E. 39th St., NY, NY 10023. Purpose: any lawful activities.

687 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice of Formation of **Lady A Productions LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Lady A Productions LLC, 8 Spruce St., Apt. 57C, NY, NY 10038. Purpose: any lawful activities.

685 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice of Formation of **128 West 82nd St. LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/10/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: National Registered Agents, Inc., 111 Eighth Ave., NY, NY 10011. Purpose: any lawful activities.

681 05/13/16-06/17/16

The Mekkatti Group, LLC Arts of Org filed with NY Sec of State (SSNY) on 3/16/09. Office: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 251 Andrews Rd, Mineola, NY 11501. General Purposes.

555 04/08/16-05/13/16

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Qualification of **CI Capital Partners III, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/31/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 500 Park Ave., 8th Fl., NY, NY 10022. LLC formed in DE on 10/2/15. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o National Corporate Research, Ltd. (NCR), 10 E. 40th St., 10th Fl., NY, NY 10016, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: c/o NCR, 850 New Burton Rd., Ste. 201, Dover, DE 19904. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

600 04/15/16-05/20/16

Notice of Qualification of **Energy Freedom Coalition of America, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/11/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 601 13th St., NW, Ste. 900N, Washington, DC 20005. LLC formed in DE on 8/18/15. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

648 04/29/16-06/03/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF **CHALAIT CHELSEA, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on April 06, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 312 E 22nd St. Apt C, NY, NY 10010. The principal business address of the LLC is: 425 W 15th St, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

678 05/06/16-06/10/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF **Tera-byte Investigations, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on: March 03, 2016. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: Terabyte Investigations, LLC, 54 Florence Street, Staten Island NY 10308. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

658 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Formation of **Ceiba Capital Partners I LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/10/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The Company, 299 Park Ave., 6th Fl., NY, NY 10171, Attn: Afshin Alp. Purpose: any lawful activities.

650 04/29/16-06/03/16

Notice of Formation of **Ceiba Capital Partners II LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/10/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The Company, 299 Park Ave., 6th Fl., NY, NY 10171, Attn: Afshin Alp. Purpose: any lawful activities.

651 04/29/16-06/03/16

Notice of Formation of **419 East 87th Street, LLC**. Art. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 2/11/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: NRAI, 111 Eighth Ave., NY, NY 10011, the Reg. Agt. upon whom proc. may be served. Purpose: any lawful activities.

660 05/06/16-06/10/16

Notice of Formation of **519 East 87th Street, LLC**. Art. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 2/11/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: NRAI, 111 Eighth Ave., NY, NY 10011, the Reg. Agt. upon whom proc. may be served. Purpose: any lawful activities.

661 05/06/16-06/10/16

Pecksland Partners L.P., a domestic LP filed with the SSNY on 5/21/02. Office Location: New York County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LP may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LP, 551 5th Ave., Suite 2200, NY, NY 10176. Latest date to dissolve: 12/31/2027. General purposes.

Say ACS Breakdowns Led to Deaths

Continued from Page 1

tion. In that case, ACS tried to get a court order before the injury but was denied because caseworkers didn't complete their due diligence to prove he was in imminent danger.

16% Repeat Offenders

According to ACS data, 16 percent of children who were previously abused or neglected were mistreated again within a one-year period, a figure that was double the state's target of no more than 7 percent. The investigators were also concerned as to whether provider agencies filed applications to terminate parental rights—a legally mandated process for children who have spent 17 of the past 22 months in foster care—in a timely manner. For the past three years, timely petitions were not filed on behalf of 82 percent of children meeting the threshold.

After reviewing documents and interviewing professionals, the DOI recommended that ACS tighten oversight of investigations where caseworkers were involved with the same family on a recurring basis—to effectively prevent Caseworkers from investigating themselves—ensure workers report abuse and neglect allegations to the Statewide Central Register of Child Abuse and Maltreatment in order to trigger an investigation, and better track data.

Investigators also found that “failures to adhere to ACS policies and procedures were so egregious that DOI recommended one-time only audits of those staff members’ cases and consideration of disciplinary action, including termination of employment.” Out of seven employees referred for action, only one was disciplined.

Changes Made by ACS

ACS accepted many of the recommendations and hired a foster-care operator to analyze how its policies for child-safety practices and decisions compare with actual practice. It has also begun to emphasize preventive care.

“Since these tragedies occurred in early 2014, Mayor Bill de Blasio has invested over \$100 million to strengthen the child-welfare system,” agency spokeswoman Carol Caceres said in an e-mailed statement. “This massive investment has increased access to preventive services, reduced caseloads to historic lows, and launched a new professional development institute for caseworkers.” The agency has hired 700 employees—including 40 new attorneys and 300 child protective staffers—opened new offices in The Bronx and Brooklyn, appointed an internal monitor and reduced caseloads to about 10 to 12 per worker. The funding also provided for a \$14-million workforce institute that has already trained more than 1,500 workers.

Not Keeping Up?

“There is a little lag and they are not playing catch-up in terms of hiring,” said Mr. Wells, whose union represents social-service employees.

He said the 2007 “Improved Outcomes for Children” policy instituted by then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg privatized foster care and reduced oversight. He added that the DOI report sought to blame ACS workers who deal with difficult conditions. “We object to that,” he said. “That’s not productive, that doesn’t help fix the system, that just seeks to blame, which was the policy of the previous administration, not this administration.”

He said it was important not just to hire workers but retain them in the face of low morale, redundant paperwork and high pressure.

“This is not a factory job, so no case is the same,” Mr. Wells said. “You have to deal with real-life situations that often are unfolding or have yet to unfold.”

Nearly 10,000 children are in the foster-care system and ACS investigates 55,000 allegations of child abuse and neglect each year.

The DOI’s report followed



ANTHONY WELLS: Too much focus on workers’ errors.



LETITIA JAMES: ‘Past time for change at ACS.’

another released last month which found management failures in the “Close to Home” program that allows juveniles to serve jail time in their communities. Last June, three teens escaped from a facility operated by Boys Town New York and raped and robbed a Manhattan woman.

‘Underlines Horrible Truth’

Public Advocate Letitia James—who last year helped file a class-action lawsuit against ACS and the state

State AG Sues in Shooting

Continued from Page 7

jurisdiction, D.A. Abelow announced that he had presented the case to a grand jury and that the grand jury had declined to indict the officer involved in the shooting,” Mr. Schneiderman’s office said.

His lawsuit accuses Mr. Abelow of violating Mr. Cuomo’s executive order and seeks to have the grand-jury decision annulled. It also asks the court to forbid Mr. Abelow from taking further action in the case.

Mr. Thevenin’s widow, Cynthia Thevenin, and his mother, Gertha Depas, told the Albany Times Union that Mr. Abelow’s office never informed them of the grand-jury hearing.

The Times Union reported that two civilian witnesses who gave statements to police were not called to testify before the grand jury. One is a relative of a police officer and the other recently took a civil-service exam for the post.

Did Cop Fire First?

The first witness, who owns a business in Troy, was reluctant to tell the paper what he saw. But he said he has retained an attorney.

The second witness “believes Sgt. Randall French may have opened fire before Edson Thevenin’s vehicle allegedly pinned the officer’s legs against his police cruiser,” the paper reported.

Mr. Garner died in July 2014 shortly after he resisted efforts by police to arrest him for allegedly selling loose cigarettes. Then-Chief of Department Philip Banks III reportedly ordered the precinct to take action on such infractions following complaints by Staten Island merchants. Officer Daniel Pantaleo threw his arm around Mr. Garner’s neck in an attempt to wrestle him to the ground, a move many who saw a bystander’s video of the arrest believed was an NYPD-banned chokehold.

The grand jury’s decision angered many citizens who believed it contradicted what they saw in the video. U.S. Rep. Dan Donovan, who was Staten Island District Attorney at the time, said he wasn’t permitted to explain the grand jury’s reasoning because of secrecy rules.

Federal Probe Continues

Mr. Pantaleo remains on restricted duty while the U.S. Department of Justice investigates whether he violated Mr. Garner’s civil rights.

In deciding appeals by Public Advocate Letitia James and advocacy groups, state courts found that informing the public was insufficient reason to break grand-jury secrecy.

Proposals limiting the secrecy rules or providing for a special prosecutor went nowhere in the State Legislature. At that point, Mr. Cuomo granted Mr. Schneiderman’s request to be a special prosecutor in cases in which civilians die at the hands of police.

His office has investigated four cases under the order.



GOVERNOR CUOMO: Responded to ‘crisis of confidence.’

None has resulted in charges against individual police officers.

Police unions opposed Mr. Cuomo’s original executive order, saying it set up a separate, harsher system of justice for cops. It was also criticized by many District Attorneys, who said it showed a lack of confidence in their ability to handle shootings by law-enforcement officers on whom they depend to make cases.

‘Fed a False Notion’

“Rather than coming together on true legal reforms that would help us understand why the grand jury in Staten Island voted not to charge police officers in the death of Eric Garner, our statewide leaders proclaimed the existence of a crisis of confidence in the criminal-justice system,” the New York State Association of District Attorneys said a week after the order was issued.

“Rather than quelling this false notion, they fed it and gave it legitimacy. The fact that many prosecutions have successfully been undertaken by local District Attorneys of police officers who have committed crimes belies this claim.”

Among the DAs who expressed unhappiness with the order was Mr. Abelow. “So we’re not competent and capable enough to handle these cases on our own, but we can do the legwork for the Attorney General,” he said in a radio interview.

Ex-Sen. Libous Dies

Continued from Page 8

of Mr. Libous’s health, Judge Bricciotti gave him six months’ home confinement, a \$50,000 fine and two years of probation.

Mr. Libous is survived by his wife, Frances M. Libous; two sons, Matthew and Nicholas; and a grandson, Campbell.

NYPD Lieut. Exam

Continued from Page 9

exam if they are sick, have religious commitments or are on military duty.

The city Department of Law said it was pleased with the ruling, noting that it would allow the NYPD to deal with the shortage of Lieutenants.

California Tenure Ruling Aids Unions

Continued from Page 1

last month overturned the *Vergara v. California* ruling, Ms. Davids, who founded her volunteer group in 2011, said the grassroots nature of her case could sway New York judges.

“The California judges, yes they must be objective, yes they must follow the letter of the law, but guess what? They do watch TV, they do read the papers and I think the [California and national Teachers’ unions] did a great job when it comes to portraying themselves as David vs. Goliath, which was the hedge-funders and the corporate side pushing the lawsuit,” she said.

While the New York case has idled since it was filed in July 2014, being dominated by procedural motions, a ruling on behalf of the plaintiffs could still affect educators’ due-process rights.

Too Hard to Fire?

The plaintiffs argue that tenure laws make it too difficult to fire incompetent Teachers, that seniority policies arbitrarily dismiss educators, regardless of quality, during layoffs and that a three-year probationary period (since lengthened to at least four years) wasn’t long enough to measure an instructor’s effectiveness.

In April’s *Vergara* ruling in California, Justice Roger Boren wrote on behalf of the three-judge appeals panel that, “Although the statutes may lead to the hiring and retention of more ineffective Teachers than a hypothetical alternative system would, the statutes do not address the assignment of Teachers; instead, administrators—not the statutes—ultimately determine where Teachers within a district are assigned to teach.”

The decision noted that the plaintiffs didn’t establish that the laws made any group of students more likely to get a poor Teacher than any other group. “With no proper showing of a constitutional violation, the court is without power to strike down the challenged statutes,” he wrote. “The court’s job is merely to determine whether the statutes are constitutional, not if they are ‘a good idea.’”

Suit: ‘Success’ Has Learning-Disabled Bias

Continued from Page 3

held a press conference last fall apologizing for the list, but called it an isolated incident. She defended the administrator, Candido Brown; however, he has since been reassigned to another school, according to Politico New York.

Public Advocate Letitia James in January signed on to a civil-rights complaint against the network, and the State University of New York Charter School Institute also opened an investigation.

“The only difference, in my opinion, between what Success did here and elsewhere is that somebody found the lists,” Arthur Schwartz, an attorney for Advocates for Justice Chartered Attorneys, said last week. He called the list “absolutely unique” in public education and accused the network of prodding disabled kids to leave at an early age so that they were gone by the time state testing began. Though Mr. Brown denied he was ordered to draft the list, Mr. Schwartz doubted his claim.

Believes It Was Systemic

“I think we’re going to discover as time goes on that the approach and the structure of the ‘Got to Go’ program came from much higher up in Success,” he said. “And even though Eva blamed it on him, we’re going to find that—unless they’ve destroyed the evidence—we’re going to find lots of discussion of doing stuff like that higher up in Success.”

The suit, which names Mr. Brown and the 34-school network, seeks damages.

New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, Advocates for Justice and Stroock, Stroock & Lavan are representing the families. (Mr. Schwartz said Stroock, Stroock & Lavan, which includes the United Federation of Teachers among its clients,



ROGER BOREN: ‘No constitutional violation’ in California.

StudentsMatter, the group which filed the lawsuit, is planning to appeal the case to the California Supreme Court.

UFT: Ruling Helps

“Since the Davids/Wright plaintiffs cited the original *Vergara* decision as part of their case, we will point out to the Appellate Division that one of the foundations of the Davids/Wright litigation has now evaporated,” UFT President Michael Mulgrew said in a statement.

For her part, Ms. Davids said that California’s laws were different than New York’s Constitution, which says children are guaranteed a “sound, basic education.”

“It’s different; it’s comparing apples to oranges,” she said. “But definitely, the public relations part of it, that battle was won by the Teachers’ union, because the Teachers’ union put their Teachers, they put their parents front and center in their fight against the *Vergara* lawyers.”

In asking that the case be dismissed, the unions argued that since the lawsuit was brought, Teacher evaluations became more stringent, it became harder to earn tenure and receivership laws made it easier to force changes in struggling schools.

Court of Last Resort?

In a brief, filed March 28, UFT attorneys wrote that the complaints are examples of “lobbying under the guise of litigation” by using the courts to push for policies they couldn’t convince legislators to adopt.



MICHAEL MULGREW: ‘Foundation for N.Y. case evaporated.’

“Plaintiffs are entitled to their political view, albeit misguided, that the basic due-process protections of tenure are to blame for all that ails New York State’s educational system,” they wrote. “But New York’s guarantee of a ‘sound, basic education’ does not constitutionalize every disagreement with our state’s education policy.”

They also asked the court to consider the “patently absurd concept” of privatizing or eliminating due process for police because crime continues to exist.

The relationship between Ms. Davids and Ms. Brown became embittered in the early months of the lawsuit, after Ms. Davids accused her of chasing away their high-profile attorneys and of being a “bully.” After that rift, Ms. Brown started the education news website, The Seventy Four, and the PEJ pressed ahead with a similar legal challenge in Minnesota.

Clashes With Lawyer

The case suffered another complication two weeks ago after Ms. Davids disagreed with her attorney, Jonathan Tribiano, on whether to accept arguments in their co-plaintiffs’ legal brief. While much of PEJ’s legal rationale was the same, she said she objected to the PEJ lawyers’ stance on tenure. “We do not oppose tenure,” she said. “We have our own reasons and agenda, and our agenda is not to abolish tenure.”

The court is expected to allow the plaintiffs to delay their response until July 28.



EVA MOSKOWITZ: Takes credit for ‘incredible outcomes.’

wasn’t getting paid by the union, which has sharply criticized Success Academy.)

Network Hits Back

Success Academy spokesman Stefan Friedman said, “In the same week we learned that the Teachers’ union is under investigation for corrupt activities involving city officials, we shouldn’t be surprised the union’s law firm is recycling a months-old lawsuit that generates scary headlines but has no basis in fact.”

The network is still battling the de Blasio administration over the denial of at least \$700,000 in pre-kindergarten reimbursements for its three locations. Though City Hall officials said every charter school but Success Academy signed a contract agreeing to be audited to get funding, Ms. Moskowitz claimed the regulations would constrain classes, prevent field trips and cut into its curriculum. But Mayor de Blasio said every other pre-k provider—including non-profits, religious schools and other charters—had signed the agreement and that the city needed to oversee its early-education providers.

“Public charter schools are cutting through the red tape

and delivering incredible outcomes for kids,” Ms. Moskowitz said in a statement. “The Mayor’s double standard—sidestepping his own rules to fund pre-K programs with a history of mismanagement, while denying Success parents a choice—is unjustifiable.”

The network sought relief in State Supreme Court after the State Education Department ruled for the de Blasio administration, noting that Success Academy proceeded with the program even though the contracts said it needed to comply with local oversight.

Deputy Chief Clerk In Brooklyn Suspended After Primary Snafu

The other lever dropped in the wrongful purge of 126,000 voters from the rolls before the April 19 New York presidential primary when Deputy Chief Clerk Betty Ann Canizio-Aquil was suspended without pay May 5.

That move came two weeks after the suspension of Chief Clerk Diane Haslett-Rudiano for the wrongful elimination of those voters. Some Republican officials had questioned why Ms. Haslett-Rudiano was disciplined while her Democratic counterpart, Ms. Canizio-Aquil, initially faced no negative consequences for the screw-up.

Currently, the two major political parties have a joint say in selecting employees at the board. Critics argue that while this system may be bipartisan, too often it results in jobs being awarded as patronage, with no regard to whether the party members picked are actually qualified.

All but 5,000 of the disenfranchised voters were able to cast affidavit ballots in the primary, in which Hillary Clinton defeated Bernie Sanders by 16 points statewide. **R.S.**

LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES
NOTICE OF NAMES OF PERSONS APPEARING AS OWNERS OF CERTAIN UNCLAIMED PROPERTY held by MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY of Springfield, Massachusetts The persons whose names and last known addresses are set forth below appear from the records of the above-named life insurance company to be entitled to abandoned property in amounts of fifty dollars or more.	Darren Wainer 2835 Clubhouse Drive Merrick, NY 11566 David A. Green 310 Greenwich St., Apt. 30G New York, NY 10013 David A. Kanner 115 10th St. Garden City, NY 11530 David B. Shontz 75 Hickory Grove Dr. W Larchmont, NY 10538 David C. Macdonald 26 Queens Way, Apt 7 Camillus, NY 13031 David D. Donegan 89 Violet St. Central Islip, NY 11722 David Eric Stayton 213 East Heman St. East Syracuse, NY 13057 David H. Adler 205 E. 63rd St. New York, NY 10065 David Kim 543 48th Ave., Apt 3B Long Island City, NY 11101 David M. 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Sara Mandel 61-38 185th St. Fresh Meadows, NY 11365	Sverre Lochen 3622 Irwin Ave. Bronx, NY 10463	Vikas R. Shilpiekandula 150 E. 44th Street, Apt 29H New York, NY 10017
Say For Example Inc. 350 Fifth Ave. #5411 New York, NY 10118	Swiss American Securities C/O. Bernadette Chamberlain 12 East 49th Street New York, NY 10017	Vincent S. Sotis 46 Conklin St. Farmingdale, NY 11735
Scott B. Rudnick 130 East 18th St., Apt. 6a New York, NY 10003	Tassone Equipment Corp Pension PLN & TST 130 Eileen Way Syosset, NY 11791	Virginia Dooley 335 West 14th Street New York, NY 10014
Scott Ebner 459 Columbus Ave. New York, NY 10024	Taylor Harmeling 15 Charles Street, Apt. 2F New York, NY 10014	Virginia Unger 60 West 55th St. New York, NY 10019
Scott Gramling 201 E. 28th St., Apt. 9C New York, NY 10016	Ted Introp 104 Brandywine Lane Melville, NY 11747	Wesley M. Booth 621 Becker Crossings Rotterdam, NY 12306
Scott J. Addison 262 N. Main Street Angola, NY 14006	Teddy McLean 100 Pennsylvania Ave. Roosevelt, NY 11575	William F. Lytle 6641 N. Canal Rd. Lockport, NY 14094
Sean Ryerse 18 Furman Cres Rochester, NY 14620	Tevye Brown 37 West Street Nyack, NY 10960	William J. Kingston 72 Green Valley Rd. Pittsford, NY 14534
Sebastiano Tornabene 1817 West 7 Street Brooklyn, NY 11223	Elie & Rachel Rofe 180 Madison Ave., 7th Fl., Suite 1 New York, NY 10016	William M. Sollich 2637 Beach Dr. Merrick, NY 11566
Shannon Gentile 532 N. 6th St. New Hyde Park, NY 11040	The MDA Family Trust Dated 1/18/12 59 Lee Ave., Apt. 1 Brooklyn, NY 11211	William W. Suk 1725 York Ave., Apt. 3D New York, NY 10128
Joseph E. Sheldorfer 148-08 60th Ave. Flushing, NY 11355	Theresa Arroyave PO Box 366 Nesconset, NY 11767	Yukiko Takai 42 W. 73rd St., Apt. 2F New York, NY 10023
Sheryl Tierney 20 Sutton Place S., Apt. 5E New York, NY 10022	Thomas Barry Bausano 20 West Drive Larchmont, NY 10538	Yunho No 61 Keswick Lane Plainfield, NY 11803
Shiao Wai Fung 2518 E. 11 St. Brooklyn, NY 11232		Lelia Archambault 227 Pine Road Coram, NY 11727

A report of unclaimed property has been made to Thomas P. DiNapoli, the comptroller of the state of New York, pursuant to Section 701 of the Abandoned Property Law of the State of New York. A list of names contained in this notice is on file and open to public inspection at the principal office of the company, Mass Mutual Life Insurance Co., located at 1295 State Street, Springfield, Massachusetts, (413) 744-8464, where such abandoned property is payable.

Such abandoned property will be paid on or before August 10th next to persons establishing to this company's satisfaction their rights to receive it.

In the succeeding month of September, and on or before September 10th, such property remaining unclaimed will be paid to Thomas P. DiNapoli, the Comptroller of the State of New York. Upon such payment, this company shall no longer be liable for the property.

THE MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC). Name: **Brown Blue LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 2/22/16. NY office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is Attn: Pablo G. Velez, Esq. 347 5th Avenue, Suite 810, New York, NY 10016. Purpose: character of LLC: Any Lawful Purpose.

614 05/13/16-06/17/16

COACHBYU, LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 4/21/2016. Off. Loc.: New York Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC, c/o Alex J. Noble, Esq., 30 East Northampton Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

692 05/13/16-06/17/16

GALLIFREY LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 4/12/16. Of-

LEGAL NOTICES

Shivkumar Rao 20 Waterside Plaza, Apt 30D New York, NY 10010	Shlomo Gantz 505 12th Street, #4B Brooklyn, NY 11215	Shreyas Chari 555 W. 59th St., Apt. 25A New York, NY 10019
Silverberstonehill Goldsmith & Haber PC 5 Tudo City, #1009 New York, NY 10017	Smith Barney Life Age Inc. 333 W. 34th Street, 9th Floor New York, NY 10001	Stacey L. Bland-McLean 870 Jefferson Ave., Apt. 6 Brooklyn, NY 11221
Stanley C. Starks Sr. 805 Cleveland Drive Buffalo, NY 14225	Stephanie O'Neill 215 Union Ave. Lynbrook, NY 11563	Stephen E. Felman 198 Bellingham Dr. Williamsville, NY 14221
Stephen Kim 70 E. 10th Street, #18J New York, NY 10003	Stephen Simonis 3380 Homestead Ave. Wantagh, NY 11793	Steven Buffardi 25 Boblee Ln. Hicksville, NY 11801
Steven Halperin 361 Silver Court Woodmere, NY 10013	Steven L. Cronin 37 Cow Ln. Kings Point, NY 11024	Steven Maniaci 2693 Central Ave. Baldwin, NY 11510
Monica Strauss 9 E. 82nd St. New York, NY 10028	Stuart T. Smith 34 Mordela Road Albany, NY 12205	Susan D. Hanyak 241 Manchester Rd. Syracuse, NY 13219
Suzanne M. Sutro 26 East Parkway Apt 11 Scarsdale, NY 10583	Sverre Lochen 3622 Irwin Ave. Bronx, NY 10463	Swiss American Securities C/O. Bernadette Chamberlain 12 East 49th Street New York, NY 10017
Tassone Equipment Corp Pension PLN & TST 130 Eileen Way Syosset, NY 11791	Taylor Harmeling 15 Charles Street, Apt. 2F New York, NY 10014	Ted Introp 104 Brandywine Lane Melville, NY 11747
Teddy McLean 100 Pennsylvania Ave. Roosevelt, NY 11575	Tevye Brown 37 West Street Nyack, NY 10960	Elie & Rachel Rofe 180 Madison Ave., 7th Fl., Suite 1 New York, NY 10016
The MDA Family Trust Dated 1/18/12 59 Lee Ave., Apt. 1 Brooklyn, NY 11211	Theresa Arroyave PO Box 366 Nesconset, NY 11767	Thomas Barry Bausano 20 West Drive Larchmont, NY 10538

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF CHALAIT BROADWAY, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on: April 06, 2016 Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 312 E 22nd St. Apt C, NY, NY 10010. The principal business address of the LLC is: 1214 Broadway, NY, NY 10001. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

05/06/16-06/10/16

FIFTH OAK PRODUCTIONS, LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/18/2015. Office loc: NY County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Claire Dub, 166 Montrose Ave Apt 2r, Brooklyn, NY 11206. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

698 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice is hereby given that a license, number 1293460 for On Premises Beer and Wine License has been applied for by the undersigned* to sell Beer and Wine at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 406 Rogers Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11225 for on premises consumption. *Oaxaca Rogers LLC.

694 05/13/16-05/20/16

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION. File No. 2014-4306/C. SURROGATE'S COURT, New York COUNTY. THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, By the Grace of God Free and Independent TO: John Doe and/or Jane Doe, being the issue of the Decedent's, Betty Flagg a/k/a/ Elizabeth Flagg, pre-deceased siblings, to the heirs at law, next of kin, and distributees, deceased, if living, and if any of them be dead to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest whose names are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence. Jason Thomas, Kenneth Thomas Cochran, Sheryl Thomas, Malik R. Cochran, New York County Public Administrator. A petition having been duly filed by The Riverside Nursing Home, who is domiciled at 150 Riverside Drive, New York, New York 10024. YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, New York County, at Rm. 503, 31 Chambers St., New York, New York, on June 21st, 2016, at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Betty Flagg, aka Elizabeth Flagg lately domiciled at 321 Edgecombe Avenue, Apartment 4R, New York, New York 10031, United States admitting to probate a Will dated January 28, 2010, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Betty Flagg deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that: Letters Testamentary issue to Jason Thomas, the nominated executor and upon his default, to Administrator c.t.a. to the Public Administrator; and upon their default, Letters of Administration c.t.a. to the New York County Public Administrator. Further relief sought: an order be granted dispensing with service of process upon those persons named in paragraph (7) who have a right to letters prior or equal to that of the person nominated and who are non-domiciliaries or whose names or whereabouts are unknown and cannot be ascertained. Dated, Attested and Sealed, May 2nd, 2016. HON. Nora S. Anderson, Surrogate; Diana Sanabria, Chief Clerk; Roseanne Beovich, Attorney, Genser Dubow Genser & Cona, LLP, 225 Broadhollow Road, Suite 200, Melville, New York 11747. Tel.: (631) 390-5000. NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear, it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.

05/13/16-06/03/16

Notice is hereby given that a license, number (1294061) for beer, wine and cider has been applied for by the undersigned Cherry House Co. LLC d/b/a Kirsh Bakery & Kitchen to sell beer, wine and cider at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 551 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, New York 10024. 657 05/06/16-05/13/16

Notice of Formation of 1434 Undercliff Avenue, L.P. Certificate filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/27/2016. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Services for the Underserved, Inc., 305 Seventh Avenue, 10th Fl., NY, NY 10001. Name/address of each genl. ptr. available from SSNY. Term: until 12/31/2066. Purpose: any lawful activity.

05/13/16-06/17/16

IDAHO CUSTOM BUILDERS LLC. notice of formation of a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC). Art Of Org filed with the Sec of State on 04/18/16. NY office location: Richmond County. 33 Idaho Avenue, Staten Island, New York is designated as address upon which process against the LLC may be served. Purpose: any legal purpose.

05/13/16-05/20/16

Notice of Formation of 231 East 9th Street LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/2/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 40 W. 84th St., NY, NY 10024. Purpose: any lawful activity.

05/13/16-06/17/16

Superchris LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 3/16/16. Office location: Richmond. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 420 Forest Ave., Staten Island, NY 10301. General purpose.

705 05/13/16-06/17/16

NASCA LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 4/20/16. Office location: Richmond. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 2062 Richmond Rd., Staten Island, NY 10306. General purpose.

696 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice is hereby given that a license, serial number 1292502, for liquor, beer, and wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell liquor, beer and wine at retail in a restaurant under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law at 303 W. 116th NY, NY 10026 for on premise consumption. 303 Fare LLC. d/b/a Lolo's Seafood Shack.

695 05/13/16-06/17/16

Notice is hereby given that a license for LIQUOR has been applied for by CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL OF COLORADO, LLC, at retail in a RESTAURANT under the ABC Law at 87-10 NORTHERN BLVD, JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY 11372 for on-premises consumption.

701 05/13/16-05/20/16

Notice is hereby given that an on-premise license, #TBA has been applied for by BLT Steak 52nd St. LLC to sell beer, wine and liquor at retail in an on premises establishment. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 153 West 52nd Street New York NY 10019.

697 05/13/16-05/20/16

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Qualification of ECC SPE LLC Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/18/16. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 11/14/14. Princ. office of LLC: c/o Emerald Creek Capital LLC, Attn: Mark Bahiri, One Penn Plaza, 34th Fl., NY, NY 10119. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. DE addr. of LLC: c/o Corporation Service Co., 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Secy. of the State of DE, Div. of Corps., John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

559 04/08/16-05/13/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Rapoport Psychological Services PLLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on March 23, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC served upon him/her is: 55 Perry St., 3M, New York, NY 10014. The principal business address of the PLLC is: 55 Perry St., 3M, New York, NY 10014. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

570 04/08/16-05/13/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Motif Media Services, LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on January 05, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 7014 13th Avenue Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. The principal business address of the LLC is: 160 W. 73rd St Apt 8E, New York, NY 10023. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

564 04/15/16-05/13/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Hampstead Rose LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on March 07, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 10314 13th Avenue Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. The principal business address of the LLC is: 160 W. 73rd St Apt 8E, New York, NY 10023. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

562 04/08/16-05/13/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Adler & Adler, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on January 11, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC served upon him/her is: 1180 Avenue of the Americas, 8th Fl., New York, NY 10036. The principal business address of the PLLC is: 1180 Avenue of the Americas, 8th Fl., New York, NY 10036. Purpose: Law Practice.

565 04/08/16-05/13/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF IMPULSIVE GROUP LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/24/2016. Office location: NEW YORK County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 2688 Broadway, New York, New York 10025. The principal business address of the LLC is: 2688 Broadway, New York, New York 10025. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

544 04/15/16-05/20/16

Notice of Formation of EMPIRE GATEWAY FUND, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/25/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. office of LLC: New York City Regional Center, LLC, c/o George Olsen, 99 Hudson St., 15th Fl., NY, NY 10013. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

561 04/08/16-05/13/16

Notice of Formation of SPG 1st Avenue Investors LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/01/15. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The Company, c/o State Property Group LLC, 850 Third Ave., Ste. 16-B, NY, NY 10022. Attn: Martin Nussbaum. Purpose: any lawful activities.

563 04/08/16-05/13/16

Name of LLC: TK Remodeling, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 3/28/16. Office loc.: Richmond Co. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Themistokli Klapakis, 189 Auburn Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314, regd. agt. upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Michael E. Steiner, 9524 Ave. L, Brooklyn, NY 11236. General purpose.

567 04/08/16-05/13/16

550W29 HOLDINGS LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 8/6/2015. Off. Loc.: NY Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC, 56 W. 22nd St., 5th Fl., New York, NY 10010. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

568 04/08/16-05/13/16

550 MZ LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 8/17/2015. Off. Loc.: NY Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC, 56 W. 22nd St., 5th Fl., New York, NY 10010. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

569 04/08/16-05/13/16

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Qualification of AxelaCare Intermediate Holdings, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/2/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 15529 College Blvd., Lenexa, KS 66219. LLC formed in DE on 10/1/14. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

598 04/15/16-05/20/16

Notice of Qualification of Beekman Owner LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/31/16. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: Berdon LLP, 360 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10017. LLC formed in DE on 9/17/15. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: The Corporation Trust Co., 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

599 04/15/16-05/20/16

Notice of Qualification of Audubon Field Solutions, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 3/18/16. Office location: NY County. LLC organized in LA on 1/1/07. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. LA address of LLC: 111 Veterans Blvd., Ste. 1200, Metairie, LA 70005. Cert. of Org. filed with LA Sec. of State, 5855 Archives Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

597 04/15/16-05/20/16

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Neat Experience LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on February 08, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 1372 1st Avenue, Apt. 5C New York, NY 10021. The principal business address of the LLC is: 1372 1st Avenue

CHIEF CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS FOR UNIONIZED MAINTENANCE POSITIONS ELECTRICIAN

Electricians perform journey-level installation, maintenance, and repair of electrical equipment, such as generators, motors, fire alarm systems, lighting circuits, automatic electrical systems, and DC traction breakers.

STEAM AND SPRINKLER FITTER

Steam and Sprinkler Fitters perform journey-level work related to installing, maintaining, and repairing low and high pressure steam and sprinkler systems. Steam and Sprinkler Fitters will serve in a lead capacity over semi-skilled level staff and are responsible with inspecting, troubleshooting, overhauling sprinkler, standpipe, fire protection and associated auxiliary equipment.

HVAC/UTILITY SYSTEMS MAINTAINER

HVAC Mechanics/Utility Systems Maintainers (USM) perform a variety of journey-level duties in the operation, maintenance, repair and alteration of utility systems and related auxiliary equipment. The USM lead and monitor the work of semi-skilled classes in the operation and maintenance of plant systems and equipment. Equipment may include air conditioning and ventilation systems, pneumatic and electric controls, high-pressure and low-pressure boilers, high temperature generators, and fire protection systems.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- High School Diploma or GED from an accredited institution is required.
- Valid Driver's License (CDL preferred).
- Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with the Air Brakes endorsement or higher.
- **Electrician** applicants must have 3 years full-time paid work experience in the commercial electrical field.
- **Steam and Sprinkler Fitter** applicants must have 3 years full-time paid work experience in the mechanical, plumbing, and/or HVAC fields.
- **HVAC/Utility Systems Maintainer** applicants must have 3 years full-time paid work experience in the mechanical and/or HVAC field. USM license requirements are:
 - A New York Fire Department Certificate of Fitness for Standpipe or Sprinkler operation OR a Black Seal Fireman's License issued by the State of New Jersey.
 - Refrigerant Technician's Certificate (RTC) issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
 - Certificate in Pesticide Application in NY or NJ.

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How to Apply: Interested candidates can view the full job descriptions and apply by visiting our website at www.jointheportauthority.com and type in the keywords: Electrician, Steam and Sprinkler Fitter or Utility Systems Maintainer.

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BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

SENIOR RACKETS INVESTIGATOR

Under general supervision, supervises the work of Rackets Investigators in the securing and verifying of facts for use in criminal proceedings and for possible legislative action; makes especially difficult investigations. Responsible for, but not limited to the following:

- Supervises work of Rackets Investigators, suggesting work methods; checks progress; reviews reports
- Assists investigators and Assistant District Attorneys in preparation of material for trial
- Testifies before grand or petit juries and in court about facts discovered during investigations
- Conducts especially difficult and highly confidential investigations and library research projects
- Trains investigators in use of electronic and technical equipment (e.g. plate reader, lojack tracking device, mobile digital terminals, and surveillance photographic equipment)
- Prepares reports and maintains necessary records on activities
- Performs related work and all other duties as assigned

Note: Due to the necessary service needs of this position, incumbents may be required to work nights, weekends and holidays.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS/PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Graduation from high school or its equivalent and three years of full-time, paid experience in police enforcement or investigative work, one year of which must have been in rackets or police investigative work
- Education and/or experience which is equivalent to the above. However, all candidates are required to have one year of full-time, paid experience in rackets or police investigative work
- Current or renewable New York State Municipal Police Training Certification is mandatory
- A valid New York State driver's license with a minimum of two (2) years driving experience is mandatory

To apply, please submit your resume/cover letter including salary history to the following address. Please include the Job Vacancy Number (JVN): 902-16-1228. Email: BxDAhr@bronxda.nyc.gov

Or, mail to:
Abigail Erickson, Recruitment Specialist
Human Resources Unit
Office of the Bronx District Attorney
198 E 161st Street, 4th Floor, Bronx, NY 10451

Your resume may be considered for additional assignments for which you are qualified. Only applicants scheduled for interviews will be contacted. Submission of resume is not a guarantee that you will receive an interview.

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BRONX DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

SUPERVISING RACKETS INVESTIGATOR

Supervises and coordinates work of employees engaged in rackets investigations, including, but not limited to, the following tasks:

- Supervises work of investigators and detectives in conducting investigations
 - Controls, coordinates and participates in varied and complex rackets investigations
 - Correlates information gathered by investigators and evaluates it with prosecutor
 - Makes the most difficult and the most confidential investigations
 - Trains subordinates in specialized technical procedures and methods
 - Prepares reports and maintains necessary records on activities
 - Performs related work and all other duties as assigned
- Note: Due to the necessary service needs of this position, incumbents may be required to work nights, weekends and holidays.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS/PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Graduation from high school and either two (2) years of full-time, paid experience as a Senior Rackets Investigator or four (4) years of full-time, paid experience as a Rackets Investigator or satisfactory equivalent
- A valid New York State driver' license with a minimum of two (2) years driving experience is mandatory
- Current or renewable New York State Municipal Police Training Certification is mandatory
- Extensive knowledge and investigative experience in one or more of the following areas is preferred: homicides, robberies and burglaries, major narcotics offenses, domestic violence, sex crimes, elder abuse, gangs, money laundering, governmental fraud, white collar crimes, traditional organized crime activity and the use of state of the art electronic investigative equipment

To apply, please submit your resume/cover letter including salary history to the following address. Please include the Job Vacancy Number (JVN): 902-16-1229. Email: BxDAhr@bronxda.nyc.gov

Or, mail to:
Abigail Erickson, Recruitment Specialist
Human Resources Unit
Office of the Bronx District Attorney
198 E 161st Street, 4th Floor, Bronx, NY 10451

Your resume may be considered for additional assignments for which you are qualified. Only applicants scheduled for interviews will be contacted. Submission of resume is not a guarantee that you will receive an interview.

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From Big Shot to Big House: Silver Gets 12 Yrs. to Contemplate Sins

Continued from Page 2

his son Adam on May 12 for trading the father's support of legislation in return for jobs and payments to the son.

Mr. Skelos and Mr. Silver were two of the "three men in a room," closeting themselves with Governor Cuomo to make the final decisions on the state budget and legislation.

Mr. Silver and Mr. Skelos are among more than a dozen state lawmakers since 1999 who were forced from office after being convicted of or pleading guilty to ethics violations. Prosecutors had initially asked that Mr. Silver's sentence be 15 years, longer than that of any other legislator found guilty on corruption charges.

Boyland's Dubious Honor

In fact, he trails former Assemblyman William Boyland Jr., who was sentenced last year to 14 years behind bars. Mr. Boyland was acquitted of bribery charges in Manhattan in 2011, but later was re-arrested in Brooklyn. The new charges included soliciting a bribe to pay his lawyers in the Manhattan case.

Number Three is former City Councilman Dan Halloran, sentenced in 2015 to 10 years for helping former Democratic State Sen. Malcolm Smith bribe Republican county leaders in an effort to put Mr. Smith on the 2013 mayoral ballot. Mr. Smith is serving seven years.

Federal sentencing guidelines called for 22 to 27 years for Mr. Silver, but Judge Caproni said that was not realistic considering Mr. Silver's age.

The Silver and Skelos cases point up the long-running problem of systemic corruption in Albany.

Dick Dadey, executive director of the good-government group Citizens Union,



VALERIE CAPRONI: 'Maybe next pol will think twice.'

said Mr. Silver's sentence was "just and appropriate" but illustrated the need "to focus on measures that prevent corruption."

Changes Needed

"Preventing corruption includes limiting outside income, closing the LLC loophole [which allows unlimited contributions], reforming the structure and voting rules of the Joint Commission on Public Ethics, ending the 'pay-to-play' style of governance in Albany and reforming our campaign-finance system," he said in a statement.

"The corruption problem in Albany still remains," Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb said in his own statement.

In his budget message in January, Mr. Cuomo demanded that the Legislature pass some of Mr. Dadey's reforms and others as well. But the reforms did not show up in the budget, and the Governor has since been silent on the issue.

"Today's decision sent a simple message that officials who abuse the public's trust will be held accountable," he said in a statement after the sentencing. "Justice was served."

During his term as Assem-



WILLIAM BOYLAND Jr.: Still No. 1 for long terms.

bly Speaker, Mr. Silver notoriously bought the loyalty of fellow Democrats by providing or withholding money for their causes. While affiliated



DICK DADEY: 'Must end pay-to-play.'

with the law firm of Weitz & Luxenberg, which specializes in personal injury, he fought tort reforms in Albany. He was at best lukewarm on

ethics reform, reportedly combating proposals for greater disclosure of lawmakers' legal clients.

Special prosecutor Dan Donovan, now a U.S. Congressman, criticized him for approving a secret settlement using taxpayer funds in a sexual-harassment case involving the late Assemblyman Vito Lopez. Mr. Donovan said the secrecy encouraged Mr. Lopez to continue harassing additional employees.

In 1999, Mr. Silver led the Legislature in killing New York City's tax on commuters. He hoped that action would allow Democrats to win a State Senate seat in a special election in the northern suburbs. The Democrats lost. Efforts to revive the tax since then have been fruitless.



REMEMBERING THOSE WHO GAVE ALL TO NYPD: With Mayor de Blasio and Police Commissioner William J. Bratton among those looking on, 19 names were added to the Police Memorial Wall honoring those whose deaths were related to their job duties.

Two Fatally Shot Last Year

Memorial Wall Honors 19 Cops Who Died of Line-of-Duty Injuries, Illnesses

By MARK TOOR

The NYPD added 19 names May 5 to the Memorial Wall at Police Headquarters honoring officers who were killed in the line of duty.

Two died in confrontations with suspects, one was killed on Reserve duty in Afghanistan and 16 succumbed to illnesses they contracted from rescue and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center site after 9/11.

'Went Toward the Danger'

"We're going to, today, honor 19 extraordinary individuals who did so much for all of us," said Mayor de Blasio. "And they did what most people just would not have the strength to do. Most people would not choose to put on a uniform and answer the call of duty and go toward the danger."

"We are fulfilling the promise that we often talk about; that we will never forget," said Police Commissioner William J. Bratton.

The officers killed in confrontations with suspects were Brian Moore and Randolph Holder. Officer Moore, 25, had been with the NYPD almost five years. He and his partner were patrolling in plainclothes in the 105th Precinct on May 2, 2015, when they saw a man walking and adjusting his waistband as if he had a gun.

When Officer Moore parked behind him to inquire about his activities, the man pulled a gun, turned and fired several times. Officer Moore died two days later. Demetrius Blackwell, 35, was arrested on the night of Officer Moore's shooting and charged with first-degree murder.

Shot Chasing Bike Thief

Officer Randolph Holder, 33 and also a five-year veteran, was fatally shot as he and other officers sought to apprehend a suspect who had stolen a bicycle while fleeing the scene of a gun battle in an Upper Manhattan housing project. He was assigned to the Housing Bureau Anti-Crime Unit.

Police apprehended Tyrone Howard, 31, a drug dealer who was on the lam from a court-ordered drug-rehabilitation program. Officers had shot him in the leg. In December he was sentenced to the maximum 12 years in prison on the drug charge. He awaits trial in the death of Officer Holder.

Det. Joseph Lemm, 45, of the Bronx Warrant Squad, was on duty Dec. 21, 2015 with the U.S. Air Force Reserves when a suicide bomber drove a motorcycle into a column patrolling near Bagram Airfield. Detective Lemm was one of six Americans who died in the attack.

Officers Moore and Holder and Detective Lemm were posthumously promoted to Detective First Grade.

Others Honored

The officers who died as a result of exposure to 9/11 debris were:

Deputy Chief Steven J. Bonano of Patrol Borough Brooklyn South. Joined the NYPD in 1982. Died Jan. 17, 2015 of blood cancer contracted during 9/11, at which time he commanded the Emergency Service Unit. Recipient of the Combat Cross. Retired in 2012, becoming head of security at Barclays Center.

Inspector James Guida, Narcotics Division. Joined NYPD in 1981, served 33 years. Commands included the 42nd and 88th precincts, Narcotics Borough Manhattan South and the Brooklyn North Gang Squad. Died Oct. 31, 2014.

Capt. Scott V. Stelmok, 103rd Precinct. Joined NYPD in 1993, served 20 years. Served in several Manhattan and Queens commands. Died Dec. 29, 2014.

Got Merit Valor Medal

Sgt. Supervisor Detective Squad Stephen P. Scalza, Organized Crime Control Bureau. Joined NYPD in 1992, retired July 1, 2012. Died Oct. 1, 2014.

Sgt. Patrick P. Murphy, Emergency Service Squad 5. Joined NYPD in 1983, retired in 2004. Recipient of

the Medal for Merit/Valor. Died Aug. 20, 2014.

Det. First Grade John A. Russo, Technical Assistance and Response Unit. Joined the NYPD in 1966, retired March 1, 2002. Other assignments included the Joint Bank Robbery Task Force. Died July 22, 2014.

Det. James J. Albanese, Manhattan South Downtown Narcotics District. Joined NYPD in 1987, retired in 2013. Died Aug. 13, 2014.

Det. Luis G. Fernandez, Emergency Service Squad 6. Joined NYPD in 1991, died Oct. 16, 2014. Other assignments include the Narcotics Division.

Det. Stuart F. Fishkin, Fleet Services Bureau. Joined NYPD in 1987, retired March 1, 2004. Other assignments included the Street Crime Unit and the Taxi Squad. Died May 8, 2015.

Gang Squad Detective

Det. Richard H. Wentz, Gang Squad Brooklyn North. Joined NYPD in 1985, retired in 2005. Other commands included the Street Crime Unit. Died May 14, 2013.

Police Officer James M.

Continued on Page 16



ROSA RODRIGUEZ: Still unable to return to work.

Convict Teen in Fire

Continued from Page 2

to the trial judge that some mercy be offered in sentencing because members didn't believe he intended to hurt anyone will not factor into that decision. **R.S.**

For 4 Fire Probies, Dads’ Deaths Make Graduation Poignant

Continued from Page 1

about all he now has to learn in his first assignment, at Engine 69 in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. But though some members of his family are a bit apprehensive about him serving, he said, “the excitement overweighs the nerves.”

‘Dept. Took Care of Us’

“They all saw the way the Fire Department took care of us and our family and they definitely think it’s a very good thing,” he added.

Mr. Palombo is one of four probationary Firefighters, or probies, whose fathers died serving the city. Harry Ford’s father, Firefighter Harry Ford Sr. of Rescue Co. 4, died in the Father’s Day 2001 blaze and explosion that killed three FDNY members in an Astoria hardware store. James Sullivan’s dad, Firefighter Lawrence Sullivan, died of 9/11-related illness in 2012. And Joseph Herman is the son of Jeff Herman, an NYPD Officer who was shot and killed in the line of duty in 1989.

The graduates belonged to one of the larger classes that has passed through the 18-week Fire Academy, and one of the most diverse. Among the probies were 52 African-Americans, and the class was about 40 percent people of color. Three women graduated, bringing the department’s tally to a record 52 women, though it still remains less than one-half of 1 percent female.

The women graduates included Wendy Tapia, who’d been pilloried in the New York Post after she was injured in a previous Academy class and struggled to pass a



A SON JOINING THE FAMILY BUSINESS: Joseph Brown, right, followed his father Lawrence Brown into the firefighting profession May 3. He expressed a mixture of nerves and excitement about the job after his graduation ceremony, while his dad vouched for how thoroughly comrades in the firehouse shield each other during a blaze. Recalling a misstep during his first fire, he was grateful that a colleague quickly pulled him from harm’s way, leaving him with merely a story to tell rather than a serious injury.

qualifying run. She later returned to her job as an Emergency Medical Technician for several months.

Grateful for ‘Backbone’

After the ceremony, Ms. Tapia expressed excitement and some nervousness about her new position. She praised the United Women Firefighters, with whom she trained for the physical portion of the fire exam, as her “backbone.” “I am grateful for the oppor-

tunity and excited to move forward,” she said. Asked if the process made her tougher, she said, “Yeah, of course. [But] I think I came tough, always strongminded.” Valedictorian Stephen Rivera also spoke of toughness, recalling that as a first-generation Firefighter, he didn’t know what to expect from the paramilitary-style Academy. “I witnessed for the first time how persuasive a Drill Sergeant could be,” he said, which made him question

what he had gotten himself into. Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro, in keeping with recent moves to promote firefighter involvement with the community, spoke of the softer side of the job, however. Though he warned probies how quick they must be in the face of danger, he added, “Always remember the kindness and compassion you show day in and day out is as important as the tenacity with which you fight a fire.”

UFA’s Slevin to Challenge Romaka for IAFF VP Post

Continued from Page 4

ident Jim Slevin will challenge Bill Romaka, a former UFA health and safety director and the incumbent district vice president of the International Association of Fire Fighters. The winner will represent firefighters in New York and New Jersey.

Cassidy Lost Last Time

In 2012, Steve Cassidy, the UFA president with whom Mr. Slevin has served for years, faced Mr. Romaka in a bid for the same office, losing with 47 percent of the vote. This year, Mr. Romaka is making the same argument that he did in 2012—he says the post is a full-time job and that Mr. Slevin, who believes he would be able to continue his UFA duties while serving the IAFF, would be stretched too thin. Mr. Cassidy also planned to keep his post at the local when he ran four years ago.

“I was on the road for 110 days traveling overnight last year” for the IAFF, Mr. Romaka said in a phone interview.

He described a recent two-week period in which he spent a Monday and Tuesday negotiating in Albany on behalf of a small fire department. He spent Wednesday in Atlantic City on IAFF business, then traveled to Washington, D.C. on Saturday for a legislative conference. By Monday he was back in Trenton, N.J. to meet with the AFL-CIO over firefighter issues in Atlantic City, but quickly returned to Washington for the rest of the conference. By Thursday he was back in Trenton to see a bill move out of committee.

‘Severe Time Constraints’

“He’s gonna have severe time constraints,” Mr. Romaka said of his competitor, adding that the idea that he could do both jobs “seems to be a contradiction in common sense.” As UFA vice president, Mr. Slevin sits on the union pension board and represents the local in Albany.

Mr. Slevin said that he believed he could handle both jobs at least through the end of his current UFA term next spring. While he said he was “committed” to finishing his term, he pledged to change his plans if the workload became too heavy.

“What I’ve always said is I have to get elected first before I decide what I’m going



BILL ROMAKA: Can’t be a part-time job.

to do,” he said. “...If the time [constraint] is too taxing, then I will certainly do the right thing by the members and retire.”

Though he declined to give specifics, Mr. Slevin said he’d encountered many constituents in the region looking for a change in leadership.

“Listen, I’ve been from Jersey to upstate New York and one thing that I think is clear is everybody likes Billy and it’s not about Billy being a good guy or a bad guy; they’re just not happy with his performance as VP,” he said.

‘Have Experience, Skills’

“I have the experience and the skill set to do a great job for the First District and give them the representation they deserve,” he added. “They’re looking for a change, and I want to be that change.”

The District VP is the first contact for local unions with requests for the international, which provides them with many types of resources and funding. After Hurricane Sandy and the Sept. 11 attacks, the IAFF assisted members of the UFA and the Uniformed Fire Officers Association, providing funding for damaged property and personal costs.

The international may also provide legal help, may fund a local seeking to back a national candidate, or provide data and analysis to bolster a local piece of legislation. Mr. Romaka said that his work over the last four years has included helping firefighters in several areas to organize, and working with the IAFF locals near them to gauge and negotiate any potential conflicts. He has helped secure grants, including a \$50,000 one to the UFA and another grant to the UFOA, and has worked with professional firefighters



KEVIN GALLAGHER: Split time between UFA, IAFF.

whose jobs were threatened in combination volunteer departments.

Saved 85 Jobs in A.C.

He has worked heavily with an Atlantic City local, helping to save 85 jobs there, he said, and did extensive work helping to renew the Zadroga Act for 9/11 responders and survivors. He cited several other accomplishments in campaign literature.

Mr. Slevin noted that he, too, had been active in national firefighter causes during his 15-year run as UFA vice president. He has sat on IAFF committees and was the vice president of the New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association.

He was critical of Mr. Romaka’s claims that he couldn’t handle both jobs, noting that Mr. Romaka’s predecessor, former UFA President Kevin Gallagher, served as district VP while finishing his UFA term that ended in 2002.

“Certainly he was able to handle it in the past; I don’t see any reason why I wouldn’t be able to handle it,” he said.

‘Be Where I Need To’

He noted that many districts are much larger than the New York and New Jersey territory he’d be covering, including one that includes California, Hawaii, Arizona, and New Mexico. Leaders there rely on field representatives when necessary, though Mr. Slevin anticipated attending most meetings in person. “I’ll be wherever I need to be,” he said.

The UFA official pledged to use his vacation time to cover absences. “I spend a lot of time out of town as it is, lobbying in Albany, so I know what it’s like. I know what it takes to be out on the road,” he said.

Like Mr. Nigro, whose father was an FDNY Captain, several other new recruits last week followed their dads onto the force.

Retired Battalion Chief Stephen Ternlund, who spent 44 years on the job, was on hand to watch his son Kenneth graduate. The younger Ternlund found the long hours to be the toughest part of the Academy—days that would start at 4 a.m. and have him home as late as 8 p.m. Dinner was just 20 short minutes before studying and passing out.

His father taught him that no matter how fast a fire was blazing, no matter how much adrenaline was pumping, he’d have to stop and think before he acted—even if it was for just five seconds.

‘Step Back, Look Up’

“I’m not saying take five minutes—but take a second. Step back, look up, size the building, size what’s on fire, and then go do your duty,” Chief Ternlund said.

Joseph Brown, 27, grew up with a Firefighter father, too—Lawrence Brown, who spent more than 28 years in the department.

The probie knew there would be nerves when he encountered his first fire.

“It’s not like you’ll be calm. It is a dangerous situation, adrenaline will be kicking, you just have to, like my father always told me, relax yourself, take a deep breath and remember that this is your job and you’ve been sent here to do a job,” he said. “You get it done so you can get out of there.”

Firefighter Brown, now retired, said it was really the first fire that newcomers worried about. Though he got a pat on the back from his comrades after making it through his first blaze with Ladder 3 in the late 1970s, he knew from experience that for just a moment, your training can leave you.

That ‘Oh!’ Moment

“We had to crawl down a hallway and force a door,” he said. “And we popped the door open and there was the red devil right there. I was on my belly; I stood up and went, Oh!” His colleagues managed to pull him back down before he was blasted with too much heat and smoke.

Asked what he’d learned from his dad, Joseph Brown’s message was simple.

“You get back what you put in,” he said. “So if you give it your best effort, and give everybody your best effort, then they’ll do the same for you.”

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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GreenCity Irrigation LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on April 12, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 172 Nagle Avenue, Apt.41, New York, NY 10034. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.	714
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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF OFFICE DOODLE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on January 7, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 123 William Street, New York, NY 10038-3804. The principal business address of the LLC is: 100 WEST 15TH STREET, 1A, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: Office Doodle is a social media sharing website.	712
05/13/16-06/17/16	679

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF RULES FOR LOVE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on February 22, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 123 William Street, New York, NY 10038-3804. The principal business address of the LLC is: 100 WEST 15TH STREET, 1A, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: Rules For Love is a home-ware product line.	680
05/13/16-06/17/16	688

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Watchtower Homes, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on March 09, 2016. Office location: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is: 315 Madison Ave., 3rd FL., PMB #3051, New York, NY 10017. The principal business address of the LLC is: 315 Madison Ave., 3rd FL., PMB #3051, New York, NY 10017. Purpose: To buy and sell homes.	688
05/13/16-06/17/16	690

Notice of Formation of SARA SAM-PAIO, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/13/16. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o ML MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES, INC. ATTN: Dan Reed, 250 W. 57TH ST., 26TH FL., NY, NY 10107. Purpose: any lawful activities.	690
05/13/16-06/17/16	709

Notice of Formation of ArtAlla Studio LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 4/28/16. Office location: NY County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: The LLC, 1185 Park Ave., Apt. 15D, NY, NY 10128, principal business address. Purpose: all lawful purposes.	709
05/13/16-06/17/16	716

The Annual Report for the Segev Shalom Foundation, Inc., for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 is available at its principal office located at: 450 Wireless Blvd, Hauppauge, New York, 11788, for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who requests it within 180 days hereof. The principal manager of the Foundation is Vera Amins.	717
05/13/16	717

Stuart Beitelman & Associates, LLC. a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 4/22/16. Office location: Richmond. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, 117 Pierpont Pl., Staten Island, NY 10314. General purpose.	716
05/13/16-06/17/16	716

Rookie Humans LLC, a domestic LLC, filed with the SSNY on 4/29/16. Office location: New York. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The LLC, PO Box 1039, NY, NY 10013. General purpose.	707
05/13/16-06/17/16	691

Notice is hereby given that a Summer Tavern wine license, #TBA has been applied for by Tartinery Liberty LLC to sell beer and wine at retail in an on premises establishment. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 250 Vesey Street, Waterfront Plaza at Brookfield Place New York NY 10281.	691
05/13/16-05/20/16	691

Continued on Page 17

IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

ROUNDUP OF EXAMS LEADING TO JOBS

Below is a roundup of New York City and State exams leading to public service positions. Most of the jobs listed are located in the New York metropolitan area and upstate.

There are residency requirements for many New York City jobs and for state law-enforcement positions.

Prospective applicants are advised to write or call the appropriate office to make sure they meet the qualifications needed to apply for an exam. For jobs for which no written tests are given, candidates will be rated on education and experience, or by oral tests or performance exams.

The Federal Government has decentralized its personnel operations and holds few exams on a national or regional basis. Most Federal vacancies are filled by individual agencies based on education-and-experience evaluations. For information, contact the U.S. Office of Personnel Management or individual agencies, or see www.usajobs.gov.

CITY EXAMS

CLOSE MAY 24

6049 Certified IT Administrator (LAN/WAN) \$72,260
6067 City Planner \$49,897
6050 Estimator (General Construction) \$51,586
6528 Promotion to Associate Inspector (Construction) \$55,139
6532 Promotion to Senior Addition Counselor (HHC) \$52,168
6533 Promotion to Senior Hospital Care Investigator (HHC) \$46,163
6534 Promotion to Supervising Hospital Care Investigator (HHC) \$54,348
6051 Psychologist (HHC) \$57,967

CLOSES MAY 31

(Computerized Walk-In Testing Held Daily)
6332 Correction Officer \$39,755

CLOSE JUNE 30

(Computerized Walk-In Testing Held Daily)
6337 Child Protective Specialist \$45,874
6316 Environmental Police Officer \$29,110
6328 School Safety Agent \$30,714
6335 Special Officer \$30,714
6329 Traffic Enforcement Agent \$29,217

CUNY EXAMS

CLOSES MAY 31

2051 College Security Specialist \$46,742

MTA EXAMS

CLOSE MAY 24

6405 Promotion to Bus Maintainer (Chassis) \$22.31-\$24.15
6720 Promotion to Collection Supervisor \$71,336
6718 Promotion to Maintenance Supervisor (Car Equipment) \$79,931
6719 Promotion to Supervisor (Stations) \$60,634
6614 Telephone Maintainer \$29.33 an hour

NASSAU COUNTY EXAMS

CLOSE MAY 11

61-802 Patient Care Representative (Bilingual, Spanish-Speaking) \$39,357-\$81,958
68-911 Probation Officer Trainee \$31,121-\$71,022

Police Memorial Wall

Continued from Page 16

her entire career in the '115.' Died Dec. 22, 2013.

Police Officer Robert W. Kaminski, Fleet Services Division. Joined the Transit Police in 1985 rolled over into NYPD after the merger in 1995. Retired in 2005. Died Dec. 4, 2014.

Police Officer Shaun M. Mahoney, 109th Precinct. Joined NYPD in 1995. Spent his entire career in the '109.' Died Dec. 10, 2014.

Police Officer Peter O. Rodriguez, Auto Crime Division. Joined NYPD in 2000. Other assignments included the Narcotics Division. Died Feb. 12, 2012.

Mr. de Blasio said the Memorial Wall contained 881 names, going back to 1849.

68-913 Probation Officer Trainee (Bilingual, Spanish-Speaking) \$31,121-\$71,022

69-394 Social Welfare Examiner I \$25,244-\$57,356

61-943 Social Welfare Examiner I (Bilingual, Spanish-Speaking) \$25,244-\$57,356

SUFFOLK COUNTY EXAMS

CLOSES MAY 18

8-0020 Clerk-Typist (Spanish-Speaking) \$28,060-\$34,217

STATE EXAMS

CLOSE MAY 31

28-347 Vocational Instructor (Animal Science) (Horse Handling and Care) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-348 Vocational Instructor (Business and Distributive Education) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-349 Vocational Instructor (Carpentry) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-350 Vocational Instructor (Commercial Art) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-351 Vocational Instructor (Computer Technology) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-352 Vocational Instructor (Cosmetology/Barbering) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-353 Vocational Instructor (Culinary Careers) (Food Service) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-354 Vocational Instructor (Drafting) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-355 Vocational Instructor (Electrical) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-356 Vocational Instructor (Electrical/Electronic Occupations Repair and Installation) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-357 Vocational Instructor (Graphic Imaging) (Printing) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-358 Vocational Instructor (Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning and Refrigeration) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-359 Vocational Instructor (Machine Tool Operation/Machine Shop) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-360 Vocational Instructor (Masonry) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-361 Vocational Instructor (Motorcycle Marine & Outdoor Power Equipment) (Small Engine) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-362 Vocational Instructor Plant Science (Ornamental Horticulture) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-363 Vocational Instructor (Plumbing) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-364 Vocational Instructor (Residential/Commercial Building Maintenance & Remodeling) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-365 Vocational Instructor (Upholstering) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-366 Vocational Instructor (Vehicle Mechanical Repair) (Auto Mechanics) \$37,527-\$52,514

28-367 Vocational Instructor (Welding) (Welding & Fabrication) \$37,527-\$52,514

FEDERAL JOBS

CLOSES MAY 10

16-NYS-1682331-DE Paralegal Specialist \$45,232-\$58,802

CLOSES MAY 11

VHA-526-16-SD-1680478-BU Social Worker (HUD/VASH) (Bronx) (Dept. of Veterans Affairs) \$66,940-\$87,021

CLOSES MAY 13

VHA-526-16-SD-1688655-BU Social Worker (Substance Use Disorder) (Bronx) (Dept. of Veterans Affairs) \$66,940-\$87,021

Letters to the Editor

Continued from Page 5

itself, amounts to a political revolution.

Both King and Michael Gorman, in his latest baloney-for-Hillary-Clinton letter, criticize Bernie Sanders for having the audacity to suggest we need a political revolution. Imagine change that would uplift workers of all colors, religions, nationalities and both sexes. I guess that is not the kind of change King and Gorman can believe in.

Despite his flaws, Obama remains much more popular than Clinton. So it is not surprising that she and her supporters equate criticism of her with criticism of him.

Add this to the awful history of this country's oppression of people of color, and it is no surprise that they wish to look upon the first black President favorably.

But more than one critic has said that if Obama had been white and elected as a Republican, then Republicans would love him.

We need something better than a continuation of Obama's policies or worse.

Sanders represents the real revolution we want.

RICHARD WARREN
Retired transit worker

BH-16-JLI-1698876 Social Worker (Seriously Mentally Ill Program Coordinator) \$95,409-\$124,037

CLOSE JULY 29

NSHRO-LN-1604729-16-63 Recreation Assistant (Lifeguard) (Queens, Staten Island) (Nat. Park Service) \$15.64 an hour

NSHRO-LN-1604814-16-64 Lead Recreation Assistant (Lifeguard) (Queens, Staten Island) (Nat. Park Service) \$17.59 an hour

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Straw-Donor Probe Tied to 2013 Campaign a New Distraction for De Blasio

Continued from Page 1

during an appearance the day before in front of the Senate Education Committee.

A Lingering Anger

Mr. Flanagan had not attended that hearing, but his anger over Mr. de Blasio's attempt to wrest control of the Senate from Republicans played a role in the Mayor getting just a one-year extension last year, in sharp contrast to the six-year extension granted to then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg—a generous contributor to Senate Republicans—in 2009.

DNA Info reported that its examination of Mr. de Blasio's campaign finances showed that two commercial drivers for a beauty-product wholesaler gave nearly \$10,000 each to his mayoral run and his transition committee in 2013.

It stated that Rafael Zepeda gave a \$5,000 bank check to the de Blasio campaign shortly before the 2013 election. His donation was actually \$50 above the limit set by city campaign-finance rules, and so he later received a \$50 refund, according to DNA Info. He then contributed another \$4,500 in December to the Mayor-elect's transition committee—the maximum permissible for such donations.

The website said that Mr. Zepeda initially acknowl-



JOHN FLANAGAN: Playing hardball with Mayor.

edged making the contributions but then subsequently denied that he was the donor listed in Campaign Finance Board records.

A co-worker, Jose Zepeda, also was listed as making identical contributions to both the de Blasio campaign and the transition team.

Boss a Big Giver

The man who employs both Zepedas, Sm-Ali Amanollahi, the president of Primary One LLC, was a major de Blasio contributor, with money given by himself, relatives, employees and associates totaling at least \$55,000 between October and December 2013.

De Blasio campaign spokesman Dan Levitan told DNA Info that the campaign was "reviewing the donations and



JOHN C. LIU: Straw donors broke his campaign's back.

will take any appropriate action."

At least two candidates for city office, former Transit Police Benevolent Association President Ron Reale after his 1993 run for Public Advocate and longtime City Councilman Sheldon Leffler following his 2001 run for Queens Borough President, were criminally convicted of, among other things, using straw donors to qualify for matching funds from the CFB.

Bad Fallout for Liu

And in one case—also involving that 2013 mayoral election—while the candidate was not personally charged with wrongdoing, revelations of straw donors to his campaign had a decisive impact on his chances of winning. Then-City Comptroller



KAREN HINTON: Exit adds to press-office shuffling.

John C. Liu, who played a key role in exposing the City-Time scandal that had allowed consultants to defraud the city of about \$600 million while devising an electronic payroll time-keeping system, was badly damaged by reports that some wealthy businessmen sought to exceed the limits on donations by having portions of them—each amounting to \$800—made in the names of employees whose earnings made it doubtful they could have afforded to give that much. The New York Times interviewed some of them and found they had no knowledge of the donations made in their names. Mr. Liu claimed he was unjustly placed under a cloud by the stories, and they hurt him in attracting union support and cast a pall over his campaign, whose 24-year-old treasurer was criminally convicted in the midst of the race along with a campaign bundler who had raised many of the suspicious contributions.

De Blasio Soared, Liu Sank

When the two early front-runners in the battle for the Democratic nomination, Christine Quinn and Anthony Weiner, faltered that summer, it was Mr. de Blasio who was able to capitalize while Mr. Liu's campaign languished. While they had been in a virtual dead heat for fourth place in early summer, by mid-September Mr. de Bla-

sio had won the primary with 40 percent of the vote while Mr. Liu got just 7 percent.

The latest revelations of possible campaign improprieties came on top of the probe of two major fund-raisers for Mr. de Blasio's 2013 campaign and the 2014 Senate push who also are being eyed for allegedly giving trips and expensive gifts to top NYPD officials in return for favors that benefited Orthodox Jewish groups. And there is another probe into the administration's permitting the operator of a nursing home to make a \$16-million payment to the Department of City-wide Administrative Services to eliminate a clause in the property's deed requiring that it be used for related purposes, then selling it for a total profit of \$72 million to a developer who plans to build luxury condominiums at the site.

Bad Timing

The Mayor has pledged full cooperation with the various inquiries, and he announced May 5 that the Law Department had contracted with two high-powered law firms to assist the city "in document collection and review" for responding to subpoenas by probers including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Manhattan District Attorney's Office and the State Attorney General.

But with the new allegations sandwiched by the sentencing of former Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver to 12 years in prison May 3 for corrupt actions and the scheduled May 12 sentencing of ex-Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos for similar wrongdoing, the new questions raised about his integrity came at a particularly inopportune time for the Mayor.

Mr. Skelos's successor, Senator Flanagan, with his comments last week revived a charge sometimes levied against Mr. de Blasio: that he hasn't paid enough attention to details.

Mr. Flanagan appeared to be referring to the Mayor's

halting response about why it had been necessary to make lump-sum payments under the United Federation of Teachers contract reached in May 2014 in addition to the basic raises. Mr. de Blasio was unable to spell out in detail the reason for those payments: that a 54-month delay in replacing an expired UFT pact that resulted largely from former Mayor Michael Bloomberg's refusal to give the union the same raises he'd previously agreed to with most other city unions had created a huge back-pay obligation once a deal was finally reached four months into his own tenure.

That prompted Sen. John De Francisco, who had asked the question, to say that if the Mayor couldn't offer specifics, "maybe you're not as fiscally sound as you may think you are."

Finally, Ms. Hinton's departure accentuated the tumult in a press operation that has undergone a head-spinning amount of turnover in Mr. de Blasio's first 28 months in office, and cost him someone who—amid his own often-fractious relations with the media—was generally liked by City Hall reporters.

Just a Family Thing?

The administration insisted that her leaving was about nothing more than her stated reason that she wanted to spend more time with her daughter, noting that she authored her resignation letter April 6, before the number of investigations mushroomed. But the New York Post noted that this happened to be the day Mr. de Blasio denied that the city had opted to defer funding the completion of the city's Third Water Tunnel, calling it a misunderstanding resulting from a tangled explanation by Department of Environmental Protection officials "and some of the folks at City Hall."

His Executive Budget released April 26 included funding for the fiscal year that starts July 1 to complete that construction.

Mayor Chewed, Not Devoured by Senate

Continued from Page 3

now under scrutiny, asked about those and other probes plaguing City Hall.

A Matter of Credibility

"Convince me why I should vote for mayoral control—with all the allegations that are going on [about] your office and your administration," he said, adding that Mr. de Blasio needed to consider the public's "trust factor."

"We're going to hear all sorts of allegations over the years, all of us," the Mayor replied. "In a democracy, we don't judge by allegations, we judge by facts and through due process."

Sen. José Peralta, a Queens Democrat, said that if the Mayor got a seven-year extension but wasn't re-elected in 2017, state lawmakers wouldn't be able to gauge his successor's strategy. "Then, if we give seven years, we won't have an opportunity to talk to that particular Mayor in seven years, until after that [first term] is up," he said. "So, why not have it two to three years instead of the seven that you're requesting?"

Mr. de Blasio said education policies should be decided by voters and that the governance structure should "rise above" the party or ideology of City Hall.

"One of the interesting situations that unites Michael Bloomberg, Rudy Giuliani and me: we all agree, we're absolutely in lock-step, that mayoral control is the right way to get things done for the kids," he said. "And that it creates the most essential accountability that we can ask for in government."

An Uncomfortable Shift

As during last year's fight to extend control, Mr. de Blasio was in the somewhat awkward position of praising the education record of Mr. Bloomberg, whose charter-school-friendly and school-closing policies he campaigned against. From the 2000-01 school year—the last full one for which Mr. Giuliani was in office—the graduation rate increased by nearly 16 points to 66 percent by the end of the Bloomberg administration;

since then, there has been another 4.5-point gain, the Mayor said.

He said the DOE had also pushed out 1,361 underperforming Teachers from the start of his administration through the end of March, and that he has brought in 33 new Principals at renewal schools, and took steps to close four turnaround schools and merge 25 others.

"We've started aggressively on that route, but I think the good news in this is we see a number of these schools starting to improve meaningfully to keep to that timeline we've set out," he said, noting that he will raise standards for those that do improve and close those which don't.

Much of the conversation revolved around policies such as the city's \$1.7-billion charter-school budget, suspension rates and co-locations.

The committee's Chair, Sen. Carl Marcellino, opened the hearing by asking the Mayor about an April Quinnipiac University poll that said 43 percent of city voters opposed an extension of mayoral control, only three points below those who approve it. "I would argue that much more important than any polling are the facts on the ground and the actions the people have taken in the electoral process," Mr. de Blasio said.

Corruption in Old System

The Mayor, who called the previous system bureaucratic and prone to corruption in some districts, said no one had offered an alternative. He said the new system has taken Community Education Councils and parental guidance into consideration, particularly with co-locations.


Queens Sen. James Sanders Jr. said a one-year extension would be too short to determine any Mayor's successes. "If the previous Mayor had seven or eight years, then that should be a standard," he said. "Or we should come up with a real standard and say, 'Here is what it would be from now on for every Mayor; regardless whether we like a future Mayor or not, this would be the standard.'"

The final hearing is scheduled for May 19 in lower Manhattan.



Mayor's Office Photo

SMILE LOOKS OUT OF PLACE: To parry questions about the flurry of investigations now dogging his administration, Mayor de Blasio told State Senators of its successes in improving the school system, from the expanded pre-kindergarten program to an improved graduation rate to pushing substandard Teachers out of the system. But even some Democratic Senators were skeptical of his call for a seven-year extension of mayoral control, with José Peralta of Queens noting that if Mr. de Blasio wasn't re-elected next year, his successor would be able to go through a first term without being held accountable by the State Legislature.



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Philip Seelig, Retired President, Correction Officers' Benevolent Assn.; Co-founder of the 40,000 member Uniform Forces Coalition (UFA, PBA, USA, and COBA); and Former Vice-Chairman of the 200,000 member Municipal Labor Committee.

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