



# The Chief

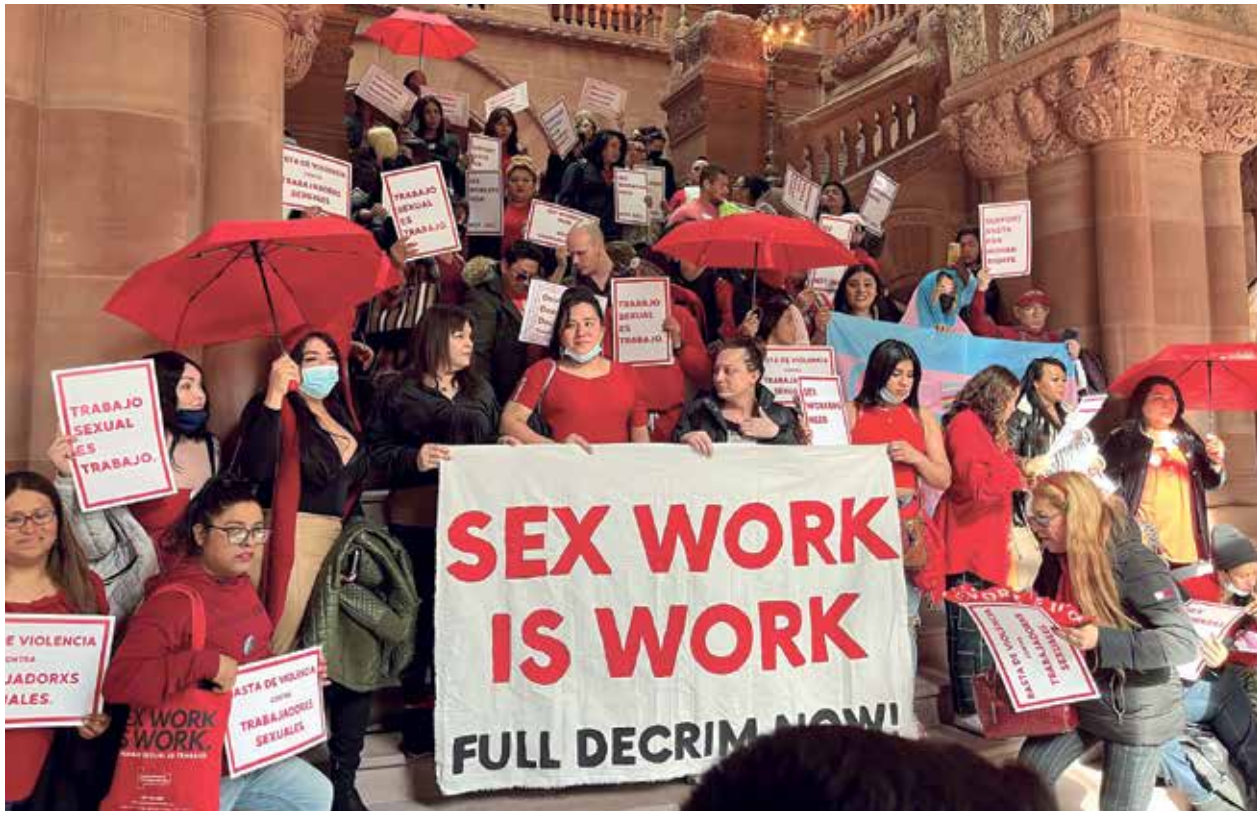
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JUNE 16, 2023

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Dozens of sex workers, advocates and lawmakers assembled at the Statehouse in Albany in March calling for the passage of legislation that would comprehensively decriminalize sex work. A City Council bill introduced last week would offer first-of-its-kind discrimination protections to sex workers in New York City, open grants to organizations who aid sex workers and provide education to those selling sex.

## City Council considers sex workers' rights bill

Legislation would provide grants, prohibit discrimination

BY DUNCAN FREEMAN  
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Tiffany Munroe experienced the sort of workplace discrimination that is all-too-common for transgender people when she was fired from her warehouse job in 2020 after speaking out against the harassment and transphobia to which she was subjected for months.

Munroe faced hurdles to once again find gainful employment after being fired. Now the Caribbean Equality Project's trans justice coordinator, Munroe works with other transgender people who've had similar difficulties as she did and she understands the lengths that some have to go just to survive.

The discrimination that trans people face, and the difficulty that many have with finding employment, she said, are the main reasons that transgender people and undocumented immigrants make up a disproportionate share of sex workers, both here and across the country.

"Trans and undocumented people resort to survival sex work because that is the only thing that we can do to make a living for ourselves," Munroe told The Chief earlier this week. "We need to realize that sex work is work and that the workers

need protection instead of getting arrested."

As LGBTQIA+ people have successfully fought for and gained rights in recent decades, many members of the community and their advocates have turned their attention to sex work. And now lawmakers in the city are paying attention as well.

Composite legislation introduced at the City Council last week would prohibit landlords from discrimination against sex workers, fund grants program for community organizations that aid sex workers and also provide education and support. The bill is part of a nine-step plan to support the city's LGBTQIA+ community that Council members are calling "The Marsha and Silvia Plan for Queer Liberation," for Marsha P. Johnson and Silvia Rivera, two transgender women who were at the forefront of the 1968 Stonewall riots, which galvanized the gay liberation movement and the struggle for LGBT rights.

### A first

"Sex work is work," Council Member Tiffany Cabán said when introducing the bill June 8. The legislation's goal, Cabán said, is to "provide for the rights, protection and economic security of some of our most marginalized, most criminalized and most disrespected neighbors: New Yorkers who engage in sex work."

The legislation would encode sex work, for the first time, in the city's

administrative code as the "voluntarily exchange of sexual services, performances, or products for material compensation," and open the door for future legislation concerning the workers.

It would also amend the city's privacy laws to protect against the disclosure of a person's status as a sex worker, create a dedicated review and enforcement board within the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection, and compel the Administration for Children's Services to create a report on the outcome of cases involving sex workers.

"Introducing the NYC Sex Worker Protection Bill is a prerequisite to ensuring equity, safety and just treatment under the law for all New Yorkers, especially those at the margins of our communities," Council Member Crystal Hudson, who introduced the bill alongside Cabán and Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, said in a statement. "This piece of legislation is our opportunity to reshape a debate where the prevailing and erroneous judgment has been one of criminalization and ostracism."

Several other bills have been introduced at the state level that offer more protections to sex workers including State Senator Julia Salazar's Stop Violence in the Sex Trades Act, which would decriminalize paid consensual sex among adults.

See WORK, page 6

## City managers look for fair share

BY RICHARD KHAVKINE  
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To city municipal workers nursing a grievance, you can add department and agency managers.

Without a raise since 2019, the city's roughly 16,000 supervisors are looking for increases in salary. Just as importantly, they also want to be given the opportunity to work from home on occasion, according to the Managerial Employees Association's president, Darrell Sims, and its executive director, Alice Wong. But, they said, Adams administration officials have been slow to even respond to their concerns.

"We basically run the show, and we're not getting the recognition, and that's what I perceive from our correspondence and dialogue with the administration so far," Sims said during an interview last week.

The Managerial Employees Association advocates on behalf of city civil servants who by virtue of their supervisory roles are ineligible for collective-bargaining.

Pay raises for managers, consequently, come at the direction of the mayor, the exception being for those who work in non-mayoral agencies, including NYC Health+Hospitals, the Housing Authority, the Department of Education and the School Construction Authority, all of which implement salary increases on their own.

Most managers last received salary raises — a 3 percent bump — in October 2019. Then-Mayor Bill de Blasio had signed a personnel order the previous November that approved pay hikes for 10,400 managerial and so-called original jurisdiction employees in mayoral agencies. The raises, totaling 7.42 percent, including compounding, were consistent with increases agreed to by District Council 37 in August 2018.

Original jurisdiction employees are excluded from collective bargaining because their work involves confidential work, such as personnel or labor-relations matters.

While Sims said he was sympa-

thetic to the argument that management will not get raises as quickly as the rank and file, since collective bargaining agreements set overall patterns, including for management, he chastised administration officials for failing to engage in a dialogue.

Sims and Wong have detailed their concerns to both City Hall and the Office of Labor Relations, in meetings in January and July 2022 and again last April. Several letters to Mayor Eric Adams went unanswered, they said. They recently conveyed their frustrations in a May 8 letter to First Deputy Mayor Sheena Wright.

"In these meetings, OLR exhibited limited concern and respect for MEA's advocacy efforts to improve the work-life experience for City managers," they wrote.

OLR and administration officials did not reply to emails seeking comment.

### 'A lot to be worked out'

Managers occupy a variety of civil service titles, but they are charged with and responsible for the formulation and implementation of departmental policies and programs. They generally also have significant discretionary authority with regard to rank and file personnel, including the allocation of work or resources.

The MEA surveyed its members last July and found that 95 percent supported a telework option. About 80,000 city employees worked remotely during the pandemic, but were ordered to return to work in-person last fall.

Sims suggested it was imperative for the administration to give managers the option to work from home on some days.

"It seems like the work environment and the attitudes about work have changed, and people are more willing to search for higher-paying jobs that are more amenable to their lifestyles. So that's what's happening with the

See MANAGERS, page 3



Courtesy of the Managerial Employees Association

Managerial Employees Association Executive Director Alice Wong, second from left, and MEA President Darrell Sims flanked city Office of Labor Relations Commissioner Renee Campion following a March meeting regarding pay raises for city agency managers. Wong and Sims have said city officials are giving short shrift to managers' concerns.

## INSIDE

'Clean Slate' act passes, awaits Hochul's signature  
Would seal vast majority of criminal records, p. 2

Teachers union, city reach contract deal  
5+ year agreement includes 17.5% pay increases, p. 3

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, p. 4

EXAMS FOR JOBS, p. 11

LABOR AROUND THE NATION, p. 12

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## Lander returns Medicare contract to Adams administration

Council could take up legislation preserving current benefits

BY RICHARD KHAVKINE  
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For the second time in just over a year, city Comptroller Brad Lander has declined to register a contract for a controversial Medicare Advantage plan that would steer municipal city retirees into a private, for-profit Medicare plan and out of their traditional, government-administered Medicare program. Lander's action effectively sends the deal back to the Adams administration.

In a statement, Lander said he would not register the contract in part because of pending litigation by a group of municipal retirees, which alleges that the contract with managed-care company Aetna represents an unlawful "diminishing" of retirees' health benefits.

The plaintiffs, the New York City Organization of Public Service Retirees and nine retired city workers,

filed their class-action suit in Manhattan Supreme Court two weeks earlier to halt the city from imposing a single cost-free health care plan on retirees that they have argued is vastly inferior to the coverage currently available to them. The suit is also seeking a temporary restraining order.

"Pending litigation calls into question the legality of this procurement and constrains us from fulfilling our Charter mandated responsibility to confirm that procurement rules were followed, sufficient funds are available, and the City has the necessary authority to enter into the contract," Lander said in a statement issued Thursday.

In what will certainly aggravate an already contentious relationship between the comptroller and Mayor Eric Adams, Lander also pointedly questioned the prudence of imposing a for-profit health-care plan on the retirees.

"As a matter of public policy, beyond the scope of our

See MEDICARE, page 2

# Lawmakers finally OK 'Clean Slate' act; law would seal some criminal records

Advocates say legislation will give millions access to jobs, housing

BY CRYSTAL LEWIS  
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Legislators in Albany passed the Clean Slate Act last week, legislation that would seal the criminal records of New Yorkers who have remained out of trouble since their convictions, providing them with a path to employment and educational opportunities.

The legislation must be signed by Governor Kathy Hochul, who has indicated support for previous versions of the bill. The mandate will automatically seal the records of people convicted of some misdemeanors and felonies who aren't on probation or parole and do not have criminal charges pending. Those who were sentenced to a misdemeanor will have their records sealed three years following their release from incarceration or sentencing, while those convicted of a felony must wait eight years before their records will be sealed.

New Yorkers convicted of Class A felonies for which a maximum life imprisonment sentence may be imposed or who are required to register as a sex offender are among those not eligible to have their records sealed.

An estimated 2.3 million New Yorkers, or about 11 percent of the state's residents, are excluded from jobs and some public benefits because of their criminal histories. The Paper Prisons Initiative of Santa Clara University projected that the Clean Slate Act would seal the records of 1.4 million New Yorkers.



Emil Cohen/New York City Council Media Unit

Advocates, including members of the City Council, rallied to support the passage of the Clean Slate Act at City Hall in May 2022. Lawmakers on Friday passed the bill, which will seal the records of New Yorkers convicted of some misdemeanors three years following their release from incarceration or sentencing. Those with felony convictions will be required to wait eight years.

The bill could especially help New Yorkers of color: About 80 percent of people with criminal records are Black or brown, according to the Data Collaborative for Justice.

"Clean Slate offers a genuine second chance to individuals who have fully paid their debt to society, enabling them to restart their lives and become positive contributors to their communities," said Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. "By passing Clean Slate, we affirm our belief in redemption and improve our society by providing formerly incarcerated individuals a better opportunity to enter the workforce and establish stable lives."

The mandate will still allow

courts and prosecutors to access sealed records during any new criminal case. Entities that are authorized or required by law to conduct fingerprint-based background checks for prospective employees seeking to work with children, the elderly or vulnerable adults will also be able to access the records.

## 'Strikes the right balance'

Four of the city's five district attorneys backed Clean Slate's passage.

"Our communities are safer when those with prior convictions, who have served their time and obeyed the law for many years thereafter, are allowed an opportu-

nity to earn a paycheck and build a better future," said Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz. "While prosecutors and law enforcement will continue to have access to prior records so that we may do our jobs effectively, this law strikes the right balance between public safety and rehabilitation for those who choose a better path."

The earnings loss of New Yorkers with criminal records struggling with unemployment and underemployment is estimated to total \$7.1 billion each year, according to a Paper Prisons Initiative study. Advocates, including many labor unions, legal services and some large corporations such as JPMorgan Chase, celebrated the bill's passage.

"As longtime advocates for workers, Local 338 RWDSU/UFCW understands the types of hurdles impacted members of our communities face while trying to re-enter the workforce and regain their financial independence," Nikki Kateman, the political and communications director of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union's Local 338. "For decades, these workers have been at an unfair disadvantage and continuously punished despite repaying their debts to society."

Michael Prohaska, business manager of the Mason Tenders District Council of Greater New York and Laborers Local 79, stated that construction "is an industry where a person's past doesn't dictate their future, and our union knows firsthand the life changing power this policy will have."

The bill was amended last week; a previous version of the proposal would have allowed those with felony convictions to have their records sealed seven years following their

convictions instead of eight.

Jared Trujillo, policy counsel at the New York Civil Liberties Union, said in a statement that "while we are disappointed that fewer New Yorkers with felony convictions who have successfully reentered society will be able to benefit from Clean Slate than the legislature intended, this legislation will still benefit millions of New Yorkers who are currently trapped in cycles of poverty and punishment for a past criminal conviction."

"We urge the Governor to sign this common-sense bill into law without delay and remain committed to ending perpetual punishment for all people," he continued.

But critics, including Republican lawmakers and police organizations and unions have opposed the reforms, citing concerns about safety.

"There are any number of occupations where a background check is essential: in personal care settings, jobs that require interacting with children, positions handling finances," Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay said. "But once again, Democrats choose to support hiding criminal histories, eliminating personal accountability and pretending crimes never happened. Clean Slate would be another victory for criminals, and another loss for public safety in New York."

Paul DiGiacomo, president of the Detectives' Endowment Association, believed the Clean Slate bill will slow down the investigation process for law enforcement.

"I just find it very hard that Albany continues to tie the hands of police, and never does anything for the victims of crime in New York City," he told Fox 5 News prior to the legislation's passage.



Courtesy of NYSNA

Members of the New York State Nurses Association held a sit-in at Bellevue Hospital last week as part of their fight for a fair contract. The workers are calling for NYC Health + Hospitals to provide raises that would help retain nurses instead of investing millions on temporary staff.

## Public hospital nurses call for H+H to invest in them

Contract expired in March

BY CRYSTAL LEWIS  
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"We feel disrespected by the city because our loyalty is not rewarded with fair pay. [NYC Health + Hospitals] must do better," Kristle Simms-Murphy, a registered nurse at Jacobi Hospital, said Wednesday outside of Bellevue Hospital, where public-sector nurses gathered to demand a fair contract.

The nurses have been calling for months for H+H to provide raises that would end the longstanding wage disparity between public- and private-sector nurses in their next contract. Their current pact, which covers more than 8,000 nurses, expired March 2.

Earlier this year, the New York State Nurses Association successfully negotiated labor agreements with several private hospitals across the city that included 19-percent raises and plans to enforce safe-staffing ratios. But the raises mean that the pay gap that exists between H+H nurses and those working in the private sector is expected to grow.

Although H+H nurses earn about \$14,000 less annually than nurses working in private hospitals, because of the expected salary gains, the wage disparity is expected to grow to about \$19,500 a year, according to NYSNA.

### 25% vacancy rate

The pay gap has contributed to many nurses leaving the public hospitals to work elsewhere, the workers said.

"I stand here today in fear of the future of our public health system

because of our understaffing crisis. We have a 25-percent vacancy rate," Simms-Murphy said.

The nurses, as well as other hospital workers and several elected officials who spoke at the rally, were especially critical of H+H's reliance on temporary travel nurses to address its staffing needs. Travel nurses typically earned two-to-three times as much as the staff nurses do per hour, they said.

"This is not the answer; nor does it make sense. H+H spends hundreds of millions of dollars on temporary travel nurses instead of simply paying H+H nurses what they deserve," Juan Vasquez, a Committee of Interns and Residents delegate at Bellevue's emergency department, said in support of the H+H nurses. "As doctors we could not do our jobs without our nursing colleagues."

During a City Council hearing last month, Dr. Mitchell Katz, H+H's CEO and president, testified that H+H spent \$549 million on about 2,000 travel nurses last year. A day following the rally, the New York Daily News reported that H+H paid a staffing agency \$1.2 billion in Fiscal Year 2022 to obtain temporary health-care workers.

Council Member Erik Bottcher called H+H's decision to invest in temporary nurses rather than its permanent workforce "penny-wise and pound foolish."

City Council Member Carmen De La Rosa, who chairs the Council's Civil Service and Labor Committee, said that it was "morally bankrupt for this administration to continue to spend money on travel nurses while disrespecting and devaluing the heroes and heroines who saw us" through the pandemic.

In a letter to Katz sent earlier this month, City Comptroller Brad Lander voiced his concerns about the high level of spending on temporary nurses. He called on H+H to provide his office with a breakdown of the cost for travel nurses since Fiscal Year 2019, as well as the projected cost for the nurses between Fiscal Years 2023 and 2027.

"The challenges of retaining permanent nurses and the growing spending on higher-cost agency and traveling nurses pose risks to H+H's financial stability and undermine the City's commitments to both its public sector employees and its patients," Lander wrote.

NYSNA's president, Nancy Hagens, argued that because H+H hospitals serve a disproportionate number of uninsured and undocumented patients, not addressing the wage gap would affect patient care for the most vulnerable communities.

"Our Black and brown communities are being left behind, because of Mayor Adams, because the city will not give us a contract," she said.

The union also called for a contract that will address safe-staffing ratios. Mercedes Cruz, who has worked as a registered nurse at Bellevue for more than 30 years, treats inmates at Bellevue's prison ward. She explained that the nurses are often "subject to abuse, threats and physical attacks," and sufficient staff was necessary to diffuse situations.

"Safe-staffing saves lives. Usually we mean that safe-staffing saves lives for our patients, but it also saves lives for our nurses," Cruz said.

Following the rally, the nurses and advocates attempted to enter the hospital; some held a sit-in inside of the facility's lobby.

## MEDICARE: Lander returns contract

Continued from Page 1

office's specific Charter responsibility for contract registration, I am seriously concerned about the privatization of Medicare plans, overbilling by insurance companies, and barriers to care under Medicare Advantage," he wrote.

A City Hall spokesperson said the administration was evaluating Lander's letter. "We are reviewing the letter from the comptroller's office, which we just received, and our next steps," the spokesperson said.

### Bill slated for June 22 introduction

The matter could yet yield more frustration for the administration. According to the president of the retirees' organization, Marianne Pizzitola, Brooklyn Councilman Charles Barron will introduce legislation at the Council's June 22 meeting that would add a clause to the municipal code section governing health insurance for city workers and retirees such that the city would have to offer retirees the option to keep a Medigap supplemental insurance plan. The municipal code does not permit the city to charge retirees for their health benefits.

Barron's office did not respond to an email seeking comment.

The legislation was drafted in November by the Organization of Public Service Retirees. Pizzitola tried starting in December to find a Council sponsor for the bill but failed, despite several Council members voicing support for the retirees in their bid to keep their benefits intact.

"No one wanted to introduce it, but then they all said to us — most of them did, I won't use the word

'all' — most said 'Get a bill to the floor and we'll be behind it,' she said Thursday evening. "So now the bill's come to the floor. Now is the time that the Council should show their true support for protecting a promise made to the retirees."

Pizzitola also expressed gratitude for Lander's refusal to register the contract.

"He noted in his statements, just like we argued in our lawsuit, that people that are forced into this plan will suffer from serious issues and disabled first responders and senior citizens will be harmed by this," she said. "So now we're just hoping that the mayor does the right thing."

While Lander in his statement did not specify the Aetna contract's shortcomings and even alluded to improvements negotiated with Aetna, he said that "the broader Medicare Advantage trends are worrisome." He noted reports of "fraud, abuse, overbilling, and denials of medically necessary care at 9 of the top 10 Medicare Advantage plans, including CVS Health, which owns Aetna."

The retirees' lawsuit will be heard by Justice Lyle Frank, who in March last year found for the retirees when he ruled that the city cannot charge them for their health benefits. An Appellate Division panel upheld that finding in December.

The city's response to the suit is expected no later than June 16, with the retirees' own response due June 20. The accelerated timeline is attributable to a June 30 deadline for retirees to opt out of the Medicare Advantage plan. If Frank grants an injunction, though, that timeline would at the very least likely be pushed back.



Courtesy of the city Comptroller's Office

Comptroller Brad Lander and Mayor Eric Adams, along with pension trustees and elected officials during an event last August at which they called for credit card companies to improve tracking of gun sales. The two are decidedly on opposite sides regarding the administration's bid to switch municipal retirees to a private Medicare plan.

# UFT, city reach tentative contract agreement

BY CRYSTAL LEWIS  
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The city and the United Federation of Teachers have reached a tentative contract agreement giving educators at least 17.58 percent in compounded raises over the life of the 62-month deal and, for the first time, provides annual retention bonuses.

The pact, which must be ratified by the union's rank and file, runs from Sept. 14, 2022 through Nov. 28, 2027. The deal, announced Tuesday, would give about 120,000 educators 3-percent raises in each of the first three years of the contract, a 3.25-percent bump in September 2025 and a final 3.5-percent increase in September 2026.

Union members would receive a \$3,000 lump-sum bonus upon the contract's ratification. The contract's terms also call for retention payments each May starting next year. Educators would earn a \$400 retention payment in 2024, a \$700 payment in 2025 and a \$1,000 payment in 2026 and each year after.

During a Tuesday press conference at City Hall's rotunda announcing the deal, Mayor Eric Adams said the deal was "fair to taxpayers," and that the raises and bonuses included in the pact "will help retain our educators, [who] we are losing at an alarming rate."

"The contract agreement underscores how important educators are," Adams, accompanied by the announcement by UFT President Michael Mulgrew, Labor Commissioner Renee Campion and Schools Chancellor David Banks, continued.

The mayor and schools chancellor highlighted the deal's establishment of a virtual learning program, which will allow high school and some middle school students to take classes at more flexible times, including during weekends and at night. Participation in the program is voluntary and will be open to 25 percent of high schools starting next school year, before expanding to all high schools by the 2027-2028 school year.

Banks noted that the program would help reach students who are



Courtesy of United Federation of Teachers

**Educators working in the city's public school system rallied for a fair contract outside of Brooklyn Borough Hall May 24. Their union, the United Federation of Teachers, reached a tentative agreement on a five-year deal that would establish a virtual learning program and annual retention payments for the first time ever.**

at risk of dropping out and would allow educators to teach remotely.

"The days of simply working in the classroom in the four walls of the school are over," Banks said. "This agreement allows us to do what the mayor has said from the very beginning of this administration, which is to reimagine how we even do school in the first place, and to think out of the box with new and innovative and creative ways to engage all of our young people."

### Top pay reached faster

Including bonuses, by the end of the contract the starting salary for teachers would reach \$72,349 – up from the current starting pay of \$61,070 – with the maximum becoming \$151,271. The maximum salary for paraprofessionals would reach \$56,761.

Mulgrew noted that when he first started as president of the union, in 2009, it took 16 years for teachers to reach the top salary. If the agreement is ratified, it will take eight years for teachers to reach the maximum salary starting in 2026.

"This is the hardest and most challenging school district in the

country to teach in. Hands down," Mulgrew said. "But our teachers love it. Our guidance counselors love it. ... No matter what has been thrown at them — the pandemic, a large influx of children seeking asylum — they don't shy away from these challenges."

The union repeatedly pushed for a reduction in the amount of redundant paperwork educators must submit to the Department of Education. The agreement will allow for more flexibility for teachers' administrative work, according to the UFT.

The city estimated that the tentative deal will cost \$6.4 billion through Fiscal Year 2027. The pact follows the wage pattern set by District Council 37 earlier this year.

"It brings our settlement numbers to nearly 67 percent, which is more than two-thirds of the public-sector workforce," Campion said during the press conference.

While the UFT's 500-member negotiating committee, executive board and delegate assembly must decide whether to send the tentative deal to the full UFT membership for a ratification vote, members are expected to cast their votes by the end of the school year.



Duncan Freeman/The Chief

**State lawmakers approved legislation that would outlaw "captive audience meetings," manager-led sessions during which employers pressure workers to oppose unionizing efforts. Workers at two city locations of Trader Joe's where unionization failed, and those at a downtown Starbucks, who staged a walk-out last fall, above, said they were obliged to attend several such meetings.**

# Lawmakers pass bill banning 'captive audience' meetings

Hochul hasn't signaled intent

BY DUNCAN FREEMAN  
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Captive audience meetings, the mandatory sessions typically called by employers when workers are on the cusp of unionizing, would be forbidden, according to legislation passed by both houses of the New York State legislature this weekend.

Employers have for decades used mandatory staff meetings to push back on pro-union sentiments and to convince employees to vote against a unionization effort. The National Labor Relations Board's general counsel, Jennifer Abruzzo, last year argued that requiring employees to attend the meetings constitutes an illegal unfair labor practice and called on the board to outlaw the practice. Unions have repeated that call and are also lobbying for Congress to ban the practice nationwide.

"Across the country, large corporations have used 'captive audience' meetings as a means to disrupt worker-led organizing efforts and influence the political or social beliefs of their employees," Bronx Assembly Member Karines Reyes, one of the bill's sponsors, said in a statement. "These coercive tactics lead workers to feel trapped and even be penalized for standing up for their own personal religious, political beliefs and support of unionization efforts. With the passage of our bill, New York is one step closer to joining the growing chorus of states reaffirming and protecting the First Amendment rights of working people."

Captive audience meetings have been used as a tactic to slow nascent organizing campaigns at Amazon, Starbucks, Trader Joe's and other high-profile companies as employers try to stamp out the spreading unionization push among a younger generation of workers. On occasion, workers have recorded parts of

what they feel are captive audience meetings to show lawmakers and the public what kinds of statements their employers make about unions behind closed doors.

### 'Pressured and intimidated'

Queens State Senator Jessica Ramos, another one of the bill's sponsors, said in a statement that in passing the bill, lawmakers had taken unionizing workers' complaints seriously.

"You don't check your First Amendment rights and freedom of conscience at the door when you clock in at work," Ramos, chair of the Senate Committee on Labor, said in the statement. Ramos' and Joyner's bill prohibits employers from coercing workers from attending meetings if "the primary purpose of [the meeting] is to communicate the employer's opinion concerning religious or political matters," including views on unions or unionization.

A spokesperson for Governor Kathy Hochul said in a statement that the governor "will carefully review this legislation" before deciding whether to sign it into law.

Ramos highlighted workers at the REI Co-Op in SoHo who unionized in March 2022 and were forced to attend several sessions with management that workers have called captive audience meetings. The employees unionized with the Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union, whose president, Stuart Appelbaum, has called for the nationwide banning of captive audience meetings since at least last year.

"Employers have become much more aggressive in using captive audience meetings to force workers into hearing the employer's one-sided propaganda on unionization and other issues," Appelbaum said in a statement following the legislation's passage. "These meetings often leave workers feeling pressured and intimidated. It is time that the law catches up to the reality of the moment by allowing workers to refuse to attend these meetings without fear of retaliation."

Three states, Connecticut, Oregon and, most recently, Minnesota have banned the meetings. After the Connecticut ban passed, a coalition of U.S. companies led by the U.S Chamber of Commerce sued the state in federal court, arguing that the law is preempted by the National Labor Relations Act and that it breached employers' First Amendment-protected freedom of speech.

*'Employers have become much more aggressive.'*

— RWDSU's Stuart Appelbaum

# MANAGERS: MEA advocates for raises, hybrid work option

Continued from Page 1

city and that applies to managers too. So, there's a lot to be worked out and discussed."

He suggested that city officials initiate discussions to come up with a workable solution since, he added, the current arrangement of having city workers, managers included, in the office full time "can't be sustained."

"Because people are going to continue to leave," said Sims, who retired from the Department of Housing and Preservation and Development in early 2020 following a nearly four-decade tenure.

Wong said she was now hopeful that members of the City Council, specifically the chair of the Civil Service and Labor Committee, Carmen De La Rosa, could help facilitate productive discussions regarding pay and hybrid work options, as

well as other issues, including extending family leave for managers.

"We are still fighting for the managers, and we are still hoping to get a dialogue open with City Hall regarding this. We're not letting the ball drop. We are trying to go down other avenues as well," Wong said.

In the meantime, however, morale among managers continues to dip, Sims said, particularly since the recent ratification of a five-year deal between the city and about 90,000 DC 37 members. That deal provides for 16.2-percent raises as well as a pilot remote-work program.

"And the managers who are there, the bosses, the supervisors, haven't gotten anything and they don't know when they're going to get anything. So that creates a major problem in terms of the morale," Sims said. "You shouldn't have to really fight for stuff that you earn and deserve."




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# COMMENTARY

## The Chief

A VOICE FOR WORKERS

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### REPORTS FROM THE FIELD by Denberg

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

##### Spliffs and stones

TO THE EDITOR:

Ron Isaac often writes excellent commentaries. But the one from June 2, "Mary Jane's right of passage," is a mixed bag. Some of his points are flawed while others don't go into enough detail. That is odd for a 37-paragraph piece.

First, there's no mention that the "illicit" marijuana businesses are the result of the government taking forever to license legal businesses. The "illicit" businesses that are selling quality products should be licensed as well.

Also, since I receive a superb product from the "illicit" business near me, why should I travel to lower Manhattan to get the legal product? Like most people, I tend to be loyal to good businesses, so even if they finally put a legal pot shop in my neighborhood, I'll still go to the same place I patronize now.

Furthermore, if 40 percent of the products purchased from "illicit" stores are tainted, then 60 percent are not. Should stores selling a safe product be punished for those who are not?

The National Institute on Drug Abuse claims high potency marijuana can create psychosis. For me, high potency marijuana means I take five puffs and I'm where I want to be. As a young man, I used to need to smoke half a joint or a whole joint of the weaker product to get a satisfactory high. Also as a young man, I heard claims that marijuana causes hallucinations. Nobody I know got a hallucination from marijuana.

As for the New York Post claim that giving licenses to people who were convicted of marijuana offenses is the equivalent of favoring criminals, that is bunk. Interracial marriage was once illegal. I don't consider anyone a criminal for breaking that law. Nor do I consider anyone a criminal

for breaking the marijuana prohibition laws, or any other unjust law.

Richard Warren

##### Teflon Don

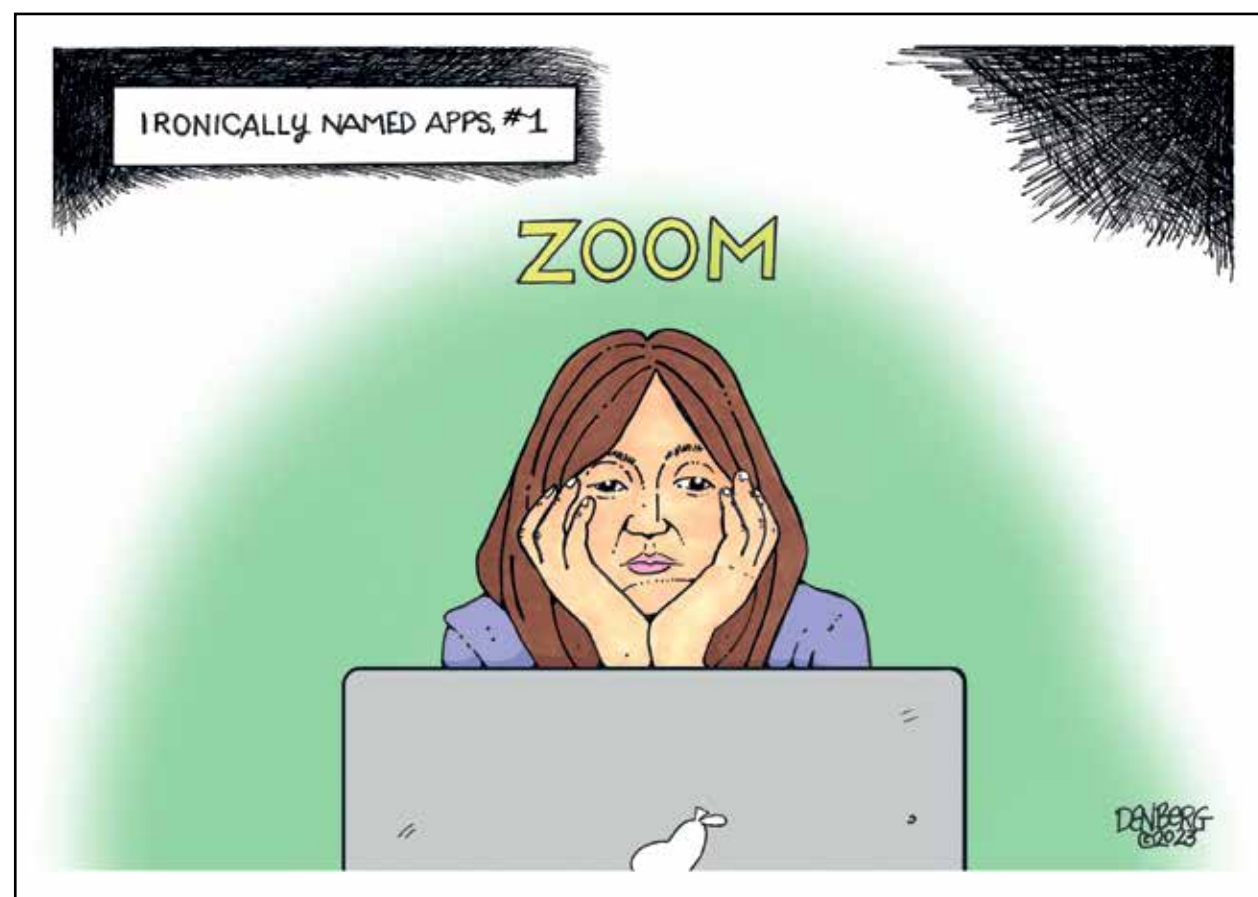
TO THE EDITOR:

June 8, 2023, will go down as a great day for the American legal justice system. On that day, Donald Trump was indicted on 37 counts including espionage, obstruction and perjury by a grand jury composed of ordinary Floridians.

No one should doubt his guilt — he has as much as admitted on national TV everything he is charged with. Yet, his supporters and elected GOP officials have expressed doubt and indignation at the indictment.

Don't be fooled; despite their protestations, even the most hardcore Trump supporters know he stole classified documents, blocked efforts to retrieve those documents and lied to law enforcement about having those documents. Unfortunately, Trump supporters long ago decided that ends justify means. The MAGA base knows he is a criminal, but he is their criminal. I wouldn't be surprised to see Trump's indictment result in a bump in the polls and campaign funds.

The real shame is that this national disgrace could have been avoided. When Trump showed sympathy for neo-Nazis marching in Virginia in 2017, the MAGA base could have turned away from him. When Robert Mueller's 2019 report concluded that Trump obstructed justice and Attorney General William Barr whitewashed the findings, the base could have deserted Trump. When Trump openly attempted to extort Volodymyr Zelenskyy in 2020, the base could have said enough. The same goes for leaked Trump statements calling fallen American soldiers suckers and losers. Finally,



when Trump called upon his base to storm the Capitol on January 6, 2021, over false claims of election fraud, they should have realized the danger Trump poses.

Instead, the millions who comprise the MAGA crowd let him get away with crime upon crime and deplorable behavior upon deplorable behavior. Shame on them.

Joseph Cannisi

##### Sewell's departure

TO THE EDITOR:

The resignation of NYPD Commissioner Keechant Sewell is sur-

prising, and the abruptness of it may have shocked some New Yorkers, many of whom hold her in high regard.

I believe Sewell resigned abruptly without even telling her staff so she wouldn't give Mayor Eric Adams the chance to create his own self-serving public relations story about why a very successful police commissioner would suddenly leave the Adams administration.

Keechant Sewell had the toughest job in NYC. She was leading the fight to reduce violent crime and raise the morale of a severely demoralized NYPD in spite of the criticism from the anti-cop pro-

gressives and the interference from Adams' policing strategy advisors. Those advisors included unindicted co-conspirator Philip Banks and other incompetent but loyal advisors who had Adams' ear on policing and related issues.

Adams liked Sewell's brains, competence and communication skills, but he couldn't accept the independence and courage of a female police commissioner who wouldn't kowtow to him and his ambitious allegiants.

Michael J. Gorman

**THE CHIEF** welcomes letters from its readers for publication. Correspondents must include their names, addresses and phone numbers. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and are subject to editing for clarity and length. Preference will be given to correspondence that references New York City and State topics. To submit a letter online, visit [thechief.org](http://thechief.org) and click on Letters to the Editor.

# For cops, the CCRB is the anti-Clean Slate

BY BERNARD WHALEN

It is no secret that the right and left have opposing political views.

But in this city, the left is firmly in charge and they have made it clear that their agenda has little use for law enforcement. The New York City Council, a progressive legislative body, supports the Clean Slate bill. The intent of the new law is to allow convicted felons the opportunity to have their criminal records sealed provided they stay clean for a specific period of time after their release. Clean Slate would conceal misdeeds from potential employers. While police will still have access to a perpetrator's criminal history, private investigators who conduct background checks on prospective employees will not.

Proponents of the legislation believe the law will lift convicted criminals out of poverty by making it easier for them to find employment. They also believe it will help employers fill job openings that would otherwise go begging. This may or not be true, but like most progressive ideas, it sounds good on paper. Few would argue that offenders who have paid their debt to society don't deserve a second chance. However, given their high recidivist rate, it is unlikely that majority of convicted criminals will be able to avail themselves to the provisions of the proposed law. Nevertheless, there will be a lot of self-congratulatory messaging coming from our progressive lawmakers when the bill is signed. Then, a lot of money will be spent creating diversion programs to help



John Lamparski/NurPhoto via AP

NYPD officers in Times Square following a demonstration in January.

the criminals keep on the straight and narrow. In the end, the results will be negligible and proposals will soon be introduced to shorten the time period necessary to have the proverbial slate wiped clean.

Meanwhile, the same City Council recently passed a law to give the

public unfettered access to a New York City police officer's CCRB record. CCRB stands for the Civilian Complaint Review Board, a civilian agency created to monitor the actions of police officers, who are alleged to have used unnecessary force, abused their authority, are discourteous or used offensive language. Unlike the criminal courts, where extenuating circumstances factor into a judge's decision, the behavior of the civilian that gives rise to the officer's actions are never taken into consideration when CCRB decides a case.

For example: An officer confronts a homeless male armed with a ma-

chete threatening to kill pedestrians in Times Square. Not so unusual in New York. The situation may require the officer to fire his weapon to prevent the suspect from fatally injuring a bystander. Instead, the officer uses forceful, but offensive language to get the male to drop the machete. The perpetrator wisely decides to live another day and complies with the order. Thankfully, no shots were fired and no one is injured.

It should be case closed, but it is not. While awaiting arraignment, a jailhouse lawyer tells the perpetrator that he can get the arresting officer in trouble for cursing at him

during the encounter or better yet, he can claim the officer targeted him based on race, color, religion, sexual orientation or simply because he is homeless. That mere allegation adds a charge of racial profiling and biased policing to the complaint against the officer.

CCRB investigators interview the perpetrator while he is still in jail and determine he is in fact homeless. The officer denies that his actions were biased, but the CCRB's board votes to substantiate the complaint and refers the matter to the police commissioner for final adjudication. The decision by CCRB is now a part of the officer's permanent record.

Too many of these complaints will prevent the officer from being promoted and will even follow the officer into retirement.

Criminals and police agitators have made a cottage industry out of filing frivolous civilian complaints against police officers. All CCRB complaints filed against police officers remain on their public record, regardless of the outcome or circumstances that brought them about. CCRB encourages the public and prospective employers to access their online database to view the number of complaints filed against a particular officer even after he or she has retired, believing that employers will shy away from hiring former police officers who have a high number of CCRB complaints or allegations of racial profiling in their job history.

There will never be a "Clean Slate Law" for police officers because as far as CCRB and progressive politicians are concerned, the police are always the aggressors while criminals are simply victims of police abuse.

Bernard Whalen is a former NYPD lieutenant and co-author of "The NYPD's First Fifty Years" and "Case Files of the NYPD."

*All CCRB complaints filed against police officers remain on their public record, regardless of the outcome or circumstances that brought them about.*

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# COMMENTARY

## WAKE-UP CALL

# Labor's prevailing winds

BY RON ISAAC

They want Truth, Justice and Righteousness to prevail. So they say.

But they're against prevailing wages.

"Prevailing wage laws set requirements for businesses to compete for taxpayer-funded project. ... Ditch this Jim Crow-era mandate," demands a New York Post headline. They are not guilty of naked revisionism, because there is a thread of truth wrapped around an ulterior motive like an ananconda.

But they are on the hook for an egregious throttling of historical context.

It's true that Jim Crow laws were in effect when Congress passed a "prevailing wage" law in 1931, and that it benefited labor unions which, by often excluding minority members, effectively rendered them unemployable.

But using that as an argument against protecting all workers from exploitation today is a transparent distraction from their underlying drive of neutralizing the labor movement and ceding absolute power to employers.

What they really want is for workers to "eat crow."

It is impertinently bold to claim that Blacks are best served by distancing themselves from other workers and that bosses are chomping at the bit to reward them for their merits. Their humanitarian hands are tied by bullying unions, they weep.

Don't depend on bosses for grace. They are capable of fairness, intermittently and often in isolation, but relying

on it is no formula for an expedited path of upward mobility for the victims of Jim Crow and their posterity.

Union-busters come in different forms and with varied motives, whether driven by demagoguery or some pragmatic goal that suits and feeds their ambition. But they are all patronizing and condescending to Blacks and other minorities, whom they try to seduce with false promises and empty offerings.

Their ruse is rarely effective. At least not for long. They are vipers in vicars' clothing.

These "right to work" zealots strain to ingratiate and endear themselves to an underclass who, they keep their fingers crossed, will be naive, trusting and obedient and will not notice or much mind the impotence to which their own faith in decency has contributed to reducing them.

They know perfectly well that unions can no longer bar, nor are they inclined to exclude minorities from membership. Federal civil rights laws block them from doing so.

First, proselytize with sweet talk and promises. If they don't convert, incinerate them. That m.o. of a particular figure from the religious Reformation of the 16th century is on loan to modern corporate America.

Prevailing wage laws are not designed to equalize the balance of power between workers and management. But they protect workers by restricting the lengths that businesses can go to circumvent paying workers their due.



Anthony Behar/Sipa USA via AP Images

Businessman John Catsimatidis, whose United Metro Energy has been the site of a drawn-out strike since April 2021, spoke at a gathering organized by mayoral candidate Curtis Sliwa in May of that year.

The Post blames them for higher construction costs, and bemoans that taxpayers have to "shell out" more because of contractors being "forced to provide financial support to union-sponsored programs." They hammer the record-keeping imposed by "nonsensical left-leaning state and local governments across the country."

It's not about Jim Crow laws. What they revile is leftist unions, as they perceive them. The same entities that vilify prevailing wage laws also denounce minimum wage laws, no matter how low.

Naturally, consumer prices will be higher when

workers who produce the commodity or perform the service are paid fifteen dollars rather than 15 cents an hour. Costs need to be passed on. Not even progressive entrepreneurs work for charity.

Subsistence wages need a massive shot of Red Bull.

"Living wage," "minimum wage" and "prevailing wage" are not interchangeable. Prevailing wage "refers to the rate of pay that contractors and vendors must offer their employees when doing business with a government agency." The Davis-Bacon Act requires employers to pay "a median wage for similar work in the area ..."

This curbs employers from hiring carpetbaggers from out of state who might otherwise undercut locals by agreeing to less compensation. Maybe when they talk about "shelling out" for labor, the corporations really mean that their workers should be paid in bags of shells.

Better than bitcoin.

Prevailing wage laws "level the playing field ... protect union workers' gains ... promote sectoral standards," according to the Center for American Progress, which notes that the fixed rates of compensation are for grants and loans, as well as government contracts.

"Liberal" members of the Supreme Court usually side with unions, but they recently left Associate Justice Ketanji Brown-Jackson isolated and alone in a recent ruling against the Teamsters. In a case unrelated to "prevailing wages," they ruled that the union could be held liable for damages to their employers' property while they were on strike, even though the work stoppage was legal.

Their contract having expired, the Teamsters walked away from their cement-mixing trucks in the middle of their shift. The union had

failed to reasonably safeguard their bosses' property, thereby putting it in "imminent danger," even though no actual harm was done, determined by the black-robed aristocracy of scholars.

Fair enough. It wasn't nice of the Teamsters. But that's irrelevant. It can be generally predicted, given the current Supreme Court majority, that they will shoot judicial hollow-point bullets through the bodies of collective-bargaining affirms.

Since employers lawfully bully workers, their victims must devise ingenious techniques and tricks of unauthorized reciprocity. In some venues and scenarios, strength in numbers is all they have, other than the power of justice itself, which as a moral vacuum is sterile without the fist of human action.

Justice will not seize the day. Sometimes it is lucky to survive the day. "My Union, right or wrong," because it rights wrongs.

The clout of a million unorganized workers is no match for that of even a relatively benign, semi-amiable believer in common sense and

non-partisanship, like the self-made billionaire John Catsimatidis, who has purchased himself a prodigious spotlight on the public stage.

On WABC radio, which he bought with pocket change a few years ago, he is described, in the the most understated promo of the century, as "involved in many businesses." Beyond media, it includes a real-estate empire, supermarket chains, a fuel refinery and United Metro Energy, which heats New York City's schools, hospitals and other city agencies.

Three or four of his expensive full-page ads appear daily in the New York Post. Some of them feature a single item, such as a flavor of Friendly's ice cream, or Liquid Death Mountain Water. Others spotlight his "luxury condominiums" in St. Petersburg or his rentals on the Island of Coney, "if you can afford it."

They call him "The Catman." His claws are retractable. But he must get what he wants. And people like him have an insatiable desire to want whatever they can get.

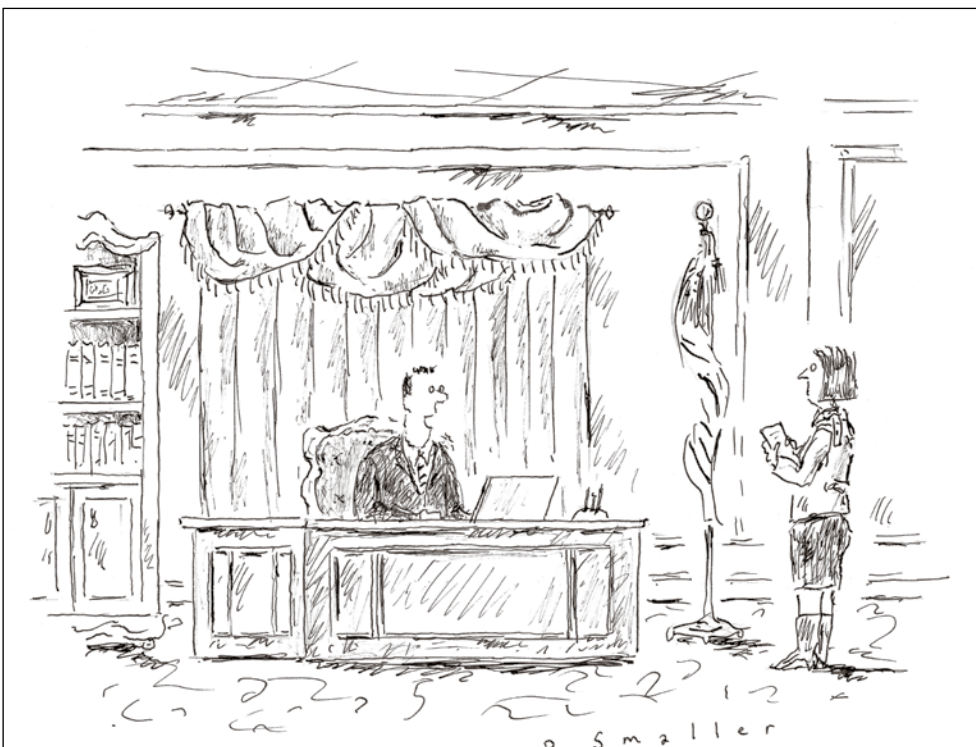
For years, he has locked horns with his United Metro Energy workers and the bitter labor dispute continues to rage. Any coverage in the Post, where he heavily advertises?

Crickets. And though he hosts talk shows on his radio station for many hours every week, he'll never frontally attack, much less significantly poke Mayor Adams on City issues. Can his gargantuan laundry list of city contracts have anything to do with it?

Money may smile or smirk, but the Universal Ear hears its voice. The bosses carry the big stick and the workers speak softly. The real world does not readily yield to a new reality.

Let's contemplate ways and means for a seismic shift, not pausing to think which centenarian will outlive the other: former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger or NBC's former meteorologist Dr. Frank Field, who spawned his own Storm.

## WORK RULES by Barbara Smaller



"I'm only a humble public servant, here in service to my shareholders — I mean my constituents."

# Maximizing your medical expense deduction

IF YOU ITEMIZE your deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A, you may be able to deduct expenses you paid in 2023 for medical and dental care for yourself, your spouse and your dependents. Here are some facts the IRS wants you to know about medical and dental expenses.

For the 2023 tax year, you may deduct only the amount by which your total medical-care expenses for the year exceed 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI). For instance, if your AGI is \$100,000, then unreimbursed medical expenses have to exceed \$7,500 (\$100,000 x .075).

You can only include the medical expenses you paid during the year. These expenses must be reduced by any insurance reimbursement. It makes no difference if you receive the reimbursement or if it is paid directly to the doctor or hospital.

You may include qualified medical expenses you pay for yourself, your spouse



**Tax Strategies**  
By Barry Lisak

and your dependents. If either parent claims a child as a dependent under the rules for divorced or separated parents, each parent may deduct the medical expenses he or she actually pays for the child. You can also deduct medical expenses you paid for someone who would have qualified as your dependent except that the person didn't meet the gross-income test.

A deduction is allowed only for expenses primarily paid for the prevention or alleviation of a physical or mental

illness. The cost of drugs is deductible only for drugs that require a prescription except for insulin.

Nondeductible medical expenses include cosmetic surgery not related to a congenital abnormality, an accident or a disease; drugs not approved by the FDA; funeral, burial or cremation expenses.

You may deduct transportation costs primarily for and essential to medical care that qualify as medical expenses. The actual fare for a taxi, bus, train, or ambulance may be deducted. If you use your car for medical transportation, you can deduct the standard mileage rate for medical expenses. Don't forget to add parking and tolls.

Some employees may be eligible to set up a medical Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) with their employer. FSA plans permit employees to save pre-tax money using payroll deductions, and then submit various medical ex-

penses for reimbursement. The maximum amount eligible for the FSA program is \$2,850 per individual, working married couples may double this amount.

Individuals can set up a Health Savings Account (HSA) either themselves or through a group plan with their employer. This is a pre-tax savings account. Unlike FSAs, HSA plans do not have a "use it or lose" feature for accumulated savings. HSA holders can use their savings fund to pay for medical expenses on a tax-free basis.

For a list of medical and dental expenses, see IRS Publication 502, "Medical and Dental Expenses."

Barry Lisak is an IRS enrolled agent specializing in personal and small business taxes for 30 years. Any questions can be directed to him at 516-829-7283, or [mrbarrytax@aol.com](mailto:mrbarrytax@aol.com).

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# 'They worked until they couldn't breathe'

BY DUNCAN FREEMAN  
dfreeman@thechiefleader.com

On June 7, smoke and soot from wildfires in Canada descended on New York, turning the city's air quality into the worst of any metropolitan area in the world and pushing hundreds of thousands to don protective masks or stay in their homes.

Millions of New Yorkers, though, still had to go to work, and those working out in the elements, such as first responders and delivery workers faced the brunt of the pollution and worked through nausea, eye and nose irritation, sore throats and breathing troubles.

"When you're out here for a long time, you start having headaches and you can't really breathe," Gustavo Ajche, an app-based delivery worker told The Chief that Wednesday afternoon. "But we have to work." Ajche traveled throughout the city making food deliveries on his bike Tuesday and Wednesday and said that many other delivery workers he ran into, some of whom deliver on motorcycles, were suffering as well.

"We try to do our best and wear the mask," said Ajche, the co-founder of Los Deliveristas Unidos, which represents tens of thousands of app-based delivery workers. "We are here, and we will keep going." Ajche and others at LDU helped delivery workers obtain masks and guided them to subway stations and firehouses where the city was distributing protective gear Thursday.

## 'Sick and feeling ill'

When thousands of unionized UPS package car drivers arrived at their workplaces Wednesday morning ready to drive their routes, management made no mention of contingency plans for the impending fallout from the Canadian forest fires and workers went out without any masks. By the afternoon, hundreds of workers were

dealing with nausea and trouble breathing, workers told The Chief, and at least one UPS worker shut off his truck and checked himself into a hospital after experiencing chest pains.

"They worked until they couldn't breathe," Sean McGovern, a UPS package car driver and shop steward, said of his friend and coworker who went to the hospital. "I thought it was insane that we were required to work at all because every person I talked to, and I talked to dozens of people, said they were sick and feeling ill, but the company didn't say anything about it."

Fearful that the company wouldn't provide workers with masks the following day, organizers with Teamsters Local 804, the union representing UPS workers in New York, traveled to Mount Vernon early in the morning to pick up more than 4,400 KN95 masks that union organizers then distributed outside a Brooklyn UPS facility before Thursday's morning shift. Anthony Rosario, the organizer and UPS worker who got the masks, said that activists in the Democratic Socialists of America helped connect him with Bill Taubner of the mask distribution company Bona Fide Masks, who was more than happy to provide the UPS Teamsters with protective equipment.

"We're always happy to help and if they need more we're here" said Taubner, whose company donated more than 20,000 masks this week to community groups, homeless shelters and essential workers in the path of the wildfire smoke. "We appreciate the fact that there's a company out there that actually cares for essential workers and knows of the work that UPS drivers are doing and thought of us enough to donate thousands of masks," said Rosario, who got more masks from Taubner the following day.

UPS did provide workers with surgical masks last Thursday, and offered higher-quality N95 respirators to employees that signed a



Courtesy of Matt Leichenger

Organizers with Teamsters Local 804, which represents UPS workers in New York, distributed KN95 masks to their members before Thursday morning's shift. Organizers from the local traveled to Mount Vernon earlier where they picked up 4,400 of the masks from a manufacturer there.

waiver, which many drivers were hesitant to do. "The wellbeing and safety of UPSers is our number one priority," a UPS spokesperson said in a statement. "We are working on a variety of immediate actions. This includes the speedy distribution of masks for our employees in affected areas."

## Business as usual for FDNY

Anthony Almojera, a paramedic and vice president of the Uniformed EMS Officers Union, said that the weather was "definitely affecting people's breathing." But, he added, he and other paramedics were for the most part able to effectively re-

spond to calls and help New Yorkers in distress. Almojera said that his members were able to obtain masks and respirators.

For the Bravest, it was also mostly business as usual, said Andy Ansbro, president of the Uniformed Firefighters Association. "We know how to operate in an environment like this," Ansbro said of his members. Due to the wood-burning origin of the smoke that descended on the city, Ansbro said he wasn't too worried about his members suffering from long-term health issues, as many have and still do from the aftermath of 9/11.

By 3 p.m. June 7, the FDNY, after hosting a medal ceremony in the

morning, nonetheless canceled all outdoor activities and events and was advising firefighters, EMTs and paramedics to take shelter inside stations until it was time to respond to emergency calls. The order was still in place as of Thursday evening and Almojera said that EMS workers normally stationed on streets had been holed up inside stations in between emergency calls.

The city has singled out several firehouses across the five boroughs as mask distribution points. An FDNY spokesperson said the department was constantly updating its guidance for its first responders.



Courtesy of Make the Road New York

Sex workers rallied at the Albany Statehouse in March for the passage of legislation that would decriminalize their trade. The City Council last week introduced sex-worker rights and protections legislation.

## WORK: Rights bill for sex workers

Continued from Page 1

District attorneys in New York City have largely stopped prosecuting prostitution despite it technically still being a misdemeanor crime and there were only 75 arrests for prostitution in 2022, down from 1,938 in 2012.

And sex workers looking to win rights and improve their working conditions have started to unionize as well, with one group of exotic dancers at the Star Garden Topless Dive Bar in Los Angeles voting to join the Actors Equity Association in May after a 15-month battle, becoming the only group of unionized

strippers in the country.

"While we understand there is more work to be done, there are important provisions in this bill, such as amending the housing subdivision of the administrative code to make clear that landlords cannot discriminate against current or former sex workers in renting decisions," Elisa Crespo, executive director of the NEW Pride Agenda, said in a statement. "As our city grapples with a housing crisis, the Sex Worker Protection Bill will take one small step towards ensuring New Yorkers — regardless of their profession of choice — will have access to housing."

Council Speaker Adrienne Adams has yet to address the legislation and her office did not reply to a request for comment.

Munroe, who said she plans to have the Caribbean Equality Project apply for a grant if the bill is made into law, connected the bill's effect to that of the Secure Jobs Act, legislation, also proposed by Cabán, that would end most at-will firings in the city. The two bills, Munroe said, would help "create a system where transgender and undocumented people could get jobs without living in fear of termination or fear that ICE is going to come and get us."

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# 'Deliveristas' secure minimum wage

First-in-the-nation rule establishes \$20 rate by April 2025

BY RICHARD KHAVKINE  
richardk@thechiefleader.com

The city's app-based restaurant delivery workers will be earning at least \$18 an hour, plus tips, starting next month following the establishment of the nation's first-of-its-kind minimum pay rate.

The delivery workers' hourly wage will get bumped to \$17.96, before tips, starting July 12, and \$19.96 when the minimum wage is fully phased-in on April 1, 2025. The rate will be adjusted annually for inflation.

Gustavo Ajche, one of the founders of Los Deliveristas Unidos, said at Sunday's City Hall announcement that the effort to secure better pay for his colleagues had been an arduous one.

"Our work has made many of these large corporations millionaires, based on our work, our hard work that we do every day on the streets of the city," he said in Spanish.

And while Ajche thanked city residents for their generosity regarding tips, he said it was impossible to make a living on those alone. "This fight began with a vision of bringing dignity and a better life for many workers since they cannot depend only on tips," Ajche said. "But today that will change since we will have a decent wage and we deserve it because we do essential work to maintain the city."

City officials said the city's estimated 60,000 restaurant delivery workers now earn just over \$7 an

hour, without including tips and twice that with tips, according to a November report by the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection. But their expenses — for their bikes, cars, cellphones and related items — total \$3.06, reducing their take-home pay to about \$11.

The rule gives the app companies two ways to pay the delivery workers: per trip or per hour. They can also develop their own formulas, as long as their workers make the minimum pay rate of \$19.96, on average.

## Council-enacted protections

The delivery workers, organized under the organization Los Deliveristas Unidos, have been campaigning for a minimum wage and increased recognition for several years. A massive organizing effort eventually led the City Council to pass a flurry of protections for the delivery workers in September 2021, also said to be among the first such safeguards in the nation.

The regulations, which went into effect in April 2022, made the tipping mechanism more transparent, in part by better informing workers as well as customers how gratuities contribute to overall pay. Among the other bills, one gave deliveristas better access to restaurant bathrooms during their shifts while another gave the workers the option to take only those delivery trips they think are "safe and worthwhile," and to set the parameters they are willing to travel.

The commissioner of the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection, Vilda Vera Mayuga, said the department will keep working with advocates and worker groups to educate the workers about the new rule and also ensure that the apps,



Courtesy of NYC Department of Consumer and Worker Protection

Department of Consumer and Worker Protection Commissioner Vilda Vera Mayuga, at the mic, Gustavo Ajche, one of the founders of Los Deliveristas Unidos, to her right, and Mayor Eric Adams, behind her, at Sunday's announcement of a rule establishing a minimum wage for app-based restaurant delivery workers.

among them Uber Eats, DoorDash and Grubhub, are complying, in part by having the apps submit detailed reports.

"Ensuring these workers earn a dignified pay is an issue of equity. Like all workers, delivery workers deserve fair pay for their labor and to be able to support themselves and their loved ones," she said at City Hall Sunday.

Ligia Gualpa, the executive director of the Workers Justice Project, which helped organize Los Deliveristas Unidos in 2020, said the minimum wage rule represented "a historic moment" in the city's history.

But she cautioned that the app companies would find the rate "too

extreme."

"But what they won't tell you is that they force deliveristas, or delivery workers, to spend hundreds of dollars a month just so they can do this work," Gualpa said at the announcement.

And at least one of the app-delivery companies, DoorDash, is pushing back on the new rule, calling it unsound at best and suggested it could face a court challenge.

"Today's deeply misguided decision by the DCWP ignores the unintended consequences it will cause and sadly will undermine the very delivery workers it seeks to support," a company spokesperson said in a statement. "Given the broken process that resulted in such an

extreme final minimum pay rule, we will continue to explore all paths forward — including litigation — to ensure we continue to best support Dashers and protect the flexibility that so many delivery workers like them depend on."

The company, however, says it is not opposed to the establishment of what it calls minimum earning standards.

Uber Eats did not respond to a request for comment.

The Department of Consumer and Worker Protection last year proposed a minimum wage of \$23.82 by 2025, but revised the figure downward, by about 16 percent, after finding that about 18 percent of the time delivery workers are "multi-apping," meaning they take orders from multiple apps as a way to increase deliveries and their earnings.

Mayor Eric Adams noted that app technology had reshaped the city's food delivery landscape and its restaurant industry, with the delivery workers at the nexus. He alluded to the delivery workers' status as independent contractors, who as a result are not afforded the protections and benefits of traditional employees and must also pay for their equipment, such as their bicycles, and their medical bills if they get hurt.

"Just as we fought for raises and will continue to do so for our union members, we are fighting for raises for this union organizing body that is here," the mayor said. "The rise of delivery apps and services has created a new kind of workforce, and a new kind of workforce needs new policies and protections from our city government. Supporting them is a core part of our working people's agenda."

# NYPD Commissioner Sewell leaving post

BY JAKE OFFENHARTZ  
and MICHAEL R. SISA

New York City Police Commissioner Keechant Sewell, the first woman to hold the position, is stepping down after 18 months on the job.

Sewell, who was appointed by Mayor Eric Adams, announced the resignation in an email to department staff Monday afternoon.

"While my time here will come to a close, I will never step away from advocacy and support for the NYPD, and I will always be a champion for the people of New York City," she wrote.

Adams, a Democrat, confirmed the move in a statement, thanking Sewell for her "steadfast leadership."

Sewell took over as commissioner when Adams, a former NYPD captain, became mayor in January 2022, having pledged beforehand to name a woman to the post.

During her brief tenure, she oversaw a decrease in some categories of crime — including murders — while contending with several high-profile crises, including the fatal shooting of two officers during her first month on the job. In a statement, Patrick J. Lynch, the president of the Police Benevolent Association, lamented her departure.

"In her short time with the NYPD, Commissioner Sewell made a real impact. She took over a police department in crisis and faced tremendous challenges from day one,"

Lynch said. "She cared about the cops on the street and was always open to working with us to improve their lives and working conditions. There are still enormous challenges facing the NYPD. Her leadership will be sorely missed."

The head of the Detectives' Endowment Association, Paul DiGiacomo, also paid homage to Sewell's tenure.

"The DEA salutes Commissioner Sewell for leading the NYPD through some of the most tragic and difficult times in the department's history," he said in a statement on the union's social media accounts. "Her love of Detectives was genuine and sincere and her support of the union never wavered. Commissioner Sewell's historic appointment will not soon be forgotten."

## Short tenures typical, but ...

Sewell shied from New York's spotlight, rarely making herself available to the press, even as Adams made crime-fighting a centerpiece of his administration.

She also faced speculation that she was not truly in control of the department, fueled in part by Adams' decision to appoint a former NYPD chief and key ally, Phillip Banks, as a deputy mayor of public safety. Banks has been holding weekly public briefings on crime, often without Sewell in attendance.

"Commissioner Sewell broke barriers as the first woman, and first



Courtesy of Eric Adams

Then-Mayor-Elect Eric Adams and his first police commissioner, Keechant Sewell, visited a Flatbush neighborhood in mid-December 2021 following a night of violence there. Adams officially appointed Sewell soon after taking office in January 2022, making her the first woman in the post. She resigned on Monday after 18 months as the head of the nation's largest police department.

Black woman, to lead the largest police force in the country," City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams said in a statement. "I empathize with the unique challenges she faced that are so familiar to many of us in positions that have not traditionally been held by those who look like us. Despite differences

about NYPD disciplinary policies, we shared a bond and mutual respect as professionals. I wish Commissioner Sewell all the best in her next chapter."

NYPD commissioners often serve abbreviated tenures in one of the highest-pressure, most politically challenging jobs in policing.

Sewell's predecessor, Dermot Shea, was in the post for two years. His predecessor, James O'Neill, lasted three. Before that, William Bratton served less than three years in his second stint as commissioner, having served for just over two years under Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

The notable exception is former commissioner Raymond Kelly, who served for 16 months under former Mayor David Dinkins, then returned and was commissioner for all 12 years that Michael Bloomberg was mayor.

Sewell started with the Nassau County Police Department as a patrol officer in 1997, then became a precinct commander, head of major cases, a top hostage negotiator and finally chief of detectives, where she oversaw a staff of about 350 — about 1 percent the size of the NYPD's uniformed ranks.

In his statement, Adams said Sewell deserved credit for combating crime in New York City.

"The commissioner worked nearly 24 hours a day, seven days a week for a year and a half, and we are all grateful for her service. New Yorkers owe her a debt of gratitude."

The Adams' administration has seen a series of high-profile departures in recent weeks, including his top housing official, Jessica Katz, and the city's efficiency officer, Melanie La Rocca.

*The Chief's Richard Khavkine contributed to this report.*



Courtesy FDNY

FDNY Lieutenant Donald Schmidt of Ladder Company 117 in Astoria, Queens, with members of his family and Department Commissioner Laura Kavanagh and Chief of Department John Hodgens during the FDNY Medal Day ceremonies June 7 at Louis Armstrong Stadium in Queens. Schmidt, a 25-year firefighter, was awarded the Commissioner Edward Thompson Medal for his rescue of occupants of a third-floor apartment consumed by fire on Dec. 29.

# Bravest honored

Firefighter Artur Podgorski, of Brooklyn's Ladder Company 108, was among eight FDNY firefighters honored at the department's Medal Day ceremony June 7 for their actions, including a daring 20-story rope rescue of trapped residents, during a Manhattan high-rise fire in November.

Altogether, nearly 70 FDNY firefighters, EMTs and paramedics were awarded medals of courage and bravery. "These are the moments when our neighbors were in need, when the FDNY showed up," FDNY Commissioner Laura Kavanagh said at the ceremony, held at the Louis Armstrong Stadium in Queens. "Moments when families were trapped by flames and our members swung off a building to bring them to safety. Moments when patients were at their lowest point and in need of critical care, and our EMTs and paramedics arrived at just the right time and administered the care they needed to survive."

Two new medals were also bestowed: the William P. Moon II Medal of Life and the Captain Allison Russo North Star Medal.

The first is named for Firefighter William Moon, of Rescue 2 in Crown Heights, who was critically injured during a training drill in

December. The medal was presented to Kristina Moon, the firefighter's widow.

The second is named for Captain Alison Russo, who was stabbed to death in an unprovoked attack while on duty in Queens in September. This medal was presented to Captain Edgar Baez for his outstanding leadership following the incident.

Podgorski was also awarded the New York State Honorary Fire Chiefs Association Medal for the heroism he displayed during the high-rise fire when he was lowered on a rope from the 21st floor to rescue a trapped occupant inside a room filled with heavy smoke.

Hundreds of FDNY colleagues, family members and friends attended the ceremony.

"It's surreal and it's amazing, my entire firehouse came out," Podgorski said after receiving the awards. "The cherry on top is that three other members of my house won medals too."

They were Firefighter Joseph L. Andres, Firefighter Roger Buck and Lieutenant Christopher P. Walter, all for their actions at a May 18 apartment fire that had trapped several occupants.

— Duncan Freeman

# Economist List Established

The Department of Citywide Administrative Services established a 318-name list for Economist on May 4, 2023. The list is based on Exam 3044, which was recently held. Readers should note that eligible lists change over their four-year life as candidates are added, removed, reinstated, or rescored. The list shown below is accurate as of the date of establishment but list standings can change as a result of appeals.

## 3044 ECONOMIST

1 Michael Mei	99.00	119 Touhidul H Chowdhury	99.00	187 Aniruddha Harnur	91.00	255 Jorge Dejesus	79.75
2 Steven Reyser	99.00	120 Vernaline Udeoha	99.00	188 Nashanta C Pollard	91.00	256 Fatmah M Alyami	79.68
3 Shi Lei Jin	99.00	121 Minden Koopmans	99.00	189 Natalia Nasonova	91.00	257 Shana A Sanichar	79.62
4 Charles E Rudner	99.00	122 Ihab Marzouk	99.00	190 Shirin Mardani	90.50	258 Andrew S Hamid-Shapiro	79.50
5 Sean J O'Rourke	99.00	123 Kieran Mahoney	98.00	191 Chyunan Chen	90.43	259 Jacob Hite	79.25
6 Alan Potter	99.00	124 Aaron McKnight	97.25	192 Sandra Salib	90.25	260 Charles A Devine	79.00
7 Cary Grant	99.00	125 Fady Basta	97.25	193 John P Healy	90.25	261 Alex Haddad	78.75
8 Alexander D Merchant	99.00	126 Patrick Chan	97.25	194 Alexandros Ladas	90.00	262 Whitley Plummer	78.50
9 Mina Mustafa	99.00	127 Stephen Dellacerra	97.25	195 Sayma S Julia	90.00	263 Jae Yoon Chung	78.37
10 Robert Donate	99.00	128 Oliver L Ho	97.25	196 Jaclyn Williams	90.00	264 Monet J Merritt	78.37
11 Yevgeniy Bogat	99.00	129 Jagruti Dixit	97.25	197 Christopher Cahill	89.50	265 Ugochukwu D Enyinnah	78.25
12 Md Asaduzzaman	99.00	130 Maged Zaki	97.25	198 Lorraine Perez	89.25	266 Yuqing Gao	78.25
13 Jason S Ganz	99.00	131 Andrew J Seguin	97.25	199 Marina Uglova	89.25	267 Mark Torrey	78.00
14 Ling T Chan	99.00	132 Conor Clarke	97.25	200 Qiran Zhang	89.25	268 Ricardo Rodriguez	78.00
15 Nonna Raznik	99.00	133 Richard M DiStefano	97.25	201 Colin Anderson	89.25	269 Michael Carper	77.00
16 Shivani Ramlall	99.00	134 Andy Kvitelman	97.25	202 Julius Tsai	89.00	270 Mursheda Begum	77.00
17 Divinity Babb	99.00	135 Wen Chen	97.25	203 Matthew J Altonji	88.62	271 Gaudhi A De Sedas Reyes	77.00
18 Yabre V Bouda	99.00	136 Armen Hayrapetyan	96.75	204 David Hochbaum	88.50	272 Suleman Shaukat	77.00
19 Mathilde Flore Bessomo-Messi	99.00	137 Jak Jankovic	96.75	205 Abdallah S Amadu	88.00	273 Saurabh Saini	77.00
20 George P Yee	99.00	138 Shella Spellman	96.00	206 Anna Joseph	87.62	274 Shavar Williams	77.00
21 Tony R Cheng	99.00	139 Yuning Feng	96.00	207 Jessica Wunsch	87.50	275 Kristine M Brown	76.00
22 Xiaohui Yang	99.00	140 Kwei Pinger	96.00	208 Jasmine Zaman	87.50	276 Liza Wong	76.00
23 Bhumika Liz	99.00	141 Roxanne Hackett	96.00	209 Inna Olsen	87.25	277 Myra Ahmad	76.00
24 Vivian Yip	99.00	142 Rosario Corrao	96.00	210 Jenna Gosciak	87.06	278 Daniel J Bikowski	76.00
25 Kevin Law-Lee	99.00	143 Milena Mardakhayev	95.50	211 Stephen Donnelly	87.00	279 Shufen Mei	75.81
26 Asim Hamid	99.00	144 Atiq P Mehta	95.50	212 Michael F Kueffner	86.75	280 Mohd Hassan	75.50
27 Carina De La Paz	99.00	145 Adam R Lang	95.00	213 Winnie Shen	86.50	281 Jonathan T Reed	74.50
28 Lorena Gorri	99.00	146 Alexander Plackis	95.00	214 June E Thomas	86.50	282 Charles Christonikos	74.00
29 Ceyda Akcay	99.00	147 Natali Goldberg	95.00	215 Natalio Gonzalez	86.50	283 Ziyao Liu	74.00
30 Zana Lamnica	99.00	148 Joel W Jere	95.00	216 Eduardo Carmelo	86.50	284 Tokandji V Agada	74.00
31 Mathieu R Francois	99.00	149 Alexander Yamron	94.25	217 Jenelle Bazil	86.25	285 Ramone K Bennett	73.00
32 Mark Vodovoz	99.00	150 Michael Moutal	93.87	218 Keri Springert	86.00	286 Jason V Fong	73.00
33 Phillip Wong	99.00	151 Zahir U Azad	93.75	219 Vincent H Cheung	86.00	287 Krystal M Korason	72.87
34 Mary O Eminowa	99.00	152 Laurie A Challenger	93.25	220 Bitto P Cheriyan	85.75	288 Caihua Chen	72.75
35 Atabay B Kadiroglu	99.00	153 Max Feld	93.25	221 Marie A Mortel	85.75	289 Mashfik Shamir	72.31
36 Nadezda Golub	99.00	154 Roshana Bostwick	93.00	222 Andrew C Lange	85.75	290 Asma Khan	72.31
37 Aymee Armenteros	99.00	155 Ting Chen	93.00	223 Bledar Mehmetaj	85.62	291 Jonathan Lindenbaum	72.25
38 Sherif F Isaac	99.00	156 Andy D Chu	93.00	224 Elana Economos	85.56	292 Robert Stec	72.00
39 Kateryna Prots	99.00	157 Maria Free	93.00	225 Raiza M Santos	85.12	293 Anuska Corbin	72.00
40 Spancy M Squire	99.00	158 Charlotte H Cooper	92.87	226 Mohamadou M Hane	85.00	294 Mathews K Geevarghese	72.00
41 Samy Makar	99.00	159 Charles K Kargman	92.75	227 Diana H Wong	84.75	295 Tonya D Jones	71.87
42 Diana J Simon	99.00	160 Nicole Allegretti	92.75	228 Ewan J Doran	84.50	296 Reuben K Osei Buapim	71.50
43 Charles Anderson	99.00	161 Michael Valevich	92.75	229 Juan Carlos E Curbita	84.37	297 Shan Ray	71.00
44 Kehinde O Adenuga	99.00	162 Omar A Nazem	92.75	230 Xun Gao	84.37	298 Joanna Wolska	71.00
45 Brandon Edmonson	99.00	163 Steve N Singh	92.75	231 David N Weissglass	84.06	299 Amadi Jackman	70.75
46 Rebekah E Lee	99.00	164 Erin E Whitney	92.75	232 Stacey A Barron	84.06	300 Suleman Zafar	70.50
47 Carlos F Alvarez	99.00	165 Assetou Ouedraogo	92.75	233 Charles McKeon	84.00	301 Anne Chacko	70.00
48 Ludy Thenor	99.00	166 Jeffrey Dourmeus	92.75	234 Erjon Gjaji	84.00	302 Mst M Parvin	70.00
49 Maria-Laura Arcos	99.00	167 Veronica G Brown	92.62	235 Gulzhan Zhumagulova	84.00	303 Aram P Weitzman	70.00
50 Vanita Ng	99.00	168 Angela Poulakidas	92.00	236 Emily Bachman	84.00	304 Shaila Sharmin	70.00
		169 Loveth U Egwuoko	91.75	237 Adam J Drucker	83.00	305 Guohuan Zhang	70.00
		170 Joshua Luberisse	91.75	238 Ireen Yasmeen	82.87	306 Saubhagyni S Gitel	70.00
		171 Rehanna Azimi	91.00	239 Brandon Benn	82.75	307 Lennox O Baptiste	70.00
		172 Christopher Tinevra	91.00	240 Bleriala Zhupani	82.25	308 Md Iftekharul A Majumder	70.00
		173 Anush Arustamyan	91.00	241 Diana Yat	82.25		70.00
		174 Chase Killebrew	91.00	242 Saheed O Ottun	82.25	309 Kabou Y Lucie Nignan	70.00
		175 Thomael Joannidis	91.00	243 Poonam Arora	82.25	310 Michael Graeber	70.00
		176 Yannis Giannoulakis	91.00	244 Aleksandra Gorshunova	82.00	311 Guan P Lin	70.00
		177 Maged A Shaker	91.00	245 Shuk Yu Tse	82.00	312 Zakaria Tanvir	70.00
		178 Cherrice Miller	91.00	246 Frank Cordova	82.00	313 Sangita Das	70.00
		179 Entela Haxhillari	91.00	247 Gillian Nicholson	82.00	314 Tahomina Akter	70.00
		180 Maria Kolaitis	91.00	248 Andrew M Gargiso	81.81	315 Victor E Ortiz	70.00
		181 Kamini Ellison	91.00	249 Jianhang Xiao	81.00	316 Mohammed H Khan	70.00
		182 Taren Payne	91.00	250 Andrew Astudillo	81.00	317 Tyler Huang	70.00
		183 Hillary Han	91.00	251 Emily R Edwards	81.00	318 Nathaniel Shabatayev	70.00
		184 Tatyana Kravchenko	91.00	252 Anxhelo Haxhillari	80.50		
		185 Caique C Santos	91.00	253 Nyles St John	80.50		
		186 Conrad J Cantor	91.00	254 Berenice C Moog	80.50		

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### LEGAL NOTICES

next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest whose names and places of residence are unknown and cannot, after diligent inquiry, be ascertained by the petitioner herein; being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, devisees, beneficiaries, distributees, or otherwise in the estate of Victor Trinchet, a/k/a Victor P. Trinchet, deceased, who at the time of his death was a resident of 316 W 95th Street, New York, New York 10029; 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 July 20th 2023, 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 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 be deposited with the Commissioner of Finance of the City of New York for the benefit of the decedent's unknown distributees; (iii) that the Surrogate approve the reasonable amount of compensation as reported in Schedules C and C-1 of the account of proceedings to the attorney for the petitioner for legal expenses rendered to the petitioner herein; (iv) that the claim of New York City Human Resources Administration/ DSS in the assistance rendered to decedent in the form of Medicaid for the period covering March 4, 2011 through March 1, 2021 be allowed in the amount of \$417,000.00 and paid by the administrator; (v) that the persons above mentioned and all necessary and proper persons be cited to show cause why such relief should not be granted; (vi) that an order be granted pursuant to SCPA §307 where required or directed; and (vii) for such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper. Hon. RITA MELLA Surrogate Dated, Attested and Sealed, June 7th, 2023 (Seal) Diana Sanabria Chief Clerk Schram Graber & Opell P.C. Counsel to the Public Administrator, New York County 11 Park Place, Suite 1008, New York, New York 10007 (212) 896-3310 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 the 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. 060923-3 6/16/23-7/21/23

**MEEKANG REALTY, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/01/23. Office: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 54 Roberts Road, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 060923-1 6/16/23-7/21/23

**FORMA BUILDERS LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/02/2023. 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, 180 Varick Street, Ste 1100, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 060923-2 6/16/23-7/21/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NYC Macho LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/19/2023. 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 244 West 16th St., Apt. 3RW, NY, NY 10011. The principal business address of the LLC is 244 West 16th St., Apt. 3RW, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 061223-6 6/16/23-7/21/23

Bubbles Posh Pizza to sell beer, wine and cider at retail in an Restaurant. For on premise consumption under the ABC Law at 300 Audubon Avenue Stores 3 & 8 New York NY 10033. 061223-1 6/16/23-6/23/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Yerushah, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/8/2023. 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 444 East 86th Street, Apt. 32E, NY, NY 10028. The principal business address of the LLC is 444 East 86th Street, Apt. 32E, NY, NY 10028. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 061223-4 6/16/23-7/21/23

**ACCOUNTING PROCEEDING FILE NO. 2022-948/A CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO:** New York Mayor Angela Trinchet Richard Roland Trinchet Alex Trinchet New York City Human Resources Administration/DSS and to all other heirs at law, next of kin and distributees of Victor Trinchet, a/k/a Victor P. Trinchet, the decedent herein, if living and if any of them be dead, to their heirs at law,

### LEGAL NOTICES

Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/9/2023. 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 429 East 115th Street, 5A, New York, NY 10029. Purpose: Sales. 060923-5 6/16/23-7/21/23

**MEEKANG REALTY, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/01/23. Office: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 54 Roberts Road, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 060923-1 6/16/23-7/21/23

**FORMA BUILDERS LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/02/2023. 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, 180 Varick Street, Ste 1100, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 060923-2 6/16/23-7/21/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NYC Macho LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/19/2023. 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 244 West 16th St., Apt. 3RW, NY, NY 10011. The principal business address of the LLC is 244 West 16th St., Apt. 3RW, NY, NY 10011. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 061223-6 6/16/23-7/21/23

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Notice is hereby given that a RESTAURANT OP license, serial number 1346947 has been applied for by ARIADNY RESTAURANT INC., to sell at retail, LIQUOR with beer/wine/cider in a Restaurant, under the Alcoholic Beverage Control law at 40 E 167TH STREET, BRONX, NY 10452, for on premises consumption. 053123-1 6/9/23-6/16/23

**MANDAUNIQUE COLLECTIONS LLC.** Art of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/18/2023. Office: Bronx County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, LEGALCORP SOLUTIONS 1060 Broadway Suite 100 ALBANY, NY 12204 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 053023-2 6/9/23-7/14/23

Notice is hereby given that an on-premise liquor license, Serial #1362084 has been applied for by Two if by Sea Restaurant Group Inc dba One if by Land Two if by Sea to sell beer, wine, cider and liquor at retail in an on-premises Restaurant. For on premises consumption under the ABC Law at 17 Barrow Street New York New York 10014. 053023-1 6/9/23-6/16/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Thrill Beverages LLC.** Articles of

### LEGAL NOTICES

Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/16/2023. 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 300 W. 122nd St., PH-H, New York, NY 10027. The principal business address of the LLC is 300 W. 122nd St., PH-H, New York, NY 10027. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 060123-2 6/9/23-7/14/23

Notice of Formation of **LUCAS DESIGNS STUDIO LLC.** Arts of Org filed with Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/16/2023. Office Location: NEW YORK County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served against LLC to: THE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY 228 PARK AVE S #260434, NEW YORK, NY, 10003, USA Reg Ag: UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE, SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY, 11228, USA. Purpose: any lawful act. 060223-7 6/9/23-7/14/23

**56 R.C. LLC** filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/10/2023. Office: New York County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail

### LEGAL NOTICES

process to: The LLC, 109 E 56th St. 1st Fl, NY, NY 10022. Purpose: any lawful act. 061223-3 6/16/23-7/21/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF J. Robins, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/26/2023. 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 20 E. 9th Street, 16F, NY, NY 10003. The principal business address of the LLC is 20 E. 9th Street, 16F, NY, NY 10003. Purpose: management consulting. 061223-5 6/16/23-7/21/23

Notice is hereby given that an On Premises Restaurant Wine license, Serial #1364307 has been applied for by Ban Ban Shop LLC to sell beer, wine and cider at retail in an Restaurant. For on premise consumption under the ABC Law at 2911 Broadway # A New York NY 10025. 061223-2 6/16/23-6/23/23

Notice is hereby given that an On Premises Restaurant Wine license, Serial #1364445 has been applied for by Bubbles Posh Pizza Inc d/b/a



# Evidence and Property Control Specialist List Established

The Department of Citywide Administrative Services established a 877-name list for Evident and Property Control Specialist on April 19, 2023. The list is based on Exam 2065, which was recently held. Readers should note that eligible lists change over their four-year life as candidates are added, removed, reinstated, or rescored. The list shown below is accurate as of the date of establishment but list standings can change as a result of appeals.

Some scores are prefixed by the letters v, d, p and s. The letter “v” designates a credit given to an honorably discharged veteran who has served during time of war. The letter “d” designates a credit given to an honorably discharged veteran who was disabled in combat. The letter “p” designates a “legacy credit” for a candidate whose parent died while engaged in the discharge of duties as a NYC Police Officer or Firefighter. Finally, the letter “s” designates a “legacy credit” for being the sibling of a Police Officer or Firefighter who was killed in the World Trade Center attack on Sept. 11, 2001.

## 2065 EVIDENCE AND PROPERTY CONTROL SPECIALIST Top scorers:

1 Jamie Padilla	d105.50	193 Diana Rodriguez	90.25	308 Kenny Chan	87.25	424 Richard E Leath	d84.50
2 Gregory Marukov	v102.75	194 Lucia I Pena	90.25	309 Tonya R Simmons	87.25	425 Dashawn L Alexander	84.41
3 Ferdinand E Maitre	v99.00	195 Gordon Tse	90.25	310 Trisha Torres	87.25	426 Sara A Lacey	84.25
4 Unique S Johnson	98.50	196 Angelica Kaganovsky	90.25	311 Md R Khan	87.25	427 Melissa Alba	84.25
5 Christine C Dyer	98.50	197 Ping Ting Wu	90.25	312 Lauren Stabile	87.25	428 Jhaquana M Blinker	84.25
6 Lekeisha R Guthrie	98.50	198 Brinder P Rattu	90.25	313 Allen Patterson	87.25	429 Edwin Rodriguez	84.25
7 Tiara C Byrdsong	97.75	199 Alexander V Ramirez	90.25	314 Christopher R Vetrovsky	87.25	430 Kimberley T Wynter	84.25
8 Syed M Uddin	97.75	200 Desiree Holder	90.25	315 Naser Abeer	87.25	431 Emily G Marquez	84.25
9 Luke Sollami	97.75	201 Kevin Zhang	90.25	316 Dorybenson Jean Francois	87.25	432 Sarah-Ann Stephen	84.25
10 Paola L Valdez	97.75	202 Bhowram Pasram	90.25	317 Pierre Lungu	87.25	433 Matthew Delaguila	84.25
11 Jenny Urena	97.00	203 Raymond Cunningham	90.25	318 Sobita Roy	87.25	434 Teshanee D Catlyn	84.25
12 Farha Sabnam	97.00	204 Francisca Jimenez	90.25	319 Misty Anderson	87.25	435 Elizabeth D Gordon	84.25
13 Lisanne A Watson	97.00	205 Sanjit K Ghosh	90.25	320 Yevgeniy Bogat	87.00	436 Nicolas Paul-Pressley	84.25
14 William F Mullen	97.00	206 Mohammad Hossain	90.25	321 Irene Negron	87.00	437 Fatima L Lundy	84.25
15 Christopher E Davis	97.00	207 Abdullah Zahid	90.25	322 Philip A Crisci	87.00	438 Hector E Rodriguez III	84.25
16 Sulimon Wiggins	97.00	208 Reynaldo T Cordero	90.25	323 Maritza K Duy	86.75	439 Brandon C Cordon	84.25
17 Leslie A Morales	97.00	209 Edward J Seabron	90.25	324 Autumn J Brown	86.75	440 Shalice Morton	84.25
18 Partha Nath	97.00	210 Tasha G Scott	90.25	325 Charles Powell	86.75	441 Samuel D Sue-Ho	84.25
19 Danielle Watson-Foster	97.00	211 Shameka Rollings	90.25	326 Julesa L Levan	86.75	442 Katherine E Svagna	84.25
20 Malaynee K Feliberti	97.00	212 Chanel Mata	90.25	327 Sajū Varghese	86.75	443 Monjury Aktar	84.25
21 Mohammed R Islam	97.00	213 Lauren R Sullivan	90.25	328 Edward Rivera	86.50	444 Faruk Jabbar	84.25
22 Tiffany Ambrosecchia	97.00	214 Mahmuda Arabi	90.25	329 Capri D McMillion	86.50	445 Christopher E Arnold	84.25
23 Denielle Baker	96.25	215 Edwin D Bibbins	90.25	330 Antonia A Phillip	86.50	446 Michael J Chu	84.25
24 Pablo A Garcia	96.25	216 Edwin E Rosario	90.25	331 Md Islam	86.50	447 Taliah N Pena	84.25
25 Abdelaziz Bahhary	96.25	217 Topendra S Rathaur	90.25	332 Moise Hernandez	86.50	448 Dalim K Barua	84.25
26 James Irizarry	96.25	218 Chelsea Maiden	90.00	333 Marcus Billy	86.50	449 Emre Mergen	84.25
27 Martine C Outlaw	96.25	219 Rashaad L Dewberry	90.00	334 Leones B Trinity	86.50	450 Randy Veliz	83.99
28 Krystal T Jules-Adams	96.25	220 Kiea S Johnson	90.00	335 Dwight P Delmhorst	86.50	451 Kathleen E Braunstein	83.83
29 Jonathan Velez	96.25	221 Carl Zhou	89.58	336 Richard Darian L Ibasan	86.50	452 Sharif Norman	p83.75
30 Johanna N Torres	96.25	222 Carl Edghill	89.50	337 Sanjesh Singh	86.50	453 Tiffany McNab	83.50
31 Nizam Uddin	96.25	223 Kevin Vena	89.50	338 Luis A Valentin	86.50	454 Anthony Pignalosa	83.50
32 Isa Shaikh	96.25	224 Yolanda M Lashley	89.50	339 Bikash Sarker	86.50	455 Rebecca C Evins	83.50
33 Sean Carter	96.25	225 Tenea S Green	89.50	340 Princess S Basdeo	86.50	456 Kaniz Fatema	83.50
34 Veronique A David	95.50	226 Yamire Bourdier	89.50	341 Christina L Serrano	86.50	457 Tyquithia Cotton	83.50
35 Rita Eng	95.50	227 William A Cofield	89.50	342 Lutfor Rahman	86.50	458 Chanita Ayala	83.50
36 Andrea R Waterman	95.50	228 Lance T Williams	89.50	343 Anthony M Heron	86.50	459 John Katepodis Jr	83.50
37 Latoya V Myrick	95.50	229 Charelle C Ollivierre	89.50	344 Sabrina M Fernandez	86.50	460 Sean L Harper	83.50
38 Nicholas A Leandro	95.50	230 Alexis C Huston	89.50	345 Yvonne L Clark	86.50	461 David Genao	83.50
39 Matthew Hart	v95.50	231 Mihir Biswas	89.50	346 Azrin K Urbi	86.50	462 Pedro J Casiano	83.50
40 Erika T Cruz-Cooke	95.50	232 Shahidul Islam	89.50	347 Jamaal Joshua	86.50	463 Kara Gibson	83.50
41 Cynthia R Roman-Rivera	95.50	233 Uttam K Das	89.50	348 Md M Hossain	86.50	464 Jacqueline M Gotay Reyes	83.50
42 Abu Noman M Mainuddin	95.50	234 Shameek Harrison	89.50	349 Kenyetta N Kirby	86.50	465 Rayneisha J Brownlee	83.50
43 Michele Lenhart	95.50	235 Edward Lam	89.50	350 Octavia Wadesworth	86.25	466 Tricia A Simon	83.50
44 Thieffica N Krutki	95.50	236 Shanielle A Palmer	89.50	351 Vanessa V Roman	86.25	467 Kettia Merius	83.50
45 Josue R Rivera	95.50	237 Roxanne Gentles	89.50	352 Saudia A Lallmahamad	86.25	468 Kristin M Grass	83.50
46 Kouk C Wu	v95.25	238 Raafat A Megalli	89.50	353 Zinat Fatema	86.25	469 Donia A Ross	83.50
47 Patrick E Sarcone	94.75	239 Alexandria Paniagua	89.50	354 Mohammad M Miah	86.08	470 Marissa A Contreras	83.50
48 Mohammed Hossain	94.75	240 Samantha S Standard	89.50	355 Paula Garcia	86.00	471 Mohammad N Khokhar	83.50
49 Philip Marks	94.75	241 Jack S Yeh	89.50	356 Raymond Hakimi	86.00	472 Monica T Moultrie-Burges	83.50
50 Tanaya C Cole	94.75	242 Kenneth J Bishop	89.50	357 Jean L Pressorio	86.00	473 Adonis T Jenkins	83.50
51 Sumon Kumar Roy	94.75	243 Onika Guy	89.50	358 Lamont M Evans	86.00	474 Md H Alam	83.50
52 Annis Williams	94.75	244 Celestine Rivers-Neville	89.50	359 Chantal R Paul	86.00	475 Showkat H Khan	83.50
53 Johanne K Joseph	94.75	245 Michela Mayers	89.50	360 Zhaomiao Chu	85.83	476 Letice D Cox	83.50
54 Yasir A Khilji	94.75	246 Shavon J Russell	89.25	361 Taheema J Facey	85.75	477 Hong Kit Chen	83.50
55 Angel L Pellicier	94.75	247 Mohammad Z Thakur	89.25	362 Muhammad A Islam	85.75	478 Carlos Del Valle	83.50
56 Shibli S Chowdhury	94.75	248 Joel B Rivera	89.00	363 Gimnele Williams	85.75	479 Jacob Godoy	83.41
57 Choi T Chan	94.50	249 Alisha Morgan	89.00	364 Simon Lee	85.75	480 Matthew J Kessler	83.33
58 Hector Marrero	d94.50	250 Tayez S Cobay	89.00	365 Cindy Martinez	85.75	481 Sheriha M Lucas	83.25
59 Jesse Mui	94.25	251 Jonathan L Hill	89.00	366 Akeila R Dehaney	85.75	482 Lameek Dimmock	83.25
60 Shaikh M Ali	94.00	252 Shenielle Bahari	89.00	367 Ashley S Superville	85.75	483 Alex R Clarke	83.16
61 Jennifer Matos	94.00	253 Tiffany D Bartee	89.00	368 Renna C Hunte	85.75	484 Claudette Harding	83.07
62 Mohammed Uddin	94.00	254 Patrick J Rosa	88.75	369 Rosalba Delacruz	85.75	485 Christopher Bodden	83.00
63 Jamie Butler	94.00	255 Vanity M Martin	88.75	370 Irin A Alam	85.75	486 Yashika M Dawkins	83.00
64 Danielle Ingrassia	94.00	256 Md A Hossain	88.75	371 Tania V Junez Morgan	85.75	487 Za'asia T Atkins	83.00
65 Christiane O Lopez Maldonado	94.00	257 Orquidea M Angeles Madera	88.75	372 Shahana Yesmin	85.75	488 Fayeiz I Iskandar	82.83
66 Cuneyt Celebioglu	94.00	258 Michael F Ramon	88.75	373 Kira S Jackson	85.75	489 Jiby J Kuttemperoor	82.75
67 Lorena Vazquez	94.00	259 Kiara Middleton	88.75	374 Leslian Rosario	85.75	490 Krystal Clarke	82.75
68 Shahenur Rahaman	94.00	260 Andrey Zhuravlev	88.75	375 Raven Jamison	85.75	491 Diana M Alvarez	82.75
69 Mekita Goodluck	94.00	261 Gina A Montefusco	88.75	376 Minhazur R Khan	85.75	492 Jason Rivera	82.75
70 Okema Holder	94.00	262 Guru D Sagar	88.75	377 Mohammad A Hasnat	85.75	493 Allison B Richardson	82.75
71 Prabal Bhowmick	94.00	263 Kimberly K Reid	88.75	378 Louis M DePalma	85.75	494 Sebastian J Chrostowski	82.75
71.5 Kaniz F Mili	94.00	264 Jacqueline Flores	88.75	379 John M O'Brien Jr.	85.75	495 Liber M Cosme Taveras	82.75
72 Rayneka Thomas	93.75	265 Melroy M Auguste	88.75	380 Latoya J Ash	85.75	496 Mohammad A Rashed	82.75
73 Christopher Huaco	v93.75	266 Aisha Sutton	88.75	381 Sumit Chowdhury	85.75	497 Ratan K Chakrobarty	82.75
74 Jessica M Marcelino	93.25	267 Raymond Gong	88.75	382 Yolanda Jackson	85.75	498 Md S Islam	82.75
75 Kimberly E Sullivan	93.25	268 Janee L Pearson	88.50	383 David Tlatelpa	85.75	499 Akila White	82.75
76 Elijah K Rollock	93.25	269 Sajedul Hoque	88.50	384 Lionel L Grinage	85.75	500 Andy V Tran	82.75
77 Kimberly M McDowell	93.25	270 Ivelise Albino	88.50	385 Hira Zab	85.75	501 Nafis Khan	82.75
		271 Sukumar Devnath	88.50	386 Elizabeth Valdez	85.75	502 Shikandar M Hoque	82.75
		272 Sang Y Chae	v88.50	387 Mohammed A Rouf	85.75	503 Muhammad S Gaji	82.75
		273 Joyce Taylor	88.50	388 Halima Yeasmin	85.66	504 Kristen A Danvers	82.75
		274 Crystal R Tomlin	88.50	389 Christina B Quagliano	85.58	505 Louis L Leysath	82.75
		275 Michael D David	88.41	390 Jonathan Novella	85.50	506 Francine Bibicoff	82.75
		276 Iakovos Gavalas	88.25	391 Md R Sarowar	85.50	507 Michael Ng	82.75
		277 Carlos D Urban	88.25	392 Eshauna M Jenkins	85.25	508 De'andre M Darrisaw-Willia	82.75
		278 Magdalena Talpan	88.24	393 Akhi Banik	85.25		82.75
		279 Antonio L Christopher	88.00	394 Amar M Adams	85.25	509 Bartosz Olszak	82.75
		280 Therese Carter	88.00	395 Ariella D Britt	85.25	510 Md Kamaruzzaman	82.75
		281 Janelle A Richards	88.00	396 Taneilla T Payne	85.08	511 Mildred D Palmer	82.75
		282 Kamruz Zaman	88.00	397 Kymberli J Marshall	85.00	512 Tina M Giel	82.75
		283 Delores L Welch	88.00	398 Maurene Desir	85.00	513 Mabel Rodriguez	82.75
		284 Jamel Encarnacion	88.00	399 Shatisha Graham	85.00	514 Shanella A Boatswain	82.75
		285 Besnik Berkani	88.00	400 Mark S Forte	85.00	515 Sumit Chakrobarty	82.75
		286 Mahmud Hasan	88.00	401 Richard H Chan	85.00	516 Jennifer D De La Cruz	82.75
		287 Lutfun Nahar	88.00	402 Abigail S Orbay	85.00	517 Jileiny Adames	82.75
		288 Amanda Pol	88.00	403 Asif Ahmed	85.00	518 Charles Williams	82.75
		289 Wanita L Weston	88.00	404 Stephanie Jimenez	85.00	519 Peter J Pipia	82.75
		290 Mohammed M Rahman	88.00	405 Eric Chow	85.00	520 Almeha H Carpenter	82.75
		291 Ikbal Hossain	88.00	406 Shah-Md A Hayet	85.00	521 Besthani Martinez	82.75
		292 Stephanie C Henry	88.00	407 John A Haran	85.00	522 Sylicka S McFarlane	82.75
		293 Meer J Hossain	88.00	408 Nicole Mukki	85.00	523 Jamaal Agard	82.75
		294 Joyce A Parks	88.00	409 Damilola A Bakare	85.00	524 Shaneida F Lundy	82.75
		295 Jason Mercury	88.00	410 Clydene C Medas	85.00	525 Desiree Davila	82.75
		296 Leah Wellington	88.00	411 Ashley Bush	85.00	526 Anthony Nankoo	82.75
		297 Elliot F Diaz	88.00	412 Viandra J Paulino	85.00	527 Luz E Diaz	82.75
		298 Jaslyn I Carrasquillo	87.75	413 Makaila K Worrell	85.00	528 Md A Rana	82.75
		299 Deslyn Willock	87.75	414 Nikie P Morell	85.00	529 Elizabeth R Lugo	82.50
		300 Tory J Shelton	87.50	415 Ashley M Batts	85.00	530 Khadijah Crippen	82.50
		301 Mohammad A Khaleqe	87.50	416 Md K Uddin	85.00	531 Justin D Byard	82.50
		302 Jonathan F Morales	87.49	417 Abdul Alim	85.00	532 Sherida S Bisram	82.50
		303 Shaniqua L Smith	87.25	418 Kim A Martyn Samuel	85.00	533 George Graham	82.50
		304 Diane Onikute	87.25	419 Tommie Stampley	85.00	534 Alicia N Redguard	82.49
		305 Lauren Kennedy	87.25	420 Raymond Burton	85.00	535 Noel A Cruz	82.33
		306 Jaichand Rupram	87.25	421 Hussen Adam	85.00	536 Celeni Castillo	82.33
		307 Lisa N Roopnarine	87.25	422 Giovanne R Quezada	84.58	537 Lashonda R Gilbert	82.25
				423 Antoinette D Guerrero	84.58	538 Israel S Cartagena	82.25



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## LEGAL NOTICES

**936 RESTAURANT LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/02/2023. 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, 936 Eighth Ave. NY, NY 10019. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 050823-1 5/12/23-6/16/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WHUPTO LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/29/2023. 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 330 W. 56th Street, Apartment 21M, New York, NY 10019. The principal business address of the LLC is c/o Omar Deacon, 330 W. 56th Street, Apartment 21M, New York, NY 10019. Purpose: Social networking startup. 050423-1 5/12/23-6/16/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ROOT CATALYST LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/8/23. 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: United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. The principal business address of the LLC is 130 E. 94th Street, New York, NY 10128. Purpose: Nurturing the growth of equitable, resilient, and radically inclusive communities. 050423-7 5/12/23-6/16/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF NEW GROUND GROUP LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the Sec of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/26/2023. Office location: County of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: c/o The Limited Liability Company - 277 Broadway Ste 1007, New York, NY, 10007. Purpose: any lawful act. 050423-6 5/12/23-6/16/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF BAUBLITZ CONSULTING LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the Sec of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/31/2023. Office location: County of New York. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to: c/o The Limited Liability Company - 153 E 26th St., Apt 8A, New York, NY, 10010. Purpose: any lawful act. 050423-5 5/12/23-6/16/23

**GFJ, LLC** Art. of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 5/10/23. Off. Loc.: Richmond Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to the LLC, 302 Westcott Blvd., Staten Island NY 10314. Any lawful purpose. 051123-2 5/19/23-6/23/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Body Lab Fitness & Karate LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/18/2022. 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 67 Hendricks Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301. The principal business address of the LLC is 67 Hendricks Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 051223-2 5/19/23-6/23/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF The Assembly Rooms US LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 5/3/23. Office location: NY County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o Citrin Cooperman - Gareth Jones, 11601 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 2180, Los Angeles, CA 90025, principal business address. Purpose: all lawful purposes. 051123-3 5/19/23-6/23/23

**HEARTS CONTENT ROAD LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on

## LEGAL NOTICES

05/05/2023. Office loc: NY County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Carol Chu, 56 Hester Street, Apt 4, NY, NY 10002. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 050923-1 5/19/23-6/23/23

**NOTICE OF Qualification of BBH Cedar Street Capital Management, LLC.** Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 5/2/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE: 4/27/23. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., 140 Broadway, NY, NY, 10005, principal business address. DE address of LLC: c/o Cogency Global Inc., 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. 051123-4 5/19/23-6/23/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF KLVJV VENTURE LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/1/2023. 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 5906B 38th Avenue, Apt. B3, Woodside, NY 11377. The principal business address of the LLC is 5906B 38th Avenue, Apt. B3, Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 051023-2 5/19/23-6/23/23

**Notice of Qualification of VillaJoyHoldings LLC.** Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 5/8/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE: 4/25/23. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Peter D. Mensch, c/o Q Prime Inc., 30 W. 26th St., NY, NY 10010, principal business address. DE address of LLC: 300 Creek View Rd., Ste. 209, Newark, DE 19711. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes. 051923-2 5/26/23-6/30/23

**Notice of Qualification of VillaJoyLDB LLC.** Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 5/8/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE: 4/25/23. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Peter D. Mensch, c/o Q Prime Inc., 30 W. 26th St., NY, NY 10010, principal business address. DE address of LLC: 1013 Centre Rd., Ste. 403S, Wilmington, DE 19805. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes. 051923-1 5/26/23-6/30/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF EAT, DARLING, EAT LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/14/23. 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 67 Park Ave., Suite 10C, New York, NY 10016. The principal business address of the LLC is 67 Park Ave., Suite 10C, New York, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 051823-5 5/26/23-6/30/23

**LEVER CLUB MANAGEMENT, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/15/2023. 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, C/O SA Hospitality Group LLC, 950 Third Avenue, Ste. 500, NY, NY 10022. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 051623-1 5/26/23-6/30/23

**NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF Futura Egg Donation LLC.** Application for Authority filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/31/2019. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in CT on July 31, 2019. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. The Post Office address to which the

## LEGAL NOTICES

SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her is 177 West Putnam Avenue, Suite 101, Greenwich, CT 06831. The principal business address of the LLC is 177 West Putnam Avenue, Suite 101, Greenwich, CT 06831. Certificate of LLC filed with Secretary of State of Connecticut located at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. 051723-6 5/26/23-6/30/23

**KILLYGARRY PROJECTS LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with SSNY 3/22/2023. NY office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent for process. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: c/o The LLC, 10 East End Ave., #14A, NY, NY 10075. Any lawful act or activity. 051723-2 5/26/23-6/30/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAGNOLIA ROSE ESSENTIALS LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/3/2023. 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 228 Park Ave. S., 198816, New York, NY 10003. The principal business address of the LLC is 228 Park Ave. S., 198816, New York, NY 10003. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 051723-5 5/26/23-6/30/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Prime City Vending LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/20/2023. 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 133 W. 116th Street, Apt. 4B, New York, NY 10026. The principal business address of the LLC is 133 W. 116th Street, Apt. 4B, New York, NY 10026. Purpose: vending machine operating. 051823-6 5/26/23-6/30/23

**TOTALCIRCLEHR LLC.** Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/16/2023. Office: Richmond County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o ResidentAgent, Inc. 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805A, Albany, NY 12210, also the Registered Agent upon whom process may be served. Address to be maintained in DE: 1013 Centre Rd., Ste. 403S, Wilmington, DE 19805. Arts of Org. filed with the Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 051823-6 5/26/23-6/30/23

**NOTICE OF Formation of 263 WEST END IF LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/05/23. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Incoor. Services, Inc., One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805A, Albany, NY 12210-2822, also the Registered Agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-2 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of 265 East 66th Hamilton LLC.** Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/22/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 02/10/23. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: PO Box 1624, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632. Address to be maintained in DE: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc., 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Arts of Org. filed with the Secy. of State, Corporation Dept., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-3 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of 501 Lexington Development LLC.** Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/13/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 02/01/22. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: National Registered Agents, Inc., 28 Liberty St., NY, NY 10005. Address to be maintained in DE: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Arts of Org. filed with the State of DE - Secy. of State, Division of Corporations, PO Box 898 Dover, DE 19903. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-4 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of GQR LOCUM LLC.** Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/29/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 08/31/22. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 41 Broadway Fl. 12, Ste. 12-300, NY, NY 10004-1617. Address to be maintained in DE: 300 Delaware Ave., Ste. 270, Wilmington, DE 19801-6601. Arts of Org. filed with Jeffrey W Bullock, 401 Federal St. #4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-5 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of Mark Cuban Cost Plus Pharmacy LLC.** Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/27/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 01/19/23. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: National Registered Agents, Inc., One Commerce Plaza - 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805A, Albany, NY 12210-2822, also the Registered Agent upon whom process may be served. Address to be maintained in DE: 16192 Coastal Hwy., Lewes, DE 19958. Arts of Org. filed with Jeffrey W. Bullock, Secy. of State, PO Box 898, Dover, DE 19903. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-6 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Formation of MASTROGIOVANNI LAW PLLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/03/23. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3 Sheridan Sq., #10C, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: To Practice the Profession of Law. 052523-7 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of SBI CONSULTANTS, LLC.** Fictitious Name: SOLUTIONS FOR THE BUILDING INDUSTRY, LLC Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/03/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/17/08. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Incorporating Services, Ltd., 3500 South DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901 also the address to be maintained in DE. Arts of Org. filed with the DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St. #4,

## LEGAL NOTICES

Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-8 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of Sherwood Media, LLC.** Fictitious Name: Sherwood Media NY, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/02/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 05/17/22. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Incorporating Services, Ltd., 3500 South DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901 also the address to be maintained in DE. Arts of Org. filed with the Secy. of State, 401 Federal St. #4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-9 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Formation of The Social Team LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/03/23. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 256 W 123 St., Apt. 1, NY, NY 10027. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-10 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of Upper90 Fund III Parallel Master, LP.** Fictitious name: Upper90 Fund III Parallel Master, L.P. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/23. Office location: NY County. LP formed in Delaware (DE) on 04/11/23. SSNY designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 452 Fifth Ave., 21st Fl., NY, NY 10018. Address to be maintained in DE: Harvard Business Services, Inc., 16192 Coastal Hwy., Lewes, DE 19958. Name/address of agent, ptr. available from SSNY. Cert. of LP filed with Secy. of State, State of DE, Dept. of State, Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-11 6/2/23-7/7/23

**Notice of Qualification of VSGI Solutionz, LLC.** Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/26/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 11/05/01. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o ResidentAgent, Inc. 99 Washington Ave., Ste. 805A, Albany, NY 12210, also the Registered Agent upon whom process may be served. Address to be maintained in DE: 1013 Centre Rd., Ste. 403S, Wilmington, DE 19805. Arts of Org. filed with the Secy. of State, 401 Federal St. - Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052523-12 6/2/23-7/7/23

**YANNLEDOUXSERVICES LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/23/2023. Office loc: NY County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Yann Ledoux, 191 Stuyvesant Oval, Apt 12D, NY, NY 10009. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 052523-1 6/2/23-7/7/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DIANE SEVERIN NGUYEN LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/18/2023. 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 76 Irving Pl., Apt. 5D, New York, NY 10003, USA. The principal business address of the LLC is 76 Irving Pl., Apt. 5D, New York, NY 10003, USA. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052523-14 6/2/23-7/7/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Singh Brothers UBS, LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/23/2023. 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: 339 GREENE AVENUE, APT 3B BROOKLYN, NY, 11238, USA. The principal business address of the LLC is: 419 E 74TH ST, NEW YORK, NY 10021. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 051823-1 6/2/23-7/7/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF FHC 424 5th Ave., LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/23/2023. 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 CT Corporation System, 28 Liberty St., New York, NY 10005. The principal business address of the LLC is 424 5th Ave., New York, NY 10018. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052423-4 6/2/23-7/7/23

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION, CARE AND PROTECTION, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, DOCKET NUMBER 21CP0309SP.** Trial Court of Massachusetts, Juvenile Court Department, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Hampden County Juvenile Court, 80 State Street, Springfield, MA 01103. (413) 748-7714. TO: Orlando Diaz-Rivera or the father of Adhyelix Dias Rivera born on August 7, 2018 in Springfield, MA to Ada Nelida Rivera: A petition has been presented to this court by DCF Springfield, seeking as to the following child Adhyelix Dias Rivera, that said child be found in need of care and protection and committed to the Department of Children and Families. The court may dispense the rights of the person(s) named herein to receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the adoption, custody, or guardianship or any other disposition of the child named herein, if it finds that the child is in need of care and protection and that the best interests of the child would be served by said disposition. You are hereby ORDERED to appear in this court, at the court address set forth above, on the following date and time: 07/20/2023 at 9:00 AM Other Hearing You may bring an attorney with you. If you have a right to an attorney and if the court determines that you are indigent, the court will appoint an attorney to represent you. If you fail to appear, the court may proceed on that date and any date thereafter to a trial on the merits and adjudication of this matter. For further information call the Office of the Clerk-Magistrate at (413) 748-7714. WITNESS: Hon. David B. Paradis, FIRST JUSTICE, DATE ISSUED: 05/18/2023, Paul R. Viets, Clerk-Magistrate. 052323-1 6/2/23-6/16/23

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DS NY RENTALS LLC.** Articles of

## LEGAL NOTICES

Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/26/2023. 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 PO Box 411, New York, NY 10003. The principal business address of the LLC is PO Box 411, New York, NY 10003. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052323-2 6/2/23-7/7/23

**JOSLYN LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/22/23. Office: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 110 Charlton Street, Apartment 9D, New York, NY 10014. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 052323-3 6/2/23-7/7/23

Notice is hereby given that an on-premise liquor license, Serial #1364121 has been applied for by Legends Boathouse LLC to sell beer, wine, cider and liquor at retail in an on-premises Restaurant with two additional bars. For on premises consumption under the ABC Law at East 72nd Street at Park Drive (Central Park Lake) New York NY 10021. 060523-6 6/9/23-6/16/23

Notice is hereby given that a Catering On Premises liquor license, Serial #1363929 has been applied for by Restaurant Associates Inc to sell beer, wine, cider and liquor at retail in an On-Premises catering establishment with one additional bar. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 550 Washington Street Floor 6 New York NY 10014. 6/9/23-6/16/23 060523-3

Notice is hereby given that a Catering On Premises liquor license, Serial #1363910 has been applied for by Restaurant Associates Inc to sell beer, wine, cider and liquor at retail in an On-Premises catering establishment with one additional bar. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 550 Washington Street Floor 9 New York NY 10014. 6/9/23-6/16/23 060523-4

Notice is hereby given that a Catering On Premises liquor license, Serial #1363913 has been applied for by Restaurant Associates Inc to sell beer, wine, cider and liquor at retail in an On-Premises catering establishment with one additional bar. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 550 Washington Street Floor 12 New York NY 10014. 6/9/23-6/16/23 060523-5

Notice is hereby given that a Catering On Premises liquor license, Serial #1363919 has been applied for by Restaurant Associates Inc to sell beer, wine, cider and liquor at retail in an On-Premises catering establishment with seven additional bars. For on premises consumption under the ABC law at 550 Washington Street Floors 1-4 New York NY 10014. 6/9/23-6/16/23 060523-2

Notice is hereby given that license number 1352416 for liquor/ wine/ cider/ beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell liquor/ wine/ cider/ beer at retail in a restaurant under the alcoholic beverage control law at 1712 2nd Ave New York NY 10128 New York County for on-premises consumption. Happy Chef 1712 Corp 1712 2nd Ave New York NY 10128. 6/9/23-6/16/23 060523-1

Notice is hereby given that a RESTAURANT WINE license, serial number 1345385 has been applied for by DOBRA CAFE SOHO INC. -DBA- DESPANA FINE FOODS & TAPAS CAFE., to sell at retail, beer/wine/ cider in a restaurant establishment, under the Alcoholic Beverage Control law at 199 LAFAYETTE ST, NEW YORK, NY 10013 for on premises consumption. 6/9/23-6/16/23 060223-9

Notice of Formation of **BIM ADVISORY LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/19/23. Office location: New York County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 187 Wolf Rd, Ste 101, Albany, NY 12205. The name and address of the Reg. Agent is Business Filings Incorporated, 187 Wolf Rd, Ste 101, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful activity. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060223-2

Notice of Formation of **Birdie 62, LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/26/23. Office location: New York County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 28 Liberty St, NY, NY 10005. The name and address of the Reg. Agent is C T Corporation System, 28 Liberty St, NY, NY 10005. Purpose: any lawful activity. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060223-3

Notice of Qualification of **FSC IP27 LeaseCo, LLC.** Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/25/23. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 2/20/23. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 28 Liberty St, NY, NY 10005. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St, Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Formation filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060223-4

Notice of Formation of **THE GERSH AGENCY/NEW YORK, LLC.** Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/20/23. Office location: New York County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 28 Liberty St, NY, NY 10005. Purpose: any lawful activity. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060223-5

Notice of Qualification of **NYC SCHOOLSOLAR I LLC.** Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/23/23. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 4/19/23. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 28 Liberty St, NY, NY 10005. DE address of LLC: 1209 Orange St, Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Formation filed with DE Secy of State, 401 Federal St, Ste 4, Dover, DE 19901. The name and address of the Reg. Agent is C T Corporation System, 28 Liberty St, NY, NY 10005. Purpose: any lawful activity. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060223-6

Notice is hereby given that a license

## LEGAL NOTICES

Serial No. 1363122 has been applied for by the undersigned to sell wine/ beer and cider in a Catering establishment under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 4131 Beach 129th St, Rockaway, NY 11694 for on premises consumption. Jade Event Space Corporation. 6/9/23-6/16/23 060223-1

Notice of Formation of **NY Rome Old Oneida Road Solar, LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 5/23/23. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. address: 100 First Stamford Pl., Ste. 302, Stamford, CT 06902. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Cogency Global Inc., 122 E. 42nd St., 18th Fl., NY, NY 10168. Purpose: all lawful purposes. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060123-7

Notice of Qualification of **CLUEP US LLC.** Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 5/25/23. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE: 3/20/23. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o Corporate Creations Network Inc. (CCN), 606 Mamaroneck Ave., Ste. 400, Harrison, NY 10528. DE address of LLC: c/o CCNI, 3411 Silverside Rd., Tattal Blgd, #104, Wilmington, DE 19810. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060123-6

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 3-Jay's Enterprises LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/13/2023. 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 United States Corporation Agents, 7014 13th Ave., Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. The principal business address of the LLC is 228 Park Ave. S, #592832, NY, NY 10003. Purpose: E-Commerce. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060123-3

**DEWHURST LLC.** Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/22/2023. 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, 45 E. 22nd Street, Apt 34A, NY, NY 10010. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060123-4

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF HARVEST HEALTH LLC.** Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/29/2023. Office location: Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 45 E. 22nd Street, Apt 34A, NY, NY 10010. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 6/9/23-7/14/23 060123-1

ACCOUNTING PROCEEDING FILE NO. 2021-862/A CITATION: THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO: Kenneth D. Distributes Attorney General of the State of New York Melissa Dalton Myers Francine Dalton Darlene Dalton Delbert Dalton Tanya Evette Dalton Bradley Barbara Dalton Graham a/k/a Barbara Jean Corbet Dollie Mae Dalton Wallace Robert Dalton Kinnet Services to Melissa Dalton Myers, Francine Dalton, Darlene Dalton, Delbert Dalton, Tanya Evette Dalton Bradley, Barbara Dalton Graham a/k/a Barbara Jean Corbet, Dollie Mae Dalton Wallace, and Robert Dalton, whose whereabouts are unknown, if living, and if they died, subsequent to the decedent herein, to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest whose names and places of residence are unknown; and to all other heirs at law, next of kin and distributees of Margaret Mathews, a/k/a Annie Margaret Dalton, the decedent herein, 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 and places of residence are unknown and cannot, after diligent inquiry, be ascertained by the petitioner herein, being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, devisees, beneficiaries, distributees, or otherwise in the estate of Margaret Mathews, a/k/a Annie Margaret Dalton, deceased, who at the time of her death was a resident of 240 Nagle Avenue, New York, New York 10034; A petition having been duly filed by the Public Administrator of the

**JOB HIGHLIGHT**

# City offering ‘bridge exam’ for multiple titles: secretary, staff analysts, bookkeepers, others

The city is offering what it calls a bridge exam, which is designed to offer job candidates the opportunity to take one multiple-choice test for multiple titles and have their names appear on multiple civil service lists simultaneously if they meet the minimum qualification requirements. Applications are being accepted through June 27.

Testing is scheduled to begin Sept. 18. With this new and innovative approach, during the application period, candidates will submit one application for the New York City Bridge Exam. On the day of the multiple-choice test, they will have the opportunity to select one or more titles to be considered for on the day of the examination. The application fee is \$40.

Applicants will be given an exam consisting of two parts: A qualifying education and experience exam for each title selected and a multiple-choice test at a computer terminal. Applicants must meet the minimum qualification requirements for each title selected. A civil service list will be established for each title separately.

**THE TESTS**

Candidates will be given an exam consisting of two parts: A qualifying education and experience exam for each title selected and a multiple-choice test at a computer terminal.

Candidates’ education and experience will be evaluated on the date of the multiple-choice test and they will receive results at a later date. They are responsible for determining whether or not they meet the education and experience requirements for each title they are interested prior to submitting their applications. You must meet the education and experience requirements for each title you select. Education requirements for the positions must be met by June 30 and experience requirements by June 27.

For more information about the positions, including education and experience requirements and on how to apply, go to: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dcas/employment/exam-schedules-open-competitive-exams.page>

Exams for the following positions are being offered:

**Bookkeepers.** Under supervision, bookkeepers perform computations of varying degrees of difficulty related to financial records. The current minimum salary is \$41,917 a year.

**Clerical associate.** Under supervision, with a limited latitude for independent judgment, clerical associates perform clerical work in relation to records, files, invoices and reports using alphabetical and numerical procedures including data/control coding; perform ordinary mathematical calculations; operate a telephone call directory, multi-line phone, or switchboard; perform clerical operations in an assigned area, such as the filing of material and the searching of files

for difficult to locate material; prepare reports requiring the selection of data from simple records or statistics; check records for accuracy of information and for conformity with established policy and procedures; perform data entry and retrieval using a personal computer, monitor, video display terminal, or other automated office systems; maintain related library files; may perform incidental typing.

The current minimum salary is \$32,217 a year. There are four assignment levels within this class of positions. Appointments will generally be made to assignment level I. After appointment, employees may be assigned to the higher assignment level at the discretion of the agency

**Clerical associates, for NYC Health + Hospitals.** The current minimum salary is \$35,895 a year. There are four assignment levels within this class of positions. Appointments will generally be made to assignment level II. After appointment, employees may be assigned to the higher assignment levels at the discretion of the NYC Health + Hospitals.

**Computer service technicians.** Under supervision, with some latitude for independent initiative and judgment, computer service technicians perform routine service functions in maintaining, troubleshooting and repairing computers, computer peripheral equipment and/or networking technology equipment; as well as supervise personnel performing routine repair or maintenance functions in order to maintain efficient functioning of computer operations and minimize

downtime in the case of system failure; and operate a motor vehicle in the performance of these functions in field locations.

The current minimum salary is \$44,791 per year. This rate is subject to change. There are two assignment levels within this class of positions. Appointments will generally be made to assignment level I. After appointment, employees may be assigned to the higher assignment level at the discretion of the agency

**Maintenance workers.** Under direct supervision, maintenance workers assist in the routine maintenance, operation and repair of public buildings and structures, and the equipment they contain. They conduct visual inspections of building equipment and conditions; maintain, adjust and make repairs of building hardware, furniture, shelving and equipment; replace broken window and door glass; repair windows and sash; make repairs to masonry, woodwork, flooring and walls; make repairs to building electrical, plumbing and heating systems; assist in relocating building equipment as directed; visually inspect public buildings, structures and equipment to assess and check for defects, malfunctions and hazardous conditions; visually check for and record the observable conditions of the premises; prepare reports; keep records; and may operate a motor vehicle in the performance of assigned duties. All maintenance workers perform related work

The current minimum salary is \$29.98 per hour for a 40-hour work week.

**Maintenance workers CUNY and main-**

**tenance workers NYC Health + Hospitals.**

The current minimum salary is \$29.98 per hour for a 40-hour work week

**Secretaries.** Under supervision, secretaries perform typing, secretarial and related office work with limited latitude for independent judgment; perform typing work including copy typing from rough or clear drafts, typing statistical tables, and typing transcription from tapes and varityping; perform secretarial work, including scheduling appointments and other general office work; perform basic word processing assignments using a personal computer; word processing equipment or other automated office equipment; may perform basic data entry functions; review and correct typed material to ensure correct spelling, syllabification, punctuation, and proper format; may respond to routine telephone calls; refer calls and visitors to appropriate staff.

The current minimum salary is \$32,217 a year.

**Staff analyst trainees.** Under supervision with some latitude for independent judgment, staff analyst trainees receive training in and assist in professional and technical work in the preparation and administration of departmental budgets; the preparation and conduct of administrative and procedural studies and analyses of the organization and operations of city agencies, and in personnel administration.

The current minimum salary is \$42,150 a year, increasing to \$45,519 upon completion of one year of satisfactory service.

## UPCOMING 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.

DCAS Computer-based Testing and Application Centers (CTACs) have re-opened to the public. However, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, walk-ins are no longer accepted and appointments must be scheduled online through OASys for eligible list or examination related inquiries.

All examination and eligible list related notifications will be sent by email only, you will no longer receive notifications via the US mail.

All new hires must be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, unless they have been granted a reasonable accommodation for religion or disability. If you are offered city employment, this requirement must be met by your date of hire, unless a reasonable accommodation for exemption is received and approved by the hiring agency.

For further information about where to apply to civil service exams and jobs, visit [thechief.org/exams](http://thechief.org/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](http://www.usajobs.gov).

**CITY EXAMS**

- CLOSES JUNE 21
- 3138 Resident Buildings Superintendent \$60,171
- 3332 Police Officer \$50,620
- CLOSE JUNE 27

- 3108 Assistant Electrical Engineer \$62,370
- 3111 Environmental Engineer \$74,041
- 3118 City Assessor \$76,990
- 3119 City Tax Auditor \$49,640
- 3123 Environmental Police Officer \$41,922

- 3124 Estimator (General Construction) \$62,370
- 3125 Gasoline Roller Engineer \$67.08 per hour
- 3126 Housing Exterminator \$33,558
- 3136 Watershed Maintainer \$44,838
- 3143 Probation Officer \$45,934
- 3321 Traffic Enforcement Agent \$32,986
- 3971 The New York City Bridge Exam
- CLOSES JUNE 28
- 3320 School Safety Agent \$34,834

**CUNY EXAMS**

- CLOSES JUNE 27
- 3129 Maintenance Worker (CUNY) \$29.98 per hour
- OPEN CONTINUOUSLY
- 2059 Campus Security Assistant \$31,320
- 2060 Campus Peace Officer \$33,825

**MTA EXAMS**

- CLOSE JUNE 15
- 3613 Car Inspector (Subway Car Mechanic)
- 3626 Ventilation and Drainage Maintainer
- CLOSE JULY 15
- 3612 Associate Cashier
- 3617 Elevator and Escalator Maintainer
- 3619 Maintainer’s Helper - Group B
- 3620 Power Electronic Maintainer
- 3621 Railroad Stock Worker
- 3622 Signal Maintainer

- 3140 CR(D) Physical Therapist Assistant \$31,963-\$74,207
- 9030 CR(D) Physical Therapist/Physical Therapist I \$37,463-\$140,162
- 9029 CR(D) Physician Assistant I \$57,200-\$118,707
- 8049 CR(D) Radiologic Technologist (General) \$34,720-\$72,111

**SUFFOLK COUNTY EXAMS**

- CLOSE JUNE 28
- 0246 Budget Director \$113,300
- 0530 Technical Support Aide \$33,120-\$54,528
- 2638 Ambulance Services Consultant \$58,647
- 3000 Casework Assistant \$38,367
- 3001 Casework Assistant (Spanish Speaking) Assistant \$38,367
- 3080 Community Service Worker \$35,209
- 3090 Community Service Worker (Spanish Speaking) \$35,209

- OPEN CONTINUOUSLY
- 2020 Public Health Nurse I \$59,404
- 2511 Psychiatric Social Worker \$52,017
- 2641 Medical Services Specialist \$76,708
- 2670 Emergency Medical Technician (Basic) \$37,000-\$60,000
- 2673 Emergency Medical Technician (Critical Care) \$37,000-\$60,000
- 2674 Emergency Medical Technician (Paramedic) \$37,000-\$60,000
- 2700 Drug Counselor (Spanish Speaking) \$47,502
- 2701 Drug Counselor \$47,502

**WESTCHESTER EXAMS**

- OPEN CONTINUOUSLY
- 06-100 Emergency Medical Technician (Basic)
- 02-108 Sanitarian Trainee \$53,760-\$67,010
- 02-600 Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee \$45,460-\$5,390
- 02-601 Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee
- 91-136 Paramedic (Local)
- 01-155 Cardiothoracic Surgical Physician Assistant
- 02-032 Clinical Pharmacy Specialist

**STATE EXAMS**

- CLOSE JUNE 21
- 26-800 Senior Recreation Therapist \$57,984
- 26-801 Senior Recreation Therapist (Spanish Language) \$57,984

## WILL FILL JOBS: CITY CERTIFICATIONS

The Department of Citywide 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 COMPETITION**

**ACCOUNTANT**—74 eligibles between Nos. 352 and 599 on List 8050 for 1 job in Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ARCHITECT**—9 eligibles between Nos. 4 and 139 on List 177 to replace 1 provisional at Administration for Children’s Services.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ENGINEER**—70 eligibles between Nos. 2 and 199 on List 1122 for 1 job in Department of Sanitation.

**ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISER (COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL)**—55 eligibles (Nos. 1-55) on List 2062 to replace 1 provisional in Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

**ASSOCIATE CONTRACT SPECIALIST**—6 eligibles between Nos. 5 and 247 on List 123 for 1 job in Department of Youth and Community Development.

**AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE WORKER**—68 eligibles between Nos. 12 and 79 on List 3076 for 2 jobs in Department of Correction.

**CASHIER**—259 eligibles between Nos. 132 and 932 on List 2031 for 15 jobs in DOC.

**CLERICAL ASSOCIATE**—23 eligibles between Nos. 441 and 1648 on List 1190 for 6 jobs in Department of Buildings.

**CHILD WELFARE SPECIALIST**—352 eligibles between Nos. 41 and 428 on List 151 for 7 jobs at ACS.

**COMPUTER OPERATIONS MANAGER**—119 eligibles between Nos. 9 and 377 on List 9046 for 2 jobs in Human Resources Administration/Department

of Social Services.

**ELECTRICIAN**—145 eligibles between Nos. 1 and 141 on List 2074 for 4 jobs in Department of Transportation.

**FRAUD INVESTIGATOR**—12 eligibles between Nos. 4 and 161 on List 2079 for 5 jobs in Police Department.

**PROCUREMENT ANALYST**—17 eligibles between Nos. 159 and 828 on List 196 for 6 jobs in Department of Citywide Administrative Services.

**PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIAN**—9 eligibles between Nos. 73 and 131.7 on List 127 for 1 job in Department of Environmental Protection.

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**—359 eligibles between Nos. 14 and 606 on List 8040 for 2 jobs in Department of Education.

**SPACE ANALYST**—81 eligibles between Nos. 18 and 213 on List 161 for 2 jobs in HRA/DSS.

**THERMOSTAT REPAIRER**—80 eligibles between Nos. 29 and 146 on List 9074 for 3 jobs in DCAS.

**PROMOTION**

**ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER**—45 eligibles between Nos. 1 and 48 on List 1552 for 1 job in DOC.

**CHILD PROTECTIVE SPECIALIST SUPERVISOR**—5 eligibles (Nos. 432, 585, 667, 760 and 762) on List 6508 for any of 10 jobs at ACS.

**COMPUTER ASSOCIATE (SOFTWARE)**—2 eligibles (Nos. 1-2) on List 1512 for 1 job in Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications.

**LIEUTENANT (POLICE)**—71 eligibles between Nos. 850 and 325 on List 7532 for any of 100 jobs in NYPD.

**SUPERVISING SPECIAL OFFICER**—8 eligibles between Nos. 9 and 23 on List 8519 to replace 4 provisionals in HRA/DSS.

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# LABOR AROUND THE NATION

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### OREGON

#### Strippers want union label

Dancers at a Portland strip club are organizing following the firing of club employees who complained about safety.

In an online petition, dancers at the Magic Tavern say they have been subjected “to dangerous conditions and a lack of professionalism” from their boss since the club’s November opening.

The petition says the club lacks security and that they lack a contract or a list of rules and policies. The dancers also say staff is being underpaid, that management failed to disclose the drugging of a dancer, and that they have been the subject of disparaging and insulting remarks.

The dancers, represented by the Actors’ Equity Association, have been on strike since April 4, Portland TV station KATU reported.

The dancers would become just the second unionized group of strippers in the nation. Strippers at the Star Garden Topless Dive Bar in North Hollywood, California, last month officially became the first after their employer agreed to drop their challenges to their organizing effort.

“We’re here today to make a change to show club owners that we deserve safety, and it’s important that we have it,” Daphne, a Magic Tavern dancer, told KATU TV.

Club dancers told the station that safety concerns are common in their trade. “The stage was not supplied with even flooring,” dancer Spank Sinatra told the station, “which is dangerous when you’re wearing giant heels. The pole isn’t properly installed either, which can be very dangerous.”

Portland has the most strip clubs per capita in the nation.

— R.K.

### NATION

#### NLRB opens door for gig-worker unions

A ruling handed down Tuesday by the National Labor Relations Board concerning makeup artists, hair stylists, wig artists and other workers at the Atlanta Opera could open the door of unionization for millions of gig workers across the country.

Current labor law excludes independent contractors and gig workers from unionizing, but the board’s finding that the opera workers are employees of the opera and not independent contractors broadens the criteria for all U.S. workers to be considered employees.

“Applying this clear standard will ensure that workers who seek to organize or exercise their rights under the National Labor Relations Act are not improperly excluded from its protections,” the NLRB’s chair, Lauren McFerran, said in a statement following the ruling. When the labor board was dominated by President Donald Trump’s appointees in 2019, it ruled that Uber drivers were independent contractors and relied on “entrepreneurial opportunity,” as the key factor in determining if workers were employees or contractors.

The new standard will consider many different factors including how much employers control working conditions and the extent of supervision. Although the order won’t lead to any immediate change other than for the opera workers, it opens the door for the 16 percent of Americans who have earned income in the gig economy to organize and unionize.

“When workers are misclassified under the National Labor Relations Act, it deprives them of the collective bargaining we know improves job quality, wages and racial income and wealth gaps,” Brian Chen, policy director at Data & Society, a nonprofit technology research organization, told The Washington Post.

— D.F.

### CALIFORNIA

#### ‘Hotel California’ not so lovely

Hotel workers in Southern California voted last week to authorize a strike if a contract agreement that provides substantial raises isn’t reached.

About 96 percent of 15,000 hotel workers voted June 8 in favor of striking, according to their union, Unite Here Local 11. The workers’ contract expires June 30, and if a deal isn’t made, the room attendants, front desk workers, cooks and other employees could go on strike as soon as the Fourth of July weekend.

The workers are demanding immediate \$5 an hour pay increases, family health insurance, pensions and “safe and humane” workloads. Thanks to hotels reducing staffing levels during the pandemic, employees say their workloads have sharply risen.

“Rooms are not being cleaned daily anymore,” Christian Morales, a laundry worker at the Hilton Pasadena, told the Los Angeles Daily News. “They’re only cleaning them on checkout, so that creates a heavier workload when they are cleaned. I was putting things in the laundry chute and it was clogged all the way up to the fifth floor.”

Lupe Pitones, a front desk worker at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in LA, said that “For this contract ... we deserve more because prices are higher and we’re not getting enough hours,” The Guardian reported.

The labor action could affect about 70 hotels in the area, including locations operated by Marriott, Hyatt, Highgate, Hilton, IHG and Accor.

Kurt Peterson, co-president of Unite Here Local 11, said that if the strike does happen, it will be “the largest strike as far as we can tell in the hotel industry ... in U.S. history definitely in the last 50 years.”

In a statement, Pete Hillan, spokesperson for the Hotel Association of Los Angeles, said that “We are disappointed that Unite Here is planning to take a strike when our understanding is the negotiations have not really run their course yet.”

— C.L.



Christa D’Andrea/U.S. Air Force via AP

Airmen assigned to the 326th Training Squadron and 91 Guardians assigned to 1st Delta Operations Squadron Detachment 1 graduated from Basic Military Training on April 26 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas. The front row of 14 graduates were part of the first group who graduated from basic training and were sworn in as new citizens under a new recruiting initiative.

## Join the military, become a U.S. citizen: Uncle Sam wants you

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR

When Esmita Spudes Bidari was a young girl in Nepal, she dreamed of being in the military, but that wasn’t a real option in her country.

Last week, she raised her right hand and took the oath to join the U.S. Army Reserve, thanks in part to a recruiter in Dallas who is also Nepalese and reached out to her through an online group.

Bidari, who heads to basic training in August, is just the latest in a growing number of legal migrants enlisting in the U.S. military as it more aggressively seeks out immigrants, offering a fast track to citizenship to those who sign up.

Struggling to overcome recruiting shortfalls, the Army and the Air Force have bolstered their marketing to entice legal residents to enlist, putting out pamphlets, working social media and broadening their outreach, particularly in inner cities. One key element is the use of recruiters with similar backgrounds to these potential recruits.

“It is one thing to hear about the military from locals here, but it is something else when it’s from your fellow brother, from the country you’re from,” said Bidari, who was contacted by Army Staff Sgt. Kalden Lama, the Dallas recruiter, on a Facebook group that helps Nepalese people in America connect with one another. “That brother was in the group and he was recruiting and he told me about the military.”

The military has had success in recruiting legal immigrants, particularly among those seeking a job, education benefits and training as well as a quick route to becoming an American citizen. But they also require additional security screening and more help filling out forms, particularly those who are less proficient in English.

#### Novel recruiting

Both the Army and the Air Force say

they will not meet their recruiting goals this year, and the Navy also expects to fall short. Pulling more from the legal immigrant population may not provide large numbers, but any small boosts will help. The Marine Corps is the only service on pace to meet its goal.

The shortfalls have led to a wide range of new recruiting programs, ad campaigns and other incentives to help the services compete with often higher-paying, less risky jobs in the private sector. Defense leaders say young people are less familiar with the military, are drawn more to corporate jobs that provide similar education and other benefits, and want to avoid the risk of injury and death that service in defense of the United States could bring. In addition, they say that little more than 20 percent meet the physical, mental and character requirements to join.

“We have large populations of legal U.S. residents who are exceptionally patriotic, they’re exceptionally grateful for the opportunities that this country has provided,” said Air Force Maj. Gen. Ed Thomas, head of the service’s recruiting command.

Last October, the Army reestablished a program for legal permanent residents to apply for accelerated naturalization once they get to basic training. Recruiters began to reach out on social media, using short videos in various languages to target the top 10 countries that recruits had come from during the previous year.

The Air Force effort began this year, and the first group of 14 graduated from basic training and were sworn in as new citizens in April. They included recruits from Cameroon, Jamaica, Kenya, the Philippines, Russia and South Africa. As of mid-May there were about 100 in basic training who had begun the citizenship process and about 40 who had completed it.

Thomas said the program required changes to Air Force policy, coordination with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and a careful screening process to

ensure there are no security risks.

“We have to take exceptional measures to be able to thoroughly vet and go through the security clearance investigation,” he said, adding that in many cases the immigrants are not immediately put in jobs that require top secret clearance.

#### 7 weeks to citizenship

Under the new program, recruits are quickly enrolled in the citizenship system and when they start basic training, an expedited process kicks off, including all required paperwork and testing. By the time Air Force recruits finish their seven weeks of training, the process is complete and they are sworn in as American citizens.

The first group of 14 included several who are seeking various medical jobs, while another wants to be an air transportation specialist.

For Bidari, who arrived in the U.S. in 2016 to attend college, the fast track to citizenship was important because it will make it easier for her to travel and bring her parents to the United States to visit. Speaking in a call from Chicago just a day after she was sworn in, she said she enlisted for six years and hopes that her future citizenship will help her become an officer.

Across the Army, close to 2,900 enlisted during the first half of this budget year, compared with about 2,200 during the same period the previous year. The largest numbers are from Jamaica, with 384, followed by Mexico, the Philippines and Haiti, but many are from Nepal, Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, Colombia and the Dominican Republic.

“As a little girl, looking at the soldiers, I always had admiration for them,” said Bidari, recalling British troops in Nepal. “Yesterday, when I was able to take that oath ... I don’t think I have words to really explain how I was feeling. When they said, ‘Welcome future soldier,’ I was like, ‘Oh my goodness, this is happening.’”

## Cops fired over offensive posts can pursue free speech claims

BY MICHAEL RUBINKAM

A dozen Philadelphia police officers who were fired or suspended for racist and violent social media posts can pursue a lawsuit against the city claiming their First Amendment rights were violated, a federal appeals court ruled.

The officers’ social media accounts were included in a database, published in 2019, that cataloged thousands of bigoted or violent posts by active-duty and former police officers in several states.

In Philadelphia, nearly 200 officers were disciplined, including 15 who were forced off the job. Twelve officers subsequently filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the city, asserting the police department had retaliated against them for exercising their First Amendment rights.

A federal judge dismissed the suit last

year, agreeing with the city’s argument that the officers’ posts had undermined public trust in the department and violated the city’s social media policy.

The plaintiffs “played racist bingo, mocking as many ethnic or religious groups as possible,” U.S. District Judge Peterse Tucker wrote last year.

#### ‘Unadorned speculation’

In a ruling last week, the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said it agreed the content was “offensive, racist and violent,” adding it does not “condone the officers’ use of social media to mock, disparage, and threaten the very communities they were sworn to protect.”

“Posts like the officers’ have the capacity to confirm the community’s worst fears about bias in policing,” the three-judge panel wrote.

But the court said Tucker’s decision to throw out the case was premature, given what it said was a lack of clarity over the provenance of some of the posts, which posts were the subject of discipline by the police department, and the “unadorned speculation” about the posts’ impact.

The court sent the case back to the lower court, saying the officers could continue to pursue their claims while noting they “undoubtedly face a steep uphill climb in ultimately proving their case.”

The Facebook posts, all of which were public, were uncovered by a team of researchers who spent two years looking at the personal accounts of police officers from Arizona to Florida. They found officers bashing immigrants and Muslims, promoting racist stereotypes, identifying with right-wing militia groups and, especially, glorifying police brutality.