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FDNY

The FDNY promoted 32 lieutenants May 28, drawing to a close a dispute with the Department of Citywide Administrative Services over the results of a promotional exam. DCAS and the FDNY reached a settlement earlier in May that produced a third and final eligibles list.

On 3rd try, FDNY, DCAS finalize lieutenant list

BY DUNCAN FREEMAN

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The FDNY swore 32 firefighters into their new roles as lieutenants last week, all but ending a dispute the department and its members had with the city agency that administered the promotional exam to the supervisory title.

The Department of Citywide Administrative Services botched the scoring of the 2022 exam twice — first incorrectly weighting the exam and then adding a curve that wasn't explained to test takers — leading to a flood of complaints from confounded firefighters, their unions and the FDNY.

In the months after DCAS updated the promotional list on Oct. 15, firefighters tried to discern how the agency curved the results of the exam. In March, representatives from DCAS were called into a City Council hearing to explain the test results, but union officials left that hearing unsatisfied.

Days later, DCAS told The Chief that it had instituted an adverse impact curve on the test results that increased the number of candidates who passed the exam to aid African American, Hispanic, Asian and female firefighters. Since then, the FDNY, members who took the exam and a City Council member have been working to get DCAS to once again change the results to ensure that the scoring adhered closer to what was described in the original notice of examination, which made no mention of a curve.

"DCAS was unfairly scoring the exam and it was contrary to what was put on the notice of exam," Council Member Joann Ariola, the chair of the Council's Committee on Fire and Emergency Management said in an interview

last week. "It could be dangerous to unfairly curve that exam to put people at the front of the list no matter what their color, no matter what their background is, when they're just not qualified to be in a position that is so very important and lifesaving."

Ariola said stakeholders started to push harder on DCAS after the adverse impact curve was revealed. Following a lengthy back and forth, DCAS, the FDNY and the test takers reached a settlement that resulted in the list being altered once again. In mid-May DCAS released a third and final list that satisfied both test-takers and the FDNY, allowing the department to move ahead with promotions.

"What they did was they went back to the scoring that was noted on the exam," Ariola explained. "It should never have changed."

Follows notice of examination

Jim Brosi, the president of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association, said in a statement that the list now looks close to correct according to what was laid out in the exam notice.

"Based on our close analysis, we've concluded a weight was applied to the list, bringing it as close as possible to what it should have looked like had it been graded using the rules written in DCAS' own notice of examination," Brosi said of the third, and final, list. "While we regret how long it took to reach this settlement, we thank the various stakeholders who held on to traditional principles of civil service promotion."

A spokesperson for the FDNY said that the final list was published on May 23 and confirmed

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Within Local 375, members are silenced, booted from meetings



Duncan Freeman/The Chief

Some members pushing for a cease-fire resolution in Local 375 are affiliated with the City Workers for Palestine group.

Union's Troman dismissive of Gaza concerns, members say

BY DUNCAN FREEMAN

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The Civil Service Technical Guild's May general membership meeting degenerated into a cacophonous argument when two rank-and-file members were muted and then kicked out from the virtual meeting after trying to ask questions of a representative from the

New York City Employees' Retirement System.

The representative was there to speak with members of the District Council 37's Local 375 about the changes to the Tier 6 retirement plan included in this year's state budget and answer general questions from members about pensions. But when Louisa Chang, a Local 375 member who works as a city planner, attempted to ask the rep a question about divesting from the pension system's investments in Israeli bonds and companies, she was muted by the meeting's chair at the direction of Mike Troman,

Local 375's president, according to several union members who were present.

The members said a livid Troman screamed "mute her" multiple times as Chang spoke. When Chang unmuted her mic and attempted to finish her question she was removed from the meeting. Minutes later, another union member, Emily Sun, was also muted by the chair and eventually removed after asking about how decisions on pension investments are made.

Sun and Chang are part of a

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7 cops disciplined for test cheat

DOI investigation upbraids DCAS for protocol failures at 2022 sergeant exam

BY RICHARD KHAVKINE

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Seven NYPD sergeant hopefuls were docked vacation days for participating in a cheating scheme during a 2022 promotion exam, according to a report by the city's Department of Investigation that followed its investigation into the breach.

The DOI's probe was prompted by reports from officers that the test, administered by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services four times over two days in August 2022, was compromised since nearly all of it was the same throughout the four sessions. That enticed officers who took the exam in earlier sessions to circulate answers to colleagues scheduled to take the multiple-choice test later, the DOI noted in the report, released Monday.

The investigation found that cops used their cellphones to both pass on and get the questions and answers. The information was also disseminated via social media.

The DOI said it received about 80

complaints from NYPD officers who alleged "widespread cheating" on the exam, a 100-question multiple-choice test assessing a candidate's "technical knowledge and abilities" in a sergeant's supervisory role.

The department found that 95 percent of the exam questions were the same in all four sessions. The DOI confirmed that, following the first test session, 35 percent of the exam's questions and answers were shared via social media to more than 1,200 test-takers.

A department analysis determined that "the cheating on the compromised questions to largely be ineffective, and have little to no impact on the pass/fail rate of the exam," the report noted.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber, though, said evidence of the transgressions undermined the integrity of the NYPD. "Cheating on civil service exams is unacceptable under any circumstances and is particularly troubling where the Exam is required for promotion in the New York City Police Department, whose officers have a duty to enforce the law and to act with integrity at all times," she said in a statement.

DOI shared its findings and 78 complaints and other material with

the NYPD's Internal Affairs Bureau, which then interviewed a dozen officers in connection with the cheating. Seven of the cops eventually admitted "to sharing topics, questions, and answers in various chat groups" after the first test session.

The exam notice, like all similar DCAS notices of examinations, concludes by noting that "intentional misrepresentation on the application or examination may result in disqualification, even after promotion, and may result in criminal prosecution." But while the seven officers were "disciplined for disclosing exam materials," the DOI report said, they were penalized from just between three to 30 vacation days.

Professor Shamus Smith, a doctoral lecturer of criminology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and a former NYPD officer, said the light discipline meted out to the cheating officers was an insult to those cops who put in the time and effort to succeed on their own merits.

"That is not sufficient," he said of the discipline. "And I think it's a slap in the face to those who quote, did it the right way, took the time, took the energy ... to study, versus those who

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Lifeguards blindsided by new contract

City says deal will replenish depleted corps

BY DUNCAN FREEMAN
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A new contract agreement with the two unions representing city lifeguards that was announced late last month alters the requirements for New Yorkers seeking to become lifesavers in the city's pools. The contract, negotiated over a year and a half and ultimately finalized by an arbitrator, also claws some power away from the unions and transfers it to the Parks & Recreation Department, which oversees the city's beaches and pools.

The deal makes vision requirements less stringent and eliminates the 300-yard timed swim test for lifeguards working in shallow pools.

"These are just common-sense changes aligned with the state regulation and industry standards and allow us to hire more fully qualified lifeguards so we can keep our pools and our beaches open for all," Mayor Eric Adams said during a May 24 press conference announcing the new deal. "We're not in any way bringing down how you must be qualified to save lives. If anything, we're strengthening them to make sure we have more pools that can have lifeguards there."

The contract also allows the Parks Department to appoint intermediate managers between the Parks' deputy commissioner and the lifeguard coordinator, a unionized position, to more closely oversee the lifeguards. This is one of several policies Parks has introduced in recent years that follows recommendations included in a 2021 Department of Investigation report on the department's Lifeguard Division.

But rank and file lifeguards who belong to District Council 37's Local 461, one of the two lifeguard unions, say that union leadership never told members they were negotiating

with the city, much less asked for their input.

"Leadership hasn't communicated to us on basically anything," Kristoff Borrel, a year-round lifeguard and member of Local 461 said last week. "They pretty much keep us in the dark."

Borrel, who was blocked from running for president of Local 461 earlier this year, said that the union has yet to hold a meeting since the results of leadership elections were finalized in late March. "Our president has not held a union meeting or delivered a message" about the contract, he said.

The contract won't be subject to a ratification vote by union members.

Edwin Agramonte, also a year-round lifeguard with Local 461, said he had no idea the contract was being negotiated and said that "the union has been making decisions without letting members know what is going on."

There were no representatives from DC 37, Local 461 or Local 508, the lifeguard supervisor's union, at the May 24 announcement. Local 508's longtime president Peter Stein was reelected in early May. He ran unopposed.

Union presented no demands

According to a filing from the Office of Collective Bargaining, the lifeguard unions started bargaining with the city in October 2022 and a bargaining impasse over the city's demands for the contract was declared in August 2023. An arbitrating panel analyzed the city's demands in January and issued a report in April accepting most of them.

According to the OCB filing, the two lifeguard locals notably did not bring any demands of their own to the impasse arbitration hearing in January and also did not provide any counter proposals. The arbitrator sided with four of the city's six demands, a decision the unions and the city unsuccessfully appealed to



Mayor Eric Adams and Department of Parks and Recreation Commissioner Sue Donoghue announced a new contract agreement with the city's two lifeguard unions on May 24. No lifeguards or union officials were at the announcement.

Ed Reed/Mayoral Photography Office.



Daniel Avila/Parks & Recreation Department

the Board of Collective Bargaining, which adjudicates many disputes between municipal unions and the city.

Both sides argued in their appeals that the arbitration panel did not consider the city's health and safety in its decision. The board argued forcefully that it did.

"There can be no question that the Panel considered the entire Lifeguard program and the interest and welfare of the public, including the importance of water safety, and based its Report on a good faith consideration of that standard," the

board members wrote.

Two out of the six board members dissented from the decision, however, a rarity for matters before the body.

Neither Local 461 or 508 could be reached for comment. DC 37 did not respond to a comment request.

Boost to lifeguard ranks?

Parks Department officials said the new deal will be a boon for a lifeguard corps that has been depleted in recent years.

"Becoming a seasonal lifeguard is

more than just a job," Parks Department Commissioner Sue Donoghue said at the May 24 announcement. "It's an opportunity to be part of a brave team of dedicated public servants. This agreement will ensure that we're able to increase our lifeguard ranks to better serve New Yorkers and keep them safe at our beaches and pools."

She said there are over 560 lifeguard recruits and 300 in training right now. To staff beaches, the city needs around 300 lifeguards but there are only around 230 lifeguards currently working through the city, Adams said in the announcement.

More will continue to get certified or re-certified throughout the summer, Donoghue added, peaking around July 4 weekend when the beaches are the most crowded.

Borrel, the year-round lifeguard, agreed that the new contract would likely increase the ranks of lifeguards. Despite the lack of input from membership, he said the changes in the contract are "only positive" and will apply to the vast majority of the city's pools because most pools are shallow.

Agramonte, a longtime insurgent who's girded against Stein and Local 461 leadership, said the new contract is "an insult to longtime lifeguards."

"At the end of the day we get the short end of the stick because our union doesn't represent us," he said.

EXAM: 7 officers disciplined

Continued from Page 1

just show up on the day of and decide that they're special and that they're above and beyond the parameters of the rules and or guidelines."

Smith, who also worked as an assistant inspector general in the DOI's Office of the Inspector General for the NYPD, said engaging in deception, if not sufficiently punished or addressed, could serve as a poor prologue for an officer's entire career. "And in my mind, for those who sought to skew or to go through loopholes, as they might see it, or not obey any of the orders, those aren't good leaders. Those will not be good leaders because they think that they want to say if they get away with it once, that they'll get away with it again," he said.

"Symbols matter, and to set a very big precedent by merely docking them a day of vacation, what kind of message does that say to the rest of the rank and file that did what they were supposed to do?"

The report said the transgressions were enabled by DCAS's failure to stick to DOI's previously issued policy and procedure recommendations, which the report noted had been "purportedly implemented" by DCAS.

"As a result, some candidates who were not qualified to take the exam were able to participate. This lack of candidate screening further undermines the credibility of the exam process," the report notes.

DCAS, which reviewed eligibility following exams, now determines eligibility beforehand. That change conforms with one of the 12 DOI recommendations forwarded to DCAS designed to "preserve the integrity of the civil service exam process and minimize risks of cheating."

DCAS accepted all 12. Among those already implemented include administering different versions of exams when multiple sessions of

tests are scheduled; the assignment of a minimum of one exam monitor for every 25 exam candidates; and prohibiting the use of electronic devices in and around testing sites.

"We strive to make our civil service tests fair, balanced, and secure, and we have already implemented more than half of the DOI's recommendations as part of our own continuous evaluation of our testing practices. We will continue to bolster the strength of our test-taking process," Dan Kastanis, DCAS' director of media relations, said in a statement.

The 2022 promotion exam, originally scheduled for 2020 but pushed back because of the pandemic, was the first since 2017. As a result, more than 10,000 took the test. The DOI did not say how many were not eligible to sit for the exam. Police officers must have five years in that title, and also must have completed the probationary period, to be eligible for promotion to sergeant.

The NYPD did not respond to a request for comment on the DOI report, including to an inquiry about the seven officers' discipline.

The NYPD's patrol guide, which on its first page outlines the "mission, vision, and values of the New York City Police Department," notes that officers pledge to "Maintain a higher standard of integrity than is generally expected of others because so much is expected of us."

There is little, if anything, in the department's disciplinary matrix that would pertain to cheating on a promotion test. It does note, though, that officers "should be aware that the imposition of disciplinary sanctions may also have an impact on their future status, including but not limited to, assignments and promotions, which may result in a diminution in compensation."

The Sergeants Benevolent Association declined to comment on the report, deferring the matter to DCAS and the DOI.



A Department of Investigation report concluded that an NYPD sergeant's promotion exam was compromised and that several officers shared answers to test questions with one another. Left, an NYPD promotion ceremony in January 2023.

NYPD

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Young workers get a 'bill of rights'

New standards just in time for summer jobs rush

BY CRYSTAL LEWIS
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Just ahead of teens starting their summer jobs, Governor Kathy Hochul announced a set of protections meant to ensure that younger workers get a fair shake.

The Youth Workers Bill of Rights, which the governor unveiled last week, is designed to educate young workers about child labor laws and to protect them in the workplace. The governor tasked the state Education Department to, along with the Labor Department, create what her office called "a vital resource" to combat a surge in child labor violations. The Labor Department will distribute the document as a print pocket guide to students receiving their working papers, as well as in the form of a poster to hang in

schools and also available online, according to an announcement from the governor's office.

"Every worker in our state deserves a fair, safe work environment, especially our young people," Governor Hochul said in a statement. "My administration is taking action to ensure that our youngest workers feel empowered, protected, and well-informed, and by fulfilling my State of the State commitment to creating our first-ever Youth Workers Bill of Rights, we are continuing to make strides toward making New York the safest and most worker-friendly state in the nation."

The document, as well as DOL's Youth Worker Information Hub, informs workers under the age of 18 about the hours they are permitted to work, the minimum wage they are entitled to and prohibited occupations for younger workers. It also lets them know they have the right to report workplace violations.

The bill of rights was created in response to a spike in reports of

child labor violations, which rose 68 percent statewide in 2022, according to the state Department of Labor. There were 464 such cases documented across the state, with the majority of violations related to wage underpayment, excessive hours of work and prohibited employment. The federal Department of Labor found that child labor law violations and injuries have increased nationwide since the pandemic.

'Knowledge is power'

In response to the surge, the state established a child labor task force in March 2023 and launched an employer pledge program in which businesses affirm that they will educate workers who are underage about their rights and report any child labor violations to the task force.

As of last year, the DOL's labor standards team has conducted 300 investigations at workplaces employing workers under 18, including retail and food service establish-



Michael Appleton/Mayoral Photography Office

Students attended a summer youth employment program event at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn in 2022.

ments. The team found that there were issues related to the posting of hours and employees working prohibited hours.

"Governor Hochul's directive to NYSDOL to create and distribute the Youth Workers Bill of Rights underscores her unwavering com-

mitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of New York State's youth workforce," Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon said in a statement. "This comprehensive document educates young people about their rights in the workplace and equips them with the knowledge and tools to address violations of their labor rights effectively. By outlining clear guidelines and standards, the Youth Workers Bill of Rights aims to empower young workers and raise awareness about their rights as valuable members of the workforce."

Education Commissioner Betty Rosa added, "Knowledge is power; so, knowing your rights and how to enforce them will benefit working students throughout the state."

The governor also recently announced that the state will increase funding by nearly \$8 million for the Summer Youth Employment Program in order to help low-income New Yorkers between the ages of 14 and 20 find jobs.

Public hospital physicians reach tentative agreement

BY CRYSTAL LEWIS
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Resident physicians in the city's public hospital system have reached a tentative contract agreement with New York City Health + Hospitals that includes raises that total 22.6 percent over the span of the five-and-a-half year deal.

The tentative agreement would provide the residents with salaries that are comparable to their private-sector counterparts, their union, SEIU's Committee of Interns and Residents, announced May 29. The physicians currently earn salaries that start at \$66,247. The workers, who would receive raises and equity adjustments as high as \$4,000, would immediately see their pay boosted to \$76,389 with another increase to \$81,238 effective Dec. 16, 2025.

The contract runs from Dec. 16, 2021, through June 15, 2027. If ratified, the deal marks the first time the 2,300 physicians would receive raises since March 2020, according to CIR.

The workers would also receive a \$3,000 ratification bonus and additional bonuses that depend on how long they've been employed. Those who were hired after July 1, 2023, would receive an additional \$1,000 bonus, while residents who joined H+H between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, would get a \$2,000 bonus. Those hired prior to July 1, 2022, would be eligible for a \$3,000 bonus.

The pact would also boost H+H funding of the patient care trust fund, which is used to purchase equipment and educational materials, increase the workers' meal allowances and add Juneteenth as a paid holiday.

The residents have been bargaining with the public hospital system for nine months. They advocated for raises that would no longer leave them as the lowest-paid physicians in the city. They also pushed for a deal before new residents were set to start in June.

"It is our collective power that pushed the mayor to finally do the right thing and support our wellness, education and patient care with these amazing wins, which will most importantly ensure that new doctors are supported when they start next month!" said Salma Sadaf, a resident in pediatrics at Kings County Hospital. "But this

was not just about wages; it was about respect, acknowledging our contributions and ensuring we can continue to care for our patients without being buried under the financial burden. Because we came together, we won, and this will in turn benefit our patients and is exactly what H+H stands for."

The union believed that the contract would help H+H recruit recent medical school graduates from a wide range of backgrounds. The workers began voting on whether to ratify the deal Friday; they were expected to vote until Wednesday.

"NYC Health + Hospitals is proud to provide an environment where residents can learn, train and provide high-quality care to New Yorkers," said Mitchell Katz, the president and CEO of NYC H+H. "This contract supports everyone's goals in continuing that effort."

In a statement, Mayor Eric Adams said that hospital workers who were on the frontlines during the pandemic deserved "a fair wage for their work."

In April, more than 60 elected officials signed a letter calling on the mayor and H+H to settle a contract with the physicians. Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, City Comptroller Brad Lander, Assembly Member Jessica González-Rojas and City Council Member Shaun Abreu were among the dozens who signed the letter expressing support for the H+H residents.

"These dedicated physicians fought hard and they won serious support for themselves and for New York City patients, but they shouldn't have had to fight so hard - and for so long," Senator Jessica Ramos said in a statement.

Other unions, including the New York State Nurses Association and District Council 37, came out to support the residents' fight. Now, the CIR is backing the Doctors Council SEIU's push for a contract for H+H attending physicians.

"Next, the mayor must agree to a fair contract with our attending co-workers in the Doctors Council, and he must invest long-term in this critical hospital system," Sadaf, the Kings County resident, said. "We need better staffing, we need to stop being forced to do so many tasks outside of the scope of our jobs, we need to be able to focus on our education. We know our fight is only beginning, and we're ready!"

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Crystal Lewis/The Chief

NYC H+H residents, represented by SEIU's Committee of Interns and Residents, rallied in January for a contract agreement that would provide them with salaries equal to the pay earned by private-sector physicians. On May 29, the union announced that it had reached a tentative deal with the public hospital system.

COMMENTARY

The Chief

A VOICE FOR WORKERS

BEN AUGUST
Publisher

RICHARD KHAVKINE
Editor

WAKE-UP CALL

Mental health: it takes a precinct

BY RON ISAAC

The best ideas often stand the test of time, but frequently contain the seeds of their own destruction. The doomsday gene insinuates itself and attaches to the DNA of the original thought, taking it over, possessing and repurposing it. Bringing these ideas to fruition can be more delicate than brain surgery, but the risks are worth taking, if in the right hands.

New City Council legislation introduced by Erik Bottcher and Yusef Salaam, both Manhattan Democrats, would post a social worker in every New York City police precinct. Sounds good in theory, but does it resonate in reality?

There must be a clear delineation of authority and independent action. What will be the parameters of their role? Will it be rigid or allow some flexibility? For it to be feasible and not self-defeating, there can be no struggle over turf.

For this initiative to be not only worthy in theory but worthwhile in practice, and to have a chance of success, it will be necessary first to earn the trust of police officers who tend to have a different perspective from social workers.

It is a cultural frame of reference that there's no point denying. It must be addressed.

Police are no less sensitive and insightful than social workers, and most of them will be receptive. Some of them, however, will need to be persuaded that social workers are not inquisitors strutting around with brooms up their butts and clipboards in hand, second-guessing the police, lecturing them about urban inequities, and acting as moles and overseers.

Social workers are not needed to keep cops honest or inculcate philosophy. Hopefully the new placements were conceived and will turn out as something more than a stealthy step towards reform of the criminal justice system, like the misapplication of "restorative justice" in schools and elsewhere.

Police and social workers must see themselves and function as a team with congruent goals. They must work symbiotically while respecting boundaries. Both are "do-gooders."

Social workers must have certain decision-making freedoms that are not within the purview and command of law enforcement, but they must not presume to countermand police supremacy. They must not

have veto power over police action in acute situations.

That, of course, does not mean that police should not be held accountable. There is abuse and malpractice in both policing and social work. Both regulated professions are prone to interference from those who seek to politicize them. Sometimes that interference is wholesome; sometimes it's crippling.

The Council members' rationale is sensible. There is no shadow of a "defund the police" mentality. No "chip on the shoulder" rhetoric or pretentious urban ideology. The bill is defended like a Ph.D. thesis.

These social warriors are soldiers of peace. Their main focus is to arrest recidivism, not people, especially for shoplifting and other petty crimes.

For that to be more than wishful thinking, there needs to be "concrete attempts to address the underlying conditions" that spur behavior that diverts and largely wastes police resources and dehumanizes the violators themselves. According to the Connecticut Sentencing Commission, almost 69 percent of people in jail in that state have a documented mental illness.

No evidence it's less in New York City. Portions of the police blotter should be blotted out. Clinical truth clamors for it.

Mental illness is by itself not a crime. Since its victims cannot be taken into custody on those grounds, can they be coerced into seeking intervention? "With the social work side, the person in need must be open to receiving mental support, and in an impaired mind-

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD by Denberg



set, you're less likely to say yes to things you may in fact need, and things that essentially will be good for you.... Will people have expedited mental health services?" says Shavon Camper, a clinical social worker, stating there is a "question of whether an effective partnership between the mental health system and the justice system could exist."

To see the big picture, we cannot be blind to the small details.

In all its dimensions, the bill recognizes the complexities and confluence of law and human psychology. Logistics, not only good intentions, are instrumental to winning the battle against chaos and statutorily legal but morally illegal practices.

"The mechanics of how it would work would differ from precinct to precinct," said Bottcher.

"The wheels of justice grind slowly," it is said. But the wheels of government, particularly when on the road to redress its aggrieved citizens, are always in need of realignment.

Assigning social workers to police precincts was introduced in 2017 by

Council Members Adrienne Adams and Mark Levine. Lucky seven years later, Bottcher and Salaam have submitted a bill, and the indemnification for victims of administrative wrongdoing is past due.

Salaam, as one of the exonerated arrestees in the notorious "Central Park Jogger" case in 1989, is uniquely qualified to reflect on potentially life and soul-destroying errors in judgment by law enforcement and the judicial system, whether by malicious indifference or failure of due diligence.

A combat veteran of the prison pipeline wars, Salaam notes that "issues like poverty, substance abuse, mental health crises and domestic violence" require "a delicate touch, nuanced understanding and resources beyond what traditional law enforcement can provide ... and prisons have shouldered the burden of addressing social and emotional needs beyond their scope of expertise."

"Expertise" is a loaded word, though, which may imply that social workers might be in a better position and should be entrusted to make decisions customarily reserved to law enforcement. That is a narrow and perhaps invalid view.

Traditional credentials are not the sole qualification, and "expertise" is hard to quantify. Consider the police Emergency Services Units which have talked suicidal people out of jumping off bridges minutes before they would have leapt.

These cops didn't need a diploma in de-escalation. However, heroism is anecdotal. So is lethal panic.

A few months ago, a teenager named Win Rozario called the police and told them he was having a mental health crisis. The narrative ends with his being shot five times and killed. Such was the fruit of his self-awareness. Such the consolation for crying out.

On another occasion, police held

their fire when confronted by a youngster high on meth in his living scene. Just by chance and a split-second hesitation of reflex. They later admitted that had the agitated and confused subject taken one more step, he would have been shot.

So that anecdote ended well. But we must strive to make life and death less of a crapshoot.

In 2008, George Patterson, a professor at the Hunter College School of Social Work, observed "Law enforcement functions support the practice of police social work," and "80 percent or more of a patrol officer's time is spent performing service-related functions," though training time allotted for the service-related functions makes up approximately 20 percent of the training curriculum.

The Bottcher-Salaam bill would "provide those being arrested with treatment, resources, and follow-up plans." Isn't that similar to what de Blasio's ill-fated and fishy ThriveNYC promised?

If the new bill becomes law, it would require the social workers to report to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, instead of the NYPD. That makes sense for obvious reasons. But what will be the relationship between those two agencies?

There must be no jurisdictional disputes and social workers cannot nullify police action. A jurisdictional war, whether on a micro or macro level, would negate efficacy.

Hiring 231 licensed social workers would cost around \$20 million dollars. Civil rights lawyer Norman Siegel surmises it would cut down on police misconduct cases, which set taxpayers back \$115 million last year. A bargain with a tie-in sale.

How well it works out will depend less on the powers vested in holders of job titles, than their innate qualities of character, judgment and motivation.



Beyond My Ken via Wikimedia Commons

The 33rd Police Precinct building in Washington Heights, Manhattan.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cooperate on Medicare

TO THE EDITOR:

Once again, the city has lost its attempt to throw 250,000 retirees out of our hard earned Medicare plans into an Aetna for-profit limited access private insurance plan ("Appeals panel rebuffs city's Medicare effort," May 24). The court's unanimous decision left no doubt about the case.

The Law Department's statement that the city's plan would improve upon retirees' current plans and save \$600 million annually is false. No Medicare Advantage plan offers the guaranteed coverage of Medicare. All MA plans have limited principal provider and hospital networks.

All MA plans have hundreds of procedures requiring prior approvals.

The taxpayers will not save \$600 million annually. The funds will move from our Supplemental Medicare coverage to the Health Stabilization Fund. The former is part of the city's general revenues, subject

to audits by the comptroller's office audits, while the latter are part of the unions' welfare funds and not subject to the comptroller's scrutiny.

Comptroller Brad Lander, who refused to register the Aetna Medicare Advantage contract, said that it's time for all parties to come to the table to identify creative and effective solutions. Amen.

The city is asking leave of the state Court of Appeals to file the appeal rather than address the real issues of restructuring health care benefits that COMRO and others raised three years ago before the original lawsuit.

Now is the time for the state legislature to pass the Retiree Healthcare Bill and the City Council to form the blue ribbon panel requested two years ago.

Stuart Eber

The writer is president of the Council of Municipal Retiree Organizations (COMRO).

Transit jeopardy

TO THE EDITOR:

Is Governor Hochul's indefinite postponement of the congestion pricing politically motivated? Is it an attempt to protect Democrats running for the State Assembly, Senate and Congress within the MTA service area in the outer boroughs of NYC, Long Island and Hudson Valley from Republican challengers using this issue against them?

Among other grants, the delay jeopardizes \$3.4 billion in funding for the Second Avenue Subway Phase 2 project.

Continuously placing the project officially on hold and failing to proceed with advancing the project will eventually result in FTA de-obligating the funding and closing out the grant. Never in MTA history, has the MTA lost FTA funding due to reneging on providing its legally required matching local share in any approved FTA grant. MTA Chairman Janno Lieber would be the first MTA Chairman to do so and have egg on his face.

Transparency is required on the part of Hochul, Lieber and others when it comes to securing the MTA local share and any future promised cost savings. The same holds true for my old colleagues at the Federal Transit Administration when it comes to enforcing the approved grant agreement. Taxpayers, commuters, MTA Board members, elected officials and transit advocates should expect nothing less.

Larry Penner

The writer is a former Federal Transit Administration NY Region 2 director for the Office of Operations and Program Management.

Uniformed disgust

TO THE EDITOR:

As a Vietnam veteran (1967-1968) who watched the Memorial Day celebrations and commemorations, there is something I will never understand. That is, how many decorated soldiers could support and

vote for Donald Trump.

They all know how Donald Trump mocked John McCain, saying he's not a war hero because he was captured. They also know that Trump told General Mark Milley in Arlington Cemetery that the dead soldiers buried under the white crosses were "suckers."

These attacks on American military heroes comes from a man who avoided the military draft with alleged bone spurs. How could any American military veterans support Donald Trump?

Michael J. Gorman

Assessments

TO THE EDITOR:

Excellent letter from Joseph Canisani ("Does Democracy Matter," May 31). Let me add something a fellow retired transit worker said:

See LETTERS, page 5

The Chief

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'Free speech' suit could unwittingly help unionize nonprofits

BY ROBERT OVETZ

In April, two NYC Legal Aid Society lawyers filed suit claiming their right to not pay union agency fees. Although they work for a nonprofit, they argue that since their employer is funded by contracts with the city and state of New York, they have the free-speech rights outlined by the Supreme Court's landmark 2018 Janus decision. If they prevail, they will get far more than they expect. For that, we should wish them well.

The suit by Arnold Levine and Allen Popper is clearly a test case brought by the same lawyer, Jeffrey Schwab, who argued the Janus v. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 31 case. This new suit is intended to extend the Janus ruling to make all private sector shops so-called "open shops" and bleed private-sector unions of dues and agency-fee revenue.

Much of the media coverage has been about the First Amendment argument, which stems from a recent resolution passed by members of the Association of Legal Aid Attorneys, UAW Local 2325 that, among other things, called for a ceasefire in Gaza and "an end to Israeli apartheid and the occupation and blockade of Palestinian land, sea, and air by Israeli military forces."

But their claim confuses criticism of Israel with antisemitism. The resolution explicitly denounc-

es "antisemitic threats" to its own members.

As with Janus, the First Amendment claim is a flimsy excuse to attack the workers' movement by misleading the public into thinking it is about the right to free speech. They do, however, make the fair point that their nonprofit employer is essentially part of government because it gets nearly all its funding from tax revenue. As I have argued on these pages, nonprofits are essentially a vehicle for privatizing public services.

Their "victory" could backfire and actually serve to strengthen nonprofit and public-sector unions. A court victory will make all workers doing outsourced public-sector work eligible for the same benefits as public-sector workers under public labor and employment law.

Nonprofit and public-sector unions can immediately take advantage of the ruling right away and organize many more nonprofit workers. All over the country, public-sector unions could begin filing "misclassification" and "unit modification" petitions with the public labor board to make nonprofit workers doing privatized work members of their union. These petitions can argue that since non-profit workers are now covered by the Janus ruling they are actually public-sector workers and should be able to organize their own bargaining unit or be brought into existing units.



J. Scott Applewhite/AP Photo

Supporters of Mark Janus, the plaintiff in the 2018 Supreme Court case that successfully argued that government workers can't be forced to contribute to labor unions that represent them in collective bargaining.

As a result, nonprofit and public-sector unionization is likely to grow substantially and create a stronger foundation in low union-density states to further organize workers in and outside the public sector. And as nonprofit unions raise wages, improve benefits and end notorious overwork in the sector, it will undermine the labor cost-savings argument for privatization.

Schwab, the right-wing Liberty Justice Center's lawyer, wants to

expand Janus to the private sector, beginning by suppressing the growing wave of nonprofit unionization and strikes. One example is Legal Services Staff Association UAW Local 2320's victorious 13-week strike at Mobilization For Justice despite the bosses hiring scab labor and retaliation after the strike ended according to a recent email interview with a key organizer. As I wrote about previously, NYC nonprofits employ twice as many workers doing publicly funded work than the

governments that fund them.

Despite the bosses' efforts, Janus didn't bankrupt our unions. While membership dropped 1.5 percent between 2018 and 2023 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, union net assets actually rose 127 percent according to a recent Radish Research report.

Automatic dues deductions made many unions disconnected from the members, ignore organizing for lobbying and too willing to collaborate with the boss. After the ruling many rank and file members and some leadership used it to re-engage with and organize members, escalate tactics and strategy and begin fighting. That not only made it easy to get members to stay in the union and pay dues but also brought in more new members who wanted to be a part of the new fight.

We still have a long way to go to transform the workers movement. Levine and Popper v. Association of Legal Aid Attorneys, UAW Local 2325 et al. may be just the next shot of fighting spirit we need. The best answer to the boss's attack is to organize and fight forward.

Robert Ovetz is author of the forthcoming book "Rebels for the System" (Haymarket Press) about nonprofits, capitalism and the labor movement. He is also the author and editor of four books including "We the Elites: Why the US Constitution Serves the Few."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Continued from Page 4

"People are spoiled. They have no idea what a dictatorship is like. You protest in some countries and you wind up under a tank."

As for Nat Weiner's May 24 "Called Out" letter defending Donald Trump, here are some facts that he omitted:

The climb in unemployment due to the pandemic was a result of Trump doing little to fight Covid.

Also, Weiner states that unemployment under Biden is higher than official statistics. This is true under all presidents, including Trump. So unemployment is still lower under Biden.

Richard Warren

No man of the people

TO THE EDITOR:

Eric Adams calls himself "a working-class mayor that's helping working-class people." He also helps the wealthy and corporations by opposing any increase in their taxes. Adams promotes an austerity budget that cuts funding for programs that disproportionately affect the most vulnerable, while favoring tax subsidies to powerful real estate developers and businesses.

The mayor has also tried to undermine a state law that reduces class size in public schools, and has refused to implement a rent voucher law passed by the City Council. The Rent Guidelines Board has approved increases for rent-stabilized apartments every year. Under de Blasio, the board voted for virtually no increases.

This brief description of the Adams administration, of course, would be incomplete without mentioning his law-and-order dog whistles and aggressive use of the police. The mayor has attacked critics, including legislators, accusing them of favoring criminals. He has targeted the homeless and mentally ill as public safety problems, and has claimed that the influx of

migrants will "destroy the city, and that there is a migrant crime wave."

The mayor's latest target has been protesters who support Palestinian rights and oppose Israel's horrific response to the horrific attack by Hamas. An example was the recent Nakba March in Bay Ridge, an event a New York Times headline described as "...Police Violently Confront Protesters."

Howard Elterman

Everything but the truth

TO THE EDITOR:

During his hush money trial, the mendacious Donald Trump exercised his constitutional right not to take the witness stand and testify in his own defense. But outside the courtroom Trump was doing what he thinks he does best — lying. Because in the court of public opinion, the always loquacious Trump was neither under oath nor subjected to cross-examination.

After his conviction on all 34 counts, Trump stated, "I wanted to testify" but didn't "because they'll get you on something you said that was slightly wrong." Trump continued to say, "the judge allowed them to go into everything I was ever involved in.... Was he a bad boy here, was he a bad boy there?... You would have said something out of whack like it was a beautiful sunny day and it was actually raining out."

No one is getting charged with perjury for making a minor insignificant mistake or an unintentional error while testifying under oath in a criminal trial.

Trump didn't testify because he is a pathological liar and would not be able to withstand cross-examination.

So instead, Trump claims he's a "very innocent man" and in another classic example of Trump projection said the judge "looks like an angel but he's really a devil."

But if Trump had taken the stand in his own defense, I suspect under cross-examination he would have

imploded like Colonel Nathan Jessup in "A Few Good Men." Trump would have confessed because he is a pretentious narcissist who believes his privileges entitle him to be above the law.

The truth is Trump is a criminal who does not support the U.S. Constitution and has been unfaithful to his duty and allegiance to America as president.

And Trump World "can't handle the truth."

Marc Bullaro

Dishing out context

TO THE EDITOR:

A conservative contributor took issue with data I cited recently, writing "sometimes facts require explanation." Challenge accepted.

My critic cites Covid-19 to explain job losses under Donald Trump. Yet, six million more Americans are earning a paycheck today than at any time under Trump — that's self-explanatory.

Next cited, declining Average Hours Worked as per "Beyond the Numbers." That BLS report concludes "The declines ... reflected lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and during the last four decades were related to the long-term increases in part-time employment." Covid-19 — sound familiar? — and a trend of "part-timing" jobs stretching back to Ronald Reagan. The big decline? 4.56 minutes per week since April, 2020. Wow!

As for immigrants "costing" taxpayers, never mentioned is that they also pay taxes. According to Forbes (11/15/23), undocumented immigrants comprised 4 percent of America's workforce and paid \$30 billion in taxes in 2021. Overall, 17 percent of the U.S. workforce is foreign-born and contributes \$525 billion in taxes annually.

Yes, we are better off with Biden and immigrants, even after explanation. Trump threatens America's democracy and its economy.

Joseph Cannisi

TAX STRATEGIES

Tax credit will help you pay for day camp

BY BARRY LISAK

ALONG WITH THE lazy, hazy days of summer come some extra expenses, including summer day camp, nursery school and preschool. The IRS has some good news for parents: those added expenses may help you qualify for a tax credit. Sorry, overnight camp does not qualify.

The childcare credit is designed to assist working parents with some expenses involved in raising a child. The credit varies depending on the taxpayer's earned income. It reduces the amount of federal income tax due, which can in turn increase your refund.

One must meet several criteria to qualify for the child care credit:

- You (and your spouse, if married filing jointly) must have earned income for the tax year.
- You must be the custodial parent of the child.
- The childcare service must have been used so that you could work or look for employment.
- Your filing status must be single, head of household, qualifying widow(er) with dependent child, or married filing jointly. Married couples filing separately are not eligible.
- Your child must be under 13 or must be disabled (any age qualifies).

Since every family is different, the IRS has exceptions to the rules for the qualification process. These exceptions allow a great number of families to take advantage of the credit:

For divorced or separated parents, the custodial parent can claim the credit even if the other parent has the right to claim the child as a dependent due to divorce or separation agreement.

If your spouse was a full-time student who attended college for at least five months out of the tax year, the IRS considers her to have earned income for each month she

was a full-time student.

If your spouse is a disabled adult, the IRS waives the earned-income requirement.

Whether your childcare provider is a sitter at your home or a daycare facility outside the home, you'll get some tax benefit if you qualify for the credit. Depending on your income, the credit can be up to 20 percent of your qualifying expenses.

Whether your childcare provider is a sitter at your home or a daycare facility outside the home, you'll get some tax benefit if you qualify for the credit. Depending on your income, the credit can be up to 20 percent of your qualifying expenses.

You may use up to \$3,000 of the unreimbursed expenses paid in a year for one qualifying individual or \$6,000 for two or more qualifying individuals to figure the credit. Employer-financed dependent care reduces the credit base. For example, if you have one child and you receive a \$1,500 reimbursement of childcare costs from your company's plan, the amount eligible for the tax credit is reduced to \$1,500. On your Form W-2, your employer will report the amount of tax-free reimbursement.

To claim the credit, you must file IRS Form 2441, Child and Dependent Care Credit, with your tax return and include the care provider's employer-identification number (EIN) or Social Security number.

For more information check out IRS Publication 503, "Child and Dependent Care Expenses." This publication is available at www.irs.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (800-829-1040).

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 mrbarry-tax@aol.com.

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Richard Khavkine/The Chief

Hundreds of security guards and officers represented by Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ and their colleagues rallied near Bryant Park in April in support of a new contract that retained their employer-paid health benefits. They roughly 18,000 guards this week concluded the ratification of two contracts that will get them record raises.

18,000 security officers with 32BJ ratify contract

BY RICHARD KHAVKINE
richardk@thechiefleader.com

The officers, represented by Service Employees International Union Local 32BJ, sanctioned contracts tentatively agreed to in May with Security Contractors and the Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations, respectively.

The agreements, approved by 98 percent of voting union members, include wage increases of \$3.50 over four years, a ratification bonus, pay hikes for new hires based on training incentives and Juneteenth as a paid holiday.

Significantly, the guards, who help secure high-profile locations such as Hudson Yards and Rockefeller Center, maintain their employer-paid health-care coverage and training benefits.

“With these overwhelming ratification votes, Security Officers have recognized these two contracts for what they are; a groundbreaking

pair of labor agreements for the essential workers who constantly put themselves on the line so their fellow New Yorkers can go to work and school safely and without worry,” the director of the union’s security division and a 32BJ vice president, Israel Melendez, said in a statement. “After remaining at their posts during COVID-19 and the city’s recovery from the pandemic, these contracts vindicate Security Officers’ value.”

About 1,300 of the officers have a contract with the Realty Advisory Board, which negotiates collective bargaining agreements on behalf of commercial building owners, managers and cleaning companies. Others are under contract with various companies, including Allied Universal Security Service, Arrow Security and Securitas.

According to the union’s last contract with the RAB, which expired April 30, there are four classifications of security officers. Those

hired as Security officers I started at \$16.70 an hour and maxed out at \$19.65 after three years. Security officers II earned a minimum of \$21.98, while security officers III made at least \$24.33. Armed guards, the fourth classification, earned a minimum of \$31.15.

A union spokesperson said the officers would receive across-the-board raises of 22 percent.

“We are proud to come to a fair and reasonable agreement that will benefit employees and the industry,” the RAB’s executive vice president, Robert Schwartz, said in a statement. “We thank 32BJ for partnering with us to achieve this deal.”

This is the RAB’s second major contract agreed with 32BJ in recent months. The union secured a deal for 20,000 commercial building service workers just days before the expiration of their contract at midnight on New Year’s Day. The cleaners in February overwhelmingly approved the agreement.

LOCAL 375: Members silenced, booted from meetings

Continued from Page 1

group of rank-and-file members of Local 375 who have been trying to advance a motion within the union calling for a cease-fire in the Gaza Strip and for the city’s pension funds to divest from Israeli bonds or military companies. The local represents more than 5,000 engineers, architects, planners and scientists.

After Chang was kicked out, Sun said, many members who weren’t a part of the group pushing for a resolution spoke up in her defense, including by asking why she wasn’t allowed to finish her question, imploring Troman to let her conclude and writing messages of support in the communal Zoom chat insisting that the question was on-topic.

“People are going to fall on very different sides of the issue of divestment, on the issue of cease-fire,” Sun said. “But there are many folks within the local who want to commit to having that transparent dialogue and have some kind of commitment to democracy where we can get to a point where a vote could potentially be held.”

“At the very least,” Sun continued, “people should be able to say what they want to say, and I think that there’s an understanding that the way the local president has controlled these meetings has been very frustrating and difficult for folks across the local to tolerate.”

Part of a pattern

Members of the group, who are involved with the cross-union coalition City Workers for Palestine, have been circulating a petition among DC37 members that calls on NYCERS to divest from what they say are millions of dollars in Israeli securities. They say that Troman’s actions in the general membership meeting in May were only the latest in a months-long pattern of stifling members’ ability to propose motions regarding a cease-fire or divestment.

Since one Local 375 member brought a motion calling for a cease-fire in an internal delegates assembly meeting in February, Troman has used various tactics to prevent members from bringing motions about the topic, members said.

“Delegates have been working to put forward a cease-fire motion in the local for almost four months,” said Jack Lundquist, a Local 375 member and delegate who made the initial motion at the February meeting. “Every time we’ve tried to bring forward a motion we’ve lost quorum.”

The February motion was debated but never put to a vote because of a lack of quorum. At the delegate assembly the following month, Lundquist said that Troman “filibustered,” for over an hour. By the time the meeting got to the section where motions could be brought, so many delegates had left that there was no longer a quorum.

Prior to the April delegates meeting, Troman required all members who wanted to attend to submit personal information, including home addresses, to union leadership beforehand, demands that significantly reduced the number of delegates at the meeting. One delegate, Reyna Wang, wasn’t allowed to attend after submitting her information.

Wang said that given Troman’s tactics she wasn’t surprised that he silenced Chang and Sun.

“It’s one thing to say that this isn’t the best forum to ask questions about investments, but it’s another thing to completely berate these people and shut them down,” Wang said. “A lot of people were pretty disturbed by the behavior and a lot of people who hadn’t seen it before were very surprised by it.”

Troman did not respond to repeated requests for comment.

Other calls for ceasefire

Arthur Schwartz, a longtime union lawyer who’s worked on cases concerning Local 375 in the past, said that he’s hearing more instances of leaders of DC 37 locals muting members in virtual meetings or remove them altogether. “Unless somebody is speaking out of order or being unruly you can’t [remove someone],” he said. “If this was an in-person meeting you couldn’t do that without getting security.”

Members of other DC 37 locals have had far less trouble proposing cease-fire resolutions. Isaac Kirk-Davidoff, a member of Local 371 who works in the Parks Department, made a motion calling for a cease-fire in January. It was quickly voted on without disruption.

Kirk-Davidoff said he was surprised when the motion came up for a vote because he expected that leadership would block it entirely, as has occurred in Local 375.

“We brought a motion, leadership opposed it, it was voted down narrowly and most people didn’t vote,” he said. “The president dealt with it straightforwardly.”

Members of the social work chapter of Local 768 also voted to enact a cease-fire resolution late last year without issue. That resolution was later rescinded however.

And in March, the international executive board of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the parent union of DC 37 and its locals, passed a resolution calling for an “immediate negotiated cease-fire,” and the “release of all hostages.” It’s one of several international unions, including the United Auto Workers, to call for a cease-fire.

Members of Local 375 who have been pushing for a similar resolution say that organizing within their union around the issue has led to more members becoming engaged.

“It’s brought a whole new level of rank-and-file engagement and grassroots pressure against local leadership,” said Chang, the first Local 375 member to be kicked out of the general union meeting. “It’s something that hasn’t really been seen in a while, that kind of activation around labor organizing, and I think Palestine was that spark.”

Lundquist, who proposed the initial cease-fire motion in February, said that the Gaza conflict “is mobilizing members in a way that I haven’t seen in my time and it’s taking place in the context of an upsurge in interest in local union activity.”

Troman’s resistance, he said, “has not deterred members passionate about this issue from organizing. It’s just made folks realize just how much work we have to do.”

‘At the very least, people should be able to say what they want to say.’

— Emily Sun, LOCAL 375 MEMBER



Duncan Freeman/The Chief

A member of District Council 37 holds up a makeshift sign on May Day. Members of Local 375 of DC 37 say that leadership has stifled their attempts to introduce a resolution calling for a cease-fire in the Gaza Strip, going so far as to remove members from meetings for asking questions about the topic.

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Mount Sinai Eye and Ear nurses insist on pay parity

Also call to keep the infirmary open amid closure plans

BY CRYSTAL LEWIS
clewis@thechiefleader.com

Nurses at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai called on the health care system to settle a contract that provides them with pay equal to what nurses earned at other Sinai facilities, and to keep the infirmary open.

Last fall, Mount Sinai officials announced plans to close the Beth Israel facility in Lower Manhattan. Although the hospital was slated to be shuttered in July, the state Department of Health rejected Sinai's closure plan in April, stating that it was incomplete.

Nurses at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, located a few blocks away from Beth Israel, are now urging Mount Sinai to ensure that the infirmary will remain open and safely staffed. Members of the New York State Nurses Association rallied Tuesday in front of the infirmary to demand a contract that provides them with pay parity and job security.

"Since Sinai took over, they have pushed services away, pushed doctors away and now, they're pushing nurses away. But we want to stay," said John Paul Montemayor, the bargaining unit president at the Eye and Ear Infirmary who has worked there for seven years.

Advocates, who also slammed the plan to close Beth Israel, noted that services have been cut at the eye and ear hospital in recent years, including on-site radiology.

"We've watched the intentional destruction of Beth Israel for over a decade now and we've seen that they've been doing the same thing here at this hospital," Mark Hanay, the director of Metro New York

Health Care for All, who is also coordinating the Save Beth Israel and New York Eye and Ear Campaign. "Our suspicion is that they want to close down both facilities and sell the real estate."

The hospital system submitted a new closure plan for Beth Israel two weeks ago, according to Hanay.

Teresa Moriarty, who has worked as a nurse at NY Eye and Ear for 17 years, said that retaining nurses has been difficult. "Conditions have gotten worse because when nurses leave, Sinai refuses to replace them," she said.

'Real' nurses

Not helping matters is that nurses at the facility are paid less than nurses at other Mount Sinai facilities, according to the union. Nurses at Mount Sinai Morningside and West won a contract that included 19-percent raises in January 2023, as did nurses at Mount Sinai Hospital following a three-day strike.

"When we asked for pay parity, we've been told that we're not real nurses because we don't work in a real hospital. If we aren't real nurses, who is working in the building then?" she asked.

In a statement, a spokesperson for Mount Sinai said "The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai is negotiating in good faith with the goal of reaching an agreement that honors our skilled nurses and ensures that patients receive excellent care. Thanks to our nurses and the NYEE community for their patience as we work toward a resolution."

The contract, which covers about 60 nurses, expired April 30, but Sinai's management has been "dragging their feet" to reach an agreement, Moriarty noted. She called for transparency regarding the infirmary workers' job security.

"We don't provide lower quality care, so we don't deserve lower



Courtesy NYSNA

Members of the New York State Nurses Association and advocates rallied Tuesday near the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai in Lower Manhattan for a contract that would provide the infirmary's nurses with pay comparable to what nurses at other Sinai facilities earned.

quality treatment and respect. Infirmary nurses deserve the same treatment and respect as Mount Sinai main, Mount Sinai Beth Israel, Morningside and West," Montemayor said. "We are asking for a fair contract now."

Bernadette Maliwat, who works at the infirmary and has been a nurse for 37 years, noted that Sinai relied on the eye and ear clinic during the pandemic. "During Covid when

elective surgeries stopped, we were deployed to give high quality care to sister locations of Mount Sinai," she noted.

Several elected officials spoke out in support of the infirmary's nurses, including Assembly Member Harvey Epstein, who said the nurses "deserve to be compensated fairly for their labor."

"Additionally, we must halt any efforts to remove services from this

vital medical center in our neighborhood. Our community and the nurses that serve it deserve better," he continued.

State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal said in a statement that "With so much still up in the air regarding the upcoming closure of Mount Sinai Beth Israel it is imperative that all workers employed by the hospital are treated fairly."



FDNY

Council Member Joann Ariola poses with newly minted officers after their promotion ceremony last week. Promotions for lieutenants and other fire officers had been delayed due to a disagreement between the FDNY and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services over the scoring of the lieutenant promotional exam.

LIEUTENANTS: List gets OK

Continued from Page 1

the department reached a settlement with DCAS.

"The resolution of this case was in the best interest of all parties," the spokesperson said. "The City continues to be committed to making civil service hirings and promotions on the basis of merit and fitness. The parties desire to resolve their differences amicably, without further litigation and have entered a settlement."

A DCAS spokesperson offered a similar assessment.

"The resolution of this case was in the best interest of all parties," the spokesperson said in a statement. "The City continues to be committed to making civil service hirings and promotions on the basis of merit and fitness"

At the May 28 promotion cere-

mony, FDNY Commissioner Laura Kavanagh acknowledged the long road to finalizing the list. "The journey to get these lieutenants promoted today, it took, truly a team," Kavanagh said. "No one waited longer than these lieutenants, but we tried to meet your energy and we spent the last nine months fighting for you."

She credited the firefighter unions, the group of firefighters who took the test and Ariola specifically for getting the final list, saying she "doggedly advocated for our lieutenants for the last nine months."

The FDNY will continue to promote members from the list as needed. Members of the lieutenant eligibles group and union officials say that the department typically promotes 800 firefighters in total.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of **ECC POLK STREET LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/07/24. Office location: NY County. Princ. office of LLC: 575 Lexington Ave., Ste. 3120, NY, NY 10022. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 051724-4 5/24/24-6/28/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF E-Z Catch LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/19/2024. 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 481 Clifton Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305. The principal business address of the LLC is 481 Clifton Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305. Purpose: Bait and Tackle. 051624-2 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Qualification of **PAMON NEUF LENDER, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/6/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 5/2/24. 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. 051324-6 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Qualification of **Powin Energy Operating, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/30/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 2/23/21. 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. 051324-7 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Formation of **SPUSNY LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 5/7/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 536 Broadway, 10th Fl, NY, NY 10012. Purpose: any lawful activity. 051624-4 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Formation of **809 Madison Retail LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/26/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 45 Broadway, #1850, NY, NY 10006. Purpose: any lawful activity. 051624-3 5/24/24-6/28/24

File No.: 2022-11/A CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT TO: Yvonne Harris, Geraldine Mayes, Jocelyn Harris, Deborah Walls, Loretta Thompson, Stanton Thompson, Linda Thompson, Wilbur L. White, Jr., William White, Michael Pine, Esq., for Joseph Henry, Attorney General of the State of New York. The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of Gladys Glenn aka Gladys Brockett, deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained A copy of this citation and the accounting, as well as all amendments to it, if any, shall be served on the Guardian Ad Litem, Joseph Hyland, Esq. Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of Gladys Glenn aka Gladys Brockett, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 205-07 118th Avenue, St. Albans, NY 11412, in the County of Queens, State of New

CITATION File No. 2023-333/C SURROGATE'S COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD Free and Independent To: unknown distributees of Edward Maruszewski, pre-deceased brother, if living and if dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin and distributees whose names and places of residence are unknown and if they died subsequent to the decedent herein, and to their executors, administrators, legatees, devisees, 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 Oldyna Marie Dynowska a/k/a Oldyna Maruszewski, the decedent herein, whose names and places of residence are unknown and cannot, after diligent inquiry, be ascertained; Attorney General of the State of New York, St. Lukes in the Fields, and Robert Alan Rackam a/k/a Alan Rackham An amended petition having been duly filed by Public Administrator of the County of New York who is domiciled at 31 Chambers Street, Room 311, New York, New York 10007 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, New York County, at 31 Chambers Street, New York, New York, on June 24th, 2024, at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Oldyna Marie Dynowska a/k/a Oldyna Maruszewski lately domiciled at 101 Charles Street, New York, New York 10014, admitting to probate a Will dated December 9, 2021, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Oldyna Marie Dynowska a/k/a Oldyna Maruszewski deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that: Letters of Administration o/a/u issue to: Public Administrator of the County of New York *To all Parties: No in person appearances shall be made at the return date. If you wish to object to this matter, you may do so in writing in accordance with the annexed New York County Surrogate's Court Notice to the Cited Parties Dated, Attested and Sealed, May 8th, 2024 Seal HON. /S/ Hilary Gingold Surrogate /S/ Diana Sanabria Chief Clerk Robert S. Culver Attorney Schram Graber & Oppell P.A. Firm Name (212) 896-3310 Telephone 11 Park Place, Suite 1008, New York, New York 10007 Address rculver@gspoc.com Email [NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.] SURROGATE'S COURT OF THE COUNTY OF NEW YORK 31 CHAMBERS STREET NEW YORK, NY 10007 (646) 386-5800 NOTICE TO CITED PARTIES YOU have been served with a citation for a matter that is scheduled to be heard at a New York County Surrogate's Court calendar. Please be advised that pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Orders and Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence Marks' Administrative Orders now in effect in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this court is serving the public and court users primarily through virtual or electronic appearances; in person appearances are limited at this time. The citation that you have received contains a return date. Please do not appear in the courthouse on that date. The following choices are available to you: - If you do not object to the relief requested, you do not need to contact the court or do anything else. - If you do object to the relief sought on the citation, you or your lawyer must send a document to the court signed by you or your lawyer indicating that: 1. You object to the relief or you are requesting discovery; OR 2. You are requesting the opportunity to appear in person or by using Skype for Business or by telephone conference; OR 3. You are requesting an adjournment to consult with or retain counsel. Your written response must be received by the court three (3) business days before the return date and must include either an email address or telephone number, or both, where you or your lawyer can be reached during business hours. Your communication to the court may be sent by email to: Probate.General@nycourts.gov or by mail addressed to the Probate Department of this court at the address listed above. The attorney for the petitioner must be copied in your communication. If your written communication to the court indicates that you would like to proceed as described in choice number 1 above, your case may be referred to a court attorney-referee for a conference. The case will be adjourned to a future date, if you request the opportunity to appear in person or by electronic means or to consult or retain counsel (choices number 2 and 3). If you do not contact the court by the date on the citation, the record will reflect that you do not object to the relief requested. If an attorney plans to appear on your behalf, he or she must file a Notice of Appearance. This Notice may be filed by mail addressed to the Probate Department of this court at the address listed above through the e-filing system (NYSCEF), at www.nycourts.gov/efile. If you have questions about responding to the citation, you may contact the Probate Department at Probate.General@nycourts.gov. Please note that court staff are prohibited from giving legal advice but they are available to answer any question about procedure. The Probate Department of the New York County Surrogate's Court. 051524-3 5/24/24-6/14/24

LEGAL NOTICES

York. SEND GREETING: Upon the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of Gladys Glenn aka Gladys Brockett, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 11th day of July, 2024 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$30,803.03 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why the claim of Joseph Henry by Michael M. Pine, Esq., in the amount of \$6,113.75 should not be paid; and why each of you claiming to be a distributee of the decedent should not establish proof of your kinship; and why the balance of said funds should not be paid to said alleged distributees upon proof of kinship, or deposited with the Commissioner of Finance of the City of New York should said alleged distributees default herein, or fail to establish proof of kinship. Dated, Attested and Sealed 10th day of May, 2024 HON. PETER J. KELLY Acting Surrogate, Queens County Janet Edwards Tucker Chief Clerk GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ. (718) 459-9000 1981 Marcus Avenue, Suite 200 Lake Success, New York 11042 NOTICE: THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPEAR. HOWEVER, IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IT WILL BE ASSUMED YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY APPEAR FOR YOU, AND YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MAY REQUEST A COPY OF THE FULL ACCOUNT FROM THE PETITIONER OR PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY Accounting Citation. 051524-2 5/24/24-6/14/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Joshua Williams NYC LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/16/2024. 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, USA. The principal business address of the LLC is 228 Park Ave S., #83326, New York, NY 10003, USA. Purpose: Independent artist. 052024-2 5/24/24-6/28/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF TIEKS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/1/2024. 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 54 State Street, #804, Albany, NY 12207. The principal business address of the LLC is 910 W End Ave, #7D, New York, NY 10025. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 052024-1 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Formation of **Exponent Partners, LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/02/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as

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agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005, also the registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052024-4 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Formation of **BPPORT LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/07/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Elizabeth L Portolese, 5 Tudor City Place, #528, New York, NY 10017. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052024-3 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Formation of **Hodie et Nunc LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/02/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Registered Agents Inc., 418 Broadway STE R, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052024-5 5/24/24-6/28/24

GREAT JONES CORNER LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY 5/1/2024. Office Location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent for process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: c/o The LLC, 6 W. 14TH St., NY, NY, 10011. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. 051624-6 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Formation of **ONE GRAND 16S LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/07/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Steven Matz, 275 Madison Avenue, 8th Floor, New York, NY, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful activities. 052024-6 5/24/24-6/28/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Thisfunctional Nurse LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/3/2024. 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 Legal Zoom, 101 Brand Blvd., 11th floor, Glendale, CA 91203. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052324-5 5/31/24-7/5/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF AAVowal LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/2/2024. 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 Ave., Suite 202, Brooklyn NY 11228. The principal business address of the LLC is 228 Park Ave. S, #709585, New York NY, 10003. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052324-10 5/31/24-7/5/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 420 Carroll Shop LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/12/2024. 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 420 Carroll Shop LLC, c/o The Domain Companies LLC, 120 Broadway, Suite 1340, New York, NY 10271. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052324-11 5/31/24-7/5/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Spiked Pizza LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/26/2024. 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 225 Rector Pl., 15B, New York, NY 10020. Purpose: any

CITATION SURROGATE'S COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY File No. 2022-323/A, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD Free and Independent To: John Doe and/or Jane Doe, being the possible issue of Fannie Ober, paternal aunt, John Doe and/or Jane Doe, being the possible issue of Solomon Salma Cooper, maternal uncle, Barbara Jean Cooper, Stephen H. Gorin, Peter Alan Gorin, 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 the heirs at law, next of kin and distributees of Jill Ober, deceased, if living, and if any of them be dead to their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, legatees, executors, administrators, assignees and successors in interest whose names are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence; Attorney General of the State of New York, Roxann Kraemer, Gregg Horton, Peter M. Cooper, Rivka Filyn, Sara Mac Donald, and Margaret Winer An amended petition having been duly filed by Public Administrator of the County of New York who is domiciled at 31 Chambers Street, Room 311, New York, New York 10007 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, New York County, at 31 Chambers Street, New York, New York, on June 24th, 2024, at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Jill Ober lately domiciled at 401 E. 81st Street, New York New York 10028, admitting to probate a Will dated August 2, 2006, a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Jill Ober deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that: Letters of Administration c.t.a. issue to Public Administrator of the County of New York *To all Parties: No in person appearances shall be made at the return date. If you wish to object to this matter, you may do so in writing in accordance with the annexed New York County Surrogate's Court Notice to the Cited Parties Dated, Attested and Sealed, May 7th, 2024 Seal HON. /S/ Hilary Gingold Surrogate /S/ Diana Sanabria Chief Clerk Robert S. Culver Attorney Schram Graber & Oppell P.A. Firm Name (212) 896-3310 Telephone 11 Park Place, Suite 1008, New York, New York 10007 Address rculver@gspoc.com Email [NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.] SURROGATE'S COURT OF THE COUNTY OF NEW YORK 31 CHAMBERS STREET NEW YORK, NY 10007 (646) 386-5800 NOTICE TO CITED PARTIES YOU have been served with a citation for a matter that is scheduled to be heard at a New York County Surrogate's Court calendar. Please be advised that pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Orders and Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence Marks' Administrative Orders now in effect in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this court is serving the public and court users primarily through virtual or electronic appearances; in person appearances are limited at this time. The citation that you have received contains a return date. Please do not appear in the courthouse on that date. The following choices are available to you: - If you do not object to the relief requested, you do not need to contact the court or do anything else. - If you do object to the relief sought on the citation, you or your lawyer must send a document to the court signed by you or your lawyer indicating that: 1. You object to the relief or you are requesting discovery; OR 2. You are requesting the opportunity to appear in person or by using Skype for Business or by telephone conference; OR 3. You are requesting an adjournment to consult with or retain counsel. Your written response must be received by the court three (3) business days before the return date and must include either an email address or telephone number, or both, where you or your lawyer can be reached during business hours. Your communication to the court may be sent by email to: Probate.General@nycourts.gov or by mail addressed to the Probate Department of this court at the address listed above. The attorney for the petitioner must be copied in your communication. If your written communication to the court indicates that you would like to proceed as described in choice number 1 above, your case may be referred to a court attorney-referee for a conference. The case will be adjourned to a future date, if you request the opportunity to appear in person or by electronic means or to consult or retain counsel (choices number 2 and 3). If you do not contact the court by the date on the citation, the record will reflect that you do not object to the relief requested. If an attorney plans to appear on your behalf, he or she must file a Notice of Appearance. This Notice may be filed by mail addressed to the Probate Department of this court at the address listed above through the e-filing system (NYSCEF), at www.nycourts.gov/efile. If you have questions about responding to the citation, you may contact the Probate Department at Probate.General@nycourts.gov. Please note that court staff are prohibited from giving legal advice but they are available to answer any question about procedure. The Probate Department of the New York County Surrogate's Court. 051524-4 5/24/24-6/14/24

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lawful act or activity. 052324-8 5/31/24-7/5/24

Notice is hereby given that application NA-0267-24-118829 for Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine at retail in a Cafe within a Sports Facility under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 91 Fairview Park Dr. Elmford, NY 10523, Westchester County for on-premises consumption; SNACKISH WSA CORP. 052324-12 5/31/24-6/7/24

Notice is hereby given that application NA-0341-24-118312 for Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor at retail in a Summer Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 238 Kings Ferry Rd, Montrose, NY 10548, Westchester County for on-premises consumption. Carols Kitchen Inc. 052224-3 5/31/24-6/7/24

Notice is hereby given that application NA-0240-24-118672 for Wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Wine at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 924 Remsen Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11236, Kings County for on-premises consumption; Detente Restaurant Corp. 052324-4 5/31/24-6/7/24

51 ATYS LLC, Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY 2/7/24. Office Location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent for process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: c/o Hrbeck Kunstler LLC, 295 Madison Ave., 22nd Fl, NY, NY 10017. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. 052324-9 5/31/24-7/5/24

AMPLIFY OOH LLC, Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY 5/7/2024. Office Location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent for process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: c/o AMPLIFY OOH LLC, 270 Lafayette St., 9th Fl, NY, NY, 10012. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. 052324-1 5/31/24-7/5/24

Notice of Formation of **Alexandra Keats LLC**. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 5/15/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 830 Park Avenue, NY, NY 10021. Purpose: any lawful activity. 052324-6 5/31/24-7/5/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Northumberland Holdings LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/5/2024. 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 c/o the Registered Agent US Corp. Agents Inc., 7014 13th Ave., #202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. The principal business address of the LLC is 35 W 25th St, 5C, NY, NY 10010. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052324-7 5/31/24-7/5/24

Notice of Qualification of **SSP AMERICA JFK T1, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/15/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 5/7/24. 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. 052324-2 5/31/24-7/5/24

Notice of Qualification of **WEST BASIN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC**. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/9/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/7/23. 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, NY 10005. Purpose: any lawful activity. 052324-2 5/31/24-7/5/24

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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. 052324-3 5/31/24-7/5/24

STL 184 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/15/24. 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, 400 2nd Avenue, Apartment #21B, New York, NY 10010. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 052224-2 5/31/24-7/5/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Notice of formation of Limited Liability Company (LLC). Name: **Sam City LMS, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/22/2024. 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 Sam City LMS, LLC, c/o Genesis Companies, 745 Fifth Avenue, Suite 500, New York, New York 10151. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052424-3 5/31/24-7/5/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Limited Liability Company (LLC). Name: **Sam City Community Center, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/20/2024. 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 Sam City Community Center, LLC, c/o Genesis Companies, 745 Fifth Avenue, Suite 500, New York, New York 10151. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 052424-2 5/31/24-7/5/24

File No.: 2022-2912/B CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT TO: Attorney General of the State of New York The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of ROBERT LISOWSKI, deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained A copy of this citation and the accounting, as well as all amendments to it, if any, shall be served on the Guardian Ad Litem, Lawrence Litwack Esq. Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of ROBERT LISOWSKI, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 25-22 Parsons Boulevard, Flushing, NY 11354, in the County of Queens, State of New York. SEND GREETING: Upon the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of ROBERT LISOWSKI, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 11th day of July, 2024 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$7,994.82 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$7,994.82 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. 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CEOs hefty pay raises widens gap with workers they oversee

Half made 196 times median employees' salary

BY MAE ANDERSON, PAUL HARLOFF and BARBARA ORTUTAY
Associated Press



NDZ/STAR MAX/IPX

Netflix co-CEO Ted Sarandos at the premiere of 'Pinocchio' on December 6, 2022 in New York City. The typical compensation package for chief executives who run companies in the S&P 500 jumped nearly 13% in 2023. Sarandos pulled in nearly \$50 million.

The typical compensation package for chief executives who run companies in the S&P 500 jumped nearly 13 percent last year, easily surpassing the gains for workers at a time when inflation was putting considerable pressure on Americans' budgets.

The median pay package for CEOs rose to \$16.3 million, up 12.6 percent, according to data analyzed for The Associated Press by Equilar. Meanwhile, wages and benefits netted by private-sector workers rose 4.1 percent through 2023. At half the companies in AP's annual pay survey, it would take the worker at the middle of the company's pay scale almost 200 years to make what their CEO did.

"In this post-pandemic market, the desire is for boards to reward and retain CEOs when they feel like they have a good leader in place," said Kelly Malafis, founding partner of Compensation Advisory Partners in New York.

The AP's CEO compensation survey included pay data for 341 executives at S&P 500 companies who have served at least two full consecutive fiscal years at their companies, which filed proxy statements between Jan. 1 and April 30.

Hock Tan, the CEO of Broadcom, topped the AP survey with a pay package valued at about \$162 million.

Broadcom granted Tan stock awards valued at \$160.5 million on Oct. 31, 2022, for the company's 2023 fiscal year. Tan was given the opportunity to earn up to 1 million shares starting in fiscal 2025, according to a securities filing, provided that Broadcom's stock meets certain targets — and he remains CEO for five years.

At the time of the award, Broadcom's stock was trading at \$470. The stock has skyrocketed since, and reached an all-time high of \$1,436.17 on May 15. Tan will receive the full award if the average closing price is at or above \$1,125 for 20 consecutive days between October 2025 and October 2027.

Broadcom noted that under Tan its market value has increased from \$3.8 billion in 2009 to \$645 billion (as of May 23) and that its total shareholder return during that time easily surpassed that of the S&P 500.

Other CEOs at the top of

AP's survey are William Lansing of Fair Isaac Corp. (\$66.3 million); Tim Cook of Apple Inc. (\$63.2 million); Hamid Moghadam of Prolong Inc. (\$50.9 million); and Ted Sarandos, co-CEO of Netflix (\$49.8 million).

Disparity not always this wide

Lisa Su, CEO of chipmaker Advanced Micro Devices, was the highest paid female CEO in the AP survey for the fifth year in a row in fiscal 2023, bringing in compensation valued at \$30.3 million — flat with her compensation package in 2022. Her overall rank rose to 21 from 25.

Workers across the country have been winning higher pay since the pandemic, with wages and benefits for private-sector employees rising 4.1 percent in 2023 after a 5.1 percent increase in 2022, according to the Labor Department.

Even with those gains, the gap between the person in the corner office and everyone else keeps getting wider. Half the CEOs in this year's pay survey made at least 196 times what their median employee earned. That's up from 185 times in last year's survey.

The disparity between what the chief executive makes and the workers earn wasn't always so wide.

After World War II and up until the 1980s, CEOs of large publicly traded companies made about 40 to 50 times the average worker's pay, said Brandon Rees, deputy director of corporations and capital markets for the AFL-CIO, which runs an Executive Paywatch website that tracks CEO pay.

"The (current) pay ratio signals a sort of a winner take all culture, that companies are treating their CEOs as, you know, as superstars as opposed to, team players," Rees said.

Despite the criticism, shareholders tend to give

overwhelming support to pay packages for company leaders. From 2019 to 2023, companies typically received just under 90 percent of the vote for their executive compensation plans, according to data from Equilar.

Shareholders do, however, occasionally reject a compensation plan, although the votes are non-binding. In 2023, shareholders at 13 companies in the S&P 500 gave the pay package less than 50 percent support.

Sarah Anderson, who directs the Global Economy Project at the progressive Institute for Policy Studies, said Say on Pay votes are important because they "shine a spotlight on some of the most egregious cases of executive access, and it can lead to negotiations over pay and other issues that shareholders might want to raise with corporate leadership."

After its investors gave another resounding thumbs down to the pay packages for its top executives, Netflix met with many of its biggest shareholders last year to discuss their concerns.

Following the talks, Netflix announced several changes to redesign its pay policies. For one, it eliminated executives' choice to allocate their compensation between cash and options. It will no longer give out stock options, which can give executives a payday as long as the stock price stays above a certain level. Instead, the company will give restricted stock that executives can profit from only after a certain amount of time or after certain performance measures are met.

The changes will take effect in 2024.

More broadly, say on pay votes haven't made a big difference, Anderson says. "I think the impact, certainly on the overall size of CEO packages has not had much effect in some cases."

The AP's Stan Choe and Ken Sweet contributed.

Struggling Amazon union affiliating with Teamsters

BY HALELUYA HADERO
Associated Press

The Amazon Labor Union, a grassroots labor group that won a major victory at an Amazon warehouse two years ago, has agreed to affiliate with the Teamsters union, a move that's bound to inject new energy into the struggling organization.

Teamsters General President Sean M. O'Brien announced the affiliation during the union's general executive board meeting in Washington on Tuesday, according to a post by the union on X.

If ratified, members of the Amazon Labor Union, which belong to one warehouse in Staten Island, will essentially join the Teamsters as an "autonomous" local union with the same rights and duties as a standard chapter, according to the agreement.

The Teamsters said its board has already unani-

mously approved the affiliation, a step that will bring them closer to their goal of unionizing Amazon's non-corporate workforce.

Amazon Labor Union President Chris Smalls wrote in a post on X that the labor group was combining forces "with one of the most powerful unions to take on Amazon together."

"Our message is clear we want a Contract and we want it now," Smalls wrote, referring to the union contract his organization still hasn't been able to secure more than two years after becoming the only one to ever pull off a labor win at Amazon warehouse in the U.S.

Since then, the ALU has faced many other challenges, including two election losses at other Amazon warehouses and internal strife about its organizing strategy. Some organizers have left to form the ALU Democratic Reform Caucus, a dissident group

that sued the union last year to force an election for new leadership. That election is expected to be held in July outside of the warehouse that voted to unionize, said Arthur Schwartz, an attorney who represents the dissident group.

Already, the agreement announced by the leaders of both organizations is facing pushback from the caucus. Schwartz said the Teamsters have indicated they want the ALU membership to ratify the new agreement before the union holds its internal leadership election in July. But he said that will pose a challenge because the ALU currently doesn't have an updated list of members, which the caucus has been seeking for the internal election that's currently underway.

Representatives for Amazon and the Teamsters did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

CHIEF CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED



Senior Rackets Investigator Office of the Queens County District Attorney

The Office of the Queens County District Attorney (QDA) is seeking candidates for Senior Rackets Investigator positions within QDA's Detective Investigator Squad, which serves an office of over 800 staff. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Conducting complex and highly confidential investigations
- Gathering evidence and assisting Assistant District Attorneys in preparation of material for trial
- Conducting undercover surveillance and investigations
- Executing search warrants
- Testifying at Grand Jury, trials and other court proceedings
- Contacting and interviewing witnesses
- Conducting background investigations on new employees
- Utilizing a variety of investigative equipment and law enforcement databases
- Assist with monitoring the QDA 24-hour hotline - a system where assistance from QDA can be requested and utilized to report allegations of criminal activity within Queens County; Notifying appropriate QDA personnel and relevant City and State agencies regarding breaking events/incidents occurring within Queens County
- Monitoring social media content for any threats to the QDA office, the District Attorney and other any other QDA staff
- Confering with both law enforcement and non-law enforcement agencies or personnel as required
- Performing other duties as requested by the Chief Investigator

PREFERRED EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- High school diploma, or its equivalent, and a minimum of three years of full-time paid experience in police enforcement or investigative work required, one year of which must have been in rackets or police investigative work. A combination of education and/or experience, equivalent to above is acceptable, provided there is one year of full-time paid experience in rackets or police investigative work.
- Extensive knowledge and investigative experience in one or more of the following areas is preferred: narcotics trafficking, gun trafficking, money laundering, violent crime, special victims cases, domestic violence, gangs, public integrity, governmental fraud, revenue crimes, and white collar crime. Current or renewable NYS police officer certification is also preferred, as well as fluency in a second language, knowledge and experience with court procedures and criminal trials, prior experience testifying in court proceedings, and the ability to use investigative equipment.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Salary: \$70,164. Comprehensive benefits package including health insurance, 401K and more. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter, by visiting: <https://queensda.applicantstack.com/x/openings-queensda>
The City of New York is an inclusive equal opportunity employer committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce and providing a work environment that is free from discrimination and harassment based upon any legally protected status or protected characteristic, including but not limited to an individual's sex, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status, gender identity, or pregnancy.



Supervising Rackets Investigator Office of the Queens County District Attorney

The Office of the Queens County District Attorney (QDA) is seeking candidates for Supervising Rackets Investigator positions within QDA's Detective Investigator Squad, which serves an office of over 800 staff. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Supervising Rackets and Senior Rackets Investigators conducting investigations
- Correlating information gathered by investigators
- Training investigators in specialized technical procedures and in the preparation of reports for prosecutors
- Conducting complex and highly confidential investigations
- Gathering evidence and assisting Assistant District Attorneys in preparation of material for trial
- Conducting undercover surveillance and investigations
- Executing search warrants
- Testifying at Grand Jury, trials and other court proceedings
- Contacting and interviewing witnesses
- Utilizing a variety of investigative equipment and law enforcement databases
- Performing other duties as requested by the Chief Investigator

Qualification Requirements:

- Graduation from high school or its equivalent and four years of full-time, paid experience in police enforcement or investigative work, two years of which must have been in rackets or police investigative work. A combination of education and/or experience, equivalent to above is acceptable, provided there is two years of full-time paid experience in rackets or police investigative work.
- Extensive knowledge and investigative experience in one or more of the following areas is preferred: narcotics trafficking, gun trafficking, money laundering, violent crime, special victims cases, domestic violence, gangs, public integrity, governmental fraud, revenue crimes and white collar crime.
- Current or renewable NYS police officer certification is also preferred, as well as fluency in a second language, knowledge and experience with court procedures and criminal trials, prior experience testifying in court proceedings, security detail, witness protection and the ability to use investigative surveillance equipment.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Salary Range - \$74,182 - \$103,444 (commensurate with experience). Comprehensive benefits package including health insurance, 401K and more. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter, by visiting: <https://queensda.applicantstack.com/x/openings-queensda>
The City of New York is an inclusive equal opportunity employer committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce and providing a work environment that is free from discrimination and harassment based upon any legally protected status or protected characteristic, including but not limited to an individual's sex, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, veteran status, gender identity, or pregnancy.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of HREA 193-225 COMMACK RD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/10/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 155 East 55th Street, Suite 4H, New York, NY 10022. Purpose: any lawful activities. 053024-7 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Formation of HREA 231-237 COMMACK RD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/10/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 155 East 55th Street, Suite 4H, New York, NY 10022. Purpose: any lawful activities. 053024-8 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Formation of Jaron Tepper, M.D., PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/17/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 333 W 57th St, Apt 402, New York, NY 10019. Purpose: to practice the profession of medicine. 053024-9 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Formation of DOFF Logistics USA LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/10/24. Office location: New York County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1 W 85th St, Ste. 3C, New York, NY 10024. Purpose: any lawful activities. 053024-6 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Qualification of ECHO BIDCO LLC. Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/20/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/18/23. Princ. office of LLC: 125 W. 55th St., NY, NY 10019. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to

LEGAL NOTICES

Corporation Service Co. (CSC), 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: CSC, 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 053024-2 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Formation of GPG PIERREPONT, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/22/24. Office location: NY County. Princ. office of LLC: 136 E. 57th St., 14th Fl., NY, NY 10022. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 053024-3 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Qualification of 200 E 11TH ST OWNER LLC. Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/22/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 05/16/24. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co. (CSC), 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: c/o CSC, 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, Div. of Corps., John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 053024-1 6/7/24-7/12/24

SUMMONS (VIRTUAL APPEARANCE) FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS In the Matter of the Guardianship Of the Person and Custody of Arganae Madeline McGeary A Dependent Child Under the Age of 18. Docket No. B-20009/23, File No. 103876 NOTICE: DO NOT APPEAR IN PERSON AT THE COURTHOUSE. DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, ESSENTIAL COURT MATTERS ARE BEING HELD VIRTUALLY. TO: Andre McGeary, address

LEGAL NOTICES

unknown. A petition under S.L.L. §384-b has been filed with this Court. YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear VIRTUALLY before this Court on: Date/Time: August 5, 2024, 3:00 p.m. Purpose: Return of Process. Presiding: Judge Monica Shulman, Part 14 Teams Link: <http://notify.nycourts.gov/meet/0kwhaf> Dial-in phone access, please call 347-378-4143. Dial-in-code:562728432# To answer the attached petition and to be dealt with in accordance with the Family Court Act. Virtual appearances may be held via video or phone. To update your contact information, e-mail or call the court and provide your name, phone, e-mail address, docket number(s), and date/time of court appearance. Court Phone #: 718-298-0197 For information on how to participate in virtual court proceedings, visit: <https://nycourts.gov/appear>. Queens, New York, BY ORDER OF THE COURT Clerk of the Court. 053024-5 6/7/24

Notice of Formation of HIK, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 5/10/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 312 E 30th St, PH1, NY, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful activity. 053024-12 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Formation of DEJOLU LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 5/10/23. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 312 E 30th St, PH1, NY, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful activity. 053024-11 6/7/24-7/12/24

Notice of Formation of Kips Bay Music Bar LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 12/8/22. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 312 E 30th St, PH1, NY, NY 10016. Purpose: any lawful activity. 053024-10 6/7/24-7/12/24

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Kings Lodge LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/9/2023. 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 270 St. Nicholas Avenue, 6J, NY, NY 10027. The principal business address of the LLC is 270 St. Nicholas Avenue, 6J, NY, NY 10027. Purpose: Apparel company. 042324-1 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Formation of Delmas Consulting LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/16/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 40 W 135th St, NY, NY 10037. Purpose: any lawful activity. 042524-5 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Formation of Star Walk Partners LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/8/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Gary Fuhrman, 985 Fifth Ave, NY, NY 10045. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 042524-6 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Formation of Upper East Terrace LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/15/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Yongjie Fu, 200 E 58th St, Apt 12G, NY, NY 10022. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 042524-7 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Formation of 84TH STREET BEAR FAMILY, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/17/24. Office location: NY County. Princ. office of LLC: 424 West End Ave., Ste. 18F, NY, NY 10024. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Ariel Schuster at the princ. office of the LLC. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 042524-2 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Formation of ARI SMART CONSULTING, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY

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(SSNY) on 04/17/24. Office location: NY County. Princ. office of LLC: 9 Cameron Rd., Saddle River, NJ 07458. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Own and manage real estate. 042524-3 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Qualification of PagoNxt US, LLC. Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/15/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 06/28/23. Princ. office of LLC: 137 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10028. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: c/o Corporate Service Co., 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Jeffrey W. Bullock, Secy. of State of the State of DE, Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., #4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 042524-1 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Qualification of OMA RESTAURANT LLC. Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/16/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 01/04/23. Princ. office of LLC: c/o SL Green Realty Corp., 1 Vanderbilt Ave., 28th Fl., NY, NY 10017. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Jeffrey W. Bullock, Secy. of State of the State of DE, #4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 042524-4 5/3/24-6/7/24

S6 BRONX INVESTOR LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/03/2023. Office loc: Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Shalev Shoshani, 9 East 167 Street, Bronx, NY 10452. Reg Agent: Shaked Shoshani, 9 East 167 Street, Bronx, NY 10452. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 042524-12 5/3/24-6/7/24

EMPIRE FS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/03/2023. Office loc: NY County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom

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process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 210 East 36th Street, Apt 7, New York, NY 10016. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 042524-21 5/3/24-6/7/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LurchToons LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/23/2024. 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 2300 First Avenue, #4K, New York, NY 10037. The principal business address of the LLC is 2300 First Avenue, #4K, New York, NY 10037. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 042524-13 5/3/24-6/7/24

DOMEN HOLDINGS LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY 1/19/2024. Office Location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent for process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: c/o Merit Operating Corp., 351 E. 83RD St., attn: Vincent Q. Giffuni, NY, NY, 10028. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. 042524-18 5/3/24-6/7/24

E 77 Holdings LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY 1/19/2024. Office Location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent for process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: c/o Merit Operating Corp., 351 E. 83RD St., attn: Vincent Q. Giffuni, NY, NY, 10028. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. 042524-20 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Qualification of BroadwayShows.com LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/9/24. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 24 E. Washington St., Ste. 900, Chicago, IL 60602. LLC formed in DE: 4/2/24. NY 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. DE addr. of LLC: 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. 042524-22 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Qualification of Tax Authority of East Coast, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/19/24. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 10 Sterling Blvd., Ste. 302, Englewood, NJ 07631. LLC formed in DE: 2/14/24. NY 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. DE addr. of LLC: 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. 042524-23 5/3/24-6/7/24

BMA HOLDINGS LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with SSNY 1/19/2024. Office Location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent for process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: c/o Merit Operating Corp., 351 E. 83RD St., attn: Vincent Q. Giffuni, NY, NY 10028. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity. 042524-19 5/3/24-6/7/24

Notice of Qualification of 327E225A, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/22/24. Office location: NY County. LLC organized in MO: 4/19/24. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to the MO and principal business address: 8112 Maryland Ave., Ste. 320, St. Louis, MO 63105-3729. Cert. of Org. filed with MO Sec. of State, 600 W. Main St., Rm. 322, Jefferson City, MO 65102. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050324-3 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Qualification of PEP VI GP, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/26/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE: 2/22/23. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 1270 Ave. of the Americas, 31st

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Fl., NY, NY 10020, principal business address. DE address of LLC: c/o Corporate Creations Network, Inc., 3411 Silverdale Rd., Tattnall Bldg. #104, Wilmington, DE 19810. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes. 050324-2 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Formation of AL BOSCO III LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/24/24. Office location: NY County. Princ. bus. addr.: 70 Murray Ln., Southampton, NY 11968. 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: any lawful activity. 050324-1 5/10/24-6/14/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MAP YOUR STORIES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/21/2024. 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 99 Washington Ave., Suite 700, Albany, NY 12260. The principal business address of the LLC is 1836 Westchester Ave., Num. 2710, Bronx, NY 10472. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 050324-5 5/10/24-6/14/24

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Rhonda Hansome LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/11/2024. Office location: Bronx 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 99 Washington Ave., Suite 700, Albany, NY 12260. The principal business address of the LLC is 1836 Westchester Ave., Num. 2710, Bronx, NY 10472. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 050324-4 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Formation of 12K 25 CPW LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/22/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 136 E 64th St, NY, NY 10065. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050224-5 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Formation of 805 Yonkers LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 2/26/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 110 W. 34th St., 9th Fl, NY, NY 10001. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050224-6 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Formation of 72 Trelawney Road LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/22/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 136 E 64th St, NY, NY 10065. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050224-4 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Qualification of TOWNHOUSE RENTAL VII, LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/19/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 4/18/24. 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. 043024-2 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Qualification of TOWNHOUSE RENTAL VIII, LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/19/24. Office location: New York County, LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 4/18/24.

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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. 043024-3 5/10/24-6/14/24

Notice of Qualification of West Lake 141-143 Second Avenue LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/30/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE: 4/5/24. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 124 9th St., Ste. 234, Brooklyn, NY 11215, principal business address. DE address of LLC: 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. 050924-13 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Qualification of West Lake 127-129 Second Avenue LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/30/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in DE: 4/5/24. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 124 9th St., Ste. 234, Brooklyn, NY 11215, principal business address. DE address of LLC: 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. 050924-12 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Formation of 43AB LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 5/1/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: PO Box 1057, Slip Station, NY, NY 10272-1000. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050924-4 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Formation of ITW OVERLORD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State (SSNY) on 4/29/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Knuckleknee LLC, 138 Reade St, GF, NY, NY 10013. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050924-5 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Formation of PupCulture 521 Broome LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/23/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 110 W. 34th St., 9th Fl, NY, NY 10001. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050924-3 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Formation of PupCulture 170 Hudson LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/23/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 050924-2 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Formation of PupCulture 645 West 57 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/23/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 050924-1 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Qualification of Mig Real Estate Services, LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/29/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/14/11. 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.

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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. 050824-4 5/17/24-6/21/24

MIKI YAMANAKA MUSIC LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/01/2024. 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, 409 Edgecombe Ave, Apt 10-I, NY, NY 10032. Reg Agent: Miki Yamanaka, 409 Edgecombe Ave, Apt 10-I, NY, NY 10032. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 050824-3 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Formation of SAR Hamptons Holdings, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/1/24. 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: 188 East 64th St, PH3, NY, NY 10065. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050824-5 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Qualification of V3 Ventures Group LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/5/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 3/31/22. 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. 050924-10 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Qualification of TOWNSGATE INSURANCE SERVICES, LLC. Authority filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 4/5/24. Office location: New York County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 1/30/24. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. Purpose: any lawful activity. 050924-9 5/17/24-6/21/24

Notice of Qualification of 41-60 MAIN STREET MEZZ LLC. Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/09/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 05/08/24. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 1209 Orange St, Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Real estate investment. 051724-1 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Qualification of 570 WASHINGTON STREET DEVELOPERS LLC. Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/08/24. Office location: NY County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 03/19/24. Princ. office of LLC: 40 W. 57th St., 29th Fl., NY, NY 10019. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 051724-3 5/24/24-6/28/24

Notice of Formation of NEW YORK WAVE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/07/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Sung Chul Park, 404 E. 76th St., Apt. 29C, NY, NY 10021. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 051724-2 5/24/24-6/28/24

SHERIFF'S SALE

BY VIRTUE OF EXECUTIONS ISSUED OUT OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK, in favor of JUDGEMENT CREDITOR THERKIM, and against JUDGEMENT DEBTOR K.Y.W. ENTERPRISE TRUST to me directed and delivered, I WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION, by DENNIS ALESTRA DCA# 0640217, auctioneer, as the law directs, FOR CASH ONLY, on the 10th day of JULY, 2024, at 12:30 o'clock in the afternoon at the New York County Sheriff's Office, 66 John Street 13th Floor New York, NY 10038, in the county of New York all the right, title and interest which K.Y.W. ENTERPRISE TRUST the judgment debtor, had on the 1st day of August, 2022 or at anytime thereafter, of, in and to the following properties:

106 RIVINGTON STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10002 BLOCK 411 LOT 72

DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES

BEGINNING at a point on the northeasterly side of Rivington Street, distant 66 feet 3 inches southeasterly from Ludlow Street;

RUNNING THENCE northeasterly and nearly parallel with Ludlow Street, and partly through the center of a party wall, 80 feet;

THENCE southeasterly and parallel with Rivington Street, 22 Feet or thereabouts to a point;

THENCE southeasterly and partly through the center of a party wall and nearly parallel with Ludlow Street, 80 feet to Rivington Street;

And THENCE northwesterly and along Rivington Street, 22 feet to the place of BEGINNING, be the said distances and dimensions more or less.

SAID PREMISES being known as 106 Rivington Street, New York, New York, Block: 411, LOT: 72;

SAID PREMISE being the same as conveyed to the grantors herein by deed dated May 9, 1988 made by Aharon Zavian and Eliezer Noy, with Document ID number, FT_184000251584.

ANTHONY MIRANDA
Sheriff of the City of New York

DEPUTY RAYMOND MEDINA
CASE#23017026, 23017030
(212) 487-9734
(212) 291-4979

NY Department of Finance Office of the Sheriff nyc.gov/finance

CITATION. File No. 2021-3902. SURROGATE'S COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, by the Grace of God Free and Independent TO: Halina Wojnar, maternal first cousin, issue of Stasia Znamierowski, Edmund Znamierowski, Josef Znamierowski, Romek Znamierowski, Magans Znamierowski, Maria Znamierowski, Witold Znamierowski, paternal aunts and uncles, if living and if dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin and distributees whose names and places of residence are unknown and if they died subsequent to the decedent herein, to their executors, administrators, legatees, devisees, 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 Michelle Marozik, the decedent herein, whose names and places of residence are unknown and cannot, after diligent inquiry, be ascertained. Alina Wojnar, Karol Wojnar, Anna Wojnar, Danuta Wojnar, Jerzy Wojnar, Public Administrator. An amended petition having been duly filed by Michelle Marozik who is/are domiciled at 115 Willow Street Apt 3C, Brooklyn, NY 11201. YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, New York County, at 31 Chambers Street, New York, on June 24th, 2024 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Nellie I. Znamierowski, a/k/a Nell Znamierowski lately domiciled at 430 East 80th Street, New York, New York 10075, United States admitting to probate a Will dated May 22, 2008 a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Nellie I. Znamierowski deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that: Letters Testamentary issue to Michelle Marozik.

*To all Parties: No in person appearances shall be made at the return date. If you wish to object to this matter, you may do so in writing in accordance with the annexed New York County Surrogate's Court Notice to the Cited Parties. Dated, Attested and Sealed, May 3rd, 2024. HON. Hilary Gingold, Surrogate, Diana Sanabria, Chief Clerk. Print Name of Attorney: Regina Kiperman, Esq. Firm: RK Law, P.C. Address: 40 Wall Street, Suite 2508, New York, New York 10005. Email (optional): Rkiperman@rklawny.com. NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you. SURROGATE'S COURT OF THE COUNTY OF NEW YORK, 31 CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10007. (646) 386-5800. NOTICE TO CITED PARTIES. You have been served with a citation for a matter that is scheduled to be heard at a New York County Surrogate's Court calendar. Please be advised that pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Orders and Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence Marks' Administrative Orders now in effect in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this court is serving the public and court users primarily through virtual or electronic appearances; in-person appearances are limited at this time. The citation that you have received contains a return date. Please do not appear in the courthouse on that date. The following choices are available to you: - If you do not object to the relief requested, you do not need to contact the court or do anything else. - If you do object to the relief sought on the citation, you or your lawyer must send a document to the court signed by you or your lawyer indicating that: 1. You object to the relief or you are requesting discovery; OR 2. You are requesting the opportunity to appear in person or by using Skype for Business or by telephone conference; OR 3. You are requesting an adjournment to consult with or retain counsel. Your written response must be received by the court three (3) business days before the return date and must include either an email address or telephone number, or both, where you or your lawyer can be reached during business hours. Your communication to the court may be sent by email to: Probate_General@nycourts.gov or by mail addressed to the Probate Department of this court at the address listed above. The attorney for the petitioner must be copied in your communication. If your written communication to the court indicates that you would like to proceed as described in choice number 1 above, your case may be referred to a court attorney-referee for a conference. The case will be adjourned to a future date, if you request the opportunity to appear in person or by electronic means or to consult or retain counsel (choices number 2 and 3). If you do not contact the court by the date on the citation, the record will reflect that you do not object to the relief requested. If an attorney plans to appear on your behalf, he or she must file a Notice of Appearance. This Notice may be filed by mail addressed to the Probate Department of this court at the address listed above or through the e-filing system (NYSCEF), at www.nycourts.gov/efile. If you have questions about responding to the citation, you may contact the Probate Department at Probate_General@nycourts.gov. Please note that court staff are prohibited from giving legal advice but they are available to answer any question about procedure. The Probate Department of the New York County Surrogate's Court. 050824-1 5/17/24-6/7/24

CITATION. File No. 2022-578. SURROGATE'S COURT, NEW YORK COUNTY, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, by the Grace of God Free and Independent TO: Issue of Dominic Richard Belfatto, deceased maternal uncle, issue of John Felix Belfatto, deceased maternal uncle, issue of Maria Mirabella, deceased paternal aunt, issue of John Joseph Mirabella, deceased paternal uncle, issue of Jennie Mirabella, deceased paternal aunt, if living and if dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin and distributees whose names and places of residence are unknown and if they died subsequent to the decedent herein, to their executors, administrators, legatees, devisees, 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 Grace M. Cahan, a/k/a Grace Mirabella, a/k/a Grace Mirabella Cahan, the decedent herein, whose names and places of residence are unknown and cannot, after diligent inquiry, be ascertained. Ralph T. Lilore, Marianne Lilore Caravela, Robert Notte, John Notte, New York County Public Administrator. An amended petition having been duly filed by Jade Hobson who is/are domiciled at 18 Spoonwood Road, Wilton, CT 06897. YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, New York County, at 31 Chambers Street, New York, New York, on June 24th, 2024 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Grace M. Cahan, aka Grace Mirabella, aka Grace Mirabella Cahan lately domiciled at 480 Park Avenue, Apt. 8G, New York, New York 10022, United States admitting to probate a Will dated December 11, 2014 a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Grace M. Cahan deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that: Letters Testamentary issue to Jade Hobson. Dated, Attested and Sealed, May 6th, 2024. HON. Hilary Gingold, Surrogate, Diana Sanabria, Chief Clerk. Print Name of Attorney: Matthew E. Smith, Esq. Firm: Wiggin and Dana LLP. Telephone: (203) 363-7639. Address: 437 Madison Avenue, 35th Floor, New York, New York 10022. Email (optional): msmith@wiggin.com. NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you. SURROGATE'S COURT OF THE COUNTY OF NEW YORK, 31 CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10007. (646) 386-5800. NOTICE TO CITED PARTIES. You have been served with a citation for a matter that is scheduled to be heard at a New York County Surrogate's Court calendar. Please be advised that pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Orders and Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence Marks' Administrative Orders now in effect in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this court is serving the public and court users primarily through virtual or electronic appearances; in-person appearances are limited at this time. The citation that you have received contains a return date. Please do not appear in the courthouse on that date. The following choices are available to you: - If you do not object to the relief requested, you do not need to contact the court or do anything else. - If you do object to the relief sought on the citation, you or your lawyer must send a document to the court signed by you or your lawyer indicating that: 1. You object to the relief or you are requesting discovery; OR

JOB HIGHLIGHT

Plumbers Local 1 in Long Island City recruiting apprentices

The Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee for Plumbers Local Union #1 will conduct a recruitment from June 10 through June 24 for 50 plumber apprentices.

The committee requires that applicants be at least 18 years old at the time of entry into the apprenticeship program and that they can submit a diploma from an accredited high school reflecting a minimum of four calendar years of high school work in an accredited school system with transcript.

In lieu of a four-year high school diploma, the committee will accept

applicants who hold a high school equivalency diploma issued by the State Department of Education of the state in which the test was taken, with a transcript confirming GED or TASC scores.

International students must submit a state issued High School Equivalency (HSE) issued by the state department of education in the state in which the test was taken, with a transcript confirming TASC or GED scores.

Applicants must be legally able to work in the U.S. They must show proof after selection and prior to enrollment in apprenticeship. They also must appear for a personal interview and must take a TABE assessment test.

After selection and prior to enrollment in apprenticeship, they must take and pass a drug test, at the expense of the sponsor.

FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE

The limited-application recruitment — 1,000 applications will be distributed, on a first-come, first-serve basis — will be offered for the period mentioned above or until all of the applications have been issued, whichever comes first.

Applications must be obtained in person by the applicant at the JATC for Plumbers Local Union #1 Training Center, 37-11 47th Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding Saturdays and Sundays,

during the recruitment period. All applicants are required to bring a form of positive proof of identification. Only one application per person will be issued until the supply of 1,000 is exhausted.

Applications must be completed and returned in person to the Local #1 training center from Friday July 19 through Thursday, July 25, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Upon return, the application must be fully completed and submitted with all relevant related documentation. A receipt will be issued to the person who returns the completed/sealed application.

There is a \$25 application fee to cover recruitment costs and a

\$25 exam fee to cover aptitude test cost. Applicants must submit a \$50 money order with the application. No cash or checks will be accepted. Applicants may request that this fee be waived. Fee waivers will be approved upon showing verifiable proof of financial need.

For further information, applicants should contact JATC for Plumbers Local Union #1 at (718) 752-9630. Additional job search assistance can be obtained at your local New York State Department of Labor Career Center at dol.ny.gov/career-centers.

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.

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

CITY EXAMS

► CLOSING JUNE 6

4302 Correction Officer \$47,857

► CLOSING JUNE 28

4308 Police Officer \$53,790

► CLOSING AUGUST 30

4322 Environmental Police Officer \$49,210

CUNY EXAMS

► OPEN CONTINUOUSLY

2059 Campus Security Assistant \$31,320
2060 Campus Security \$33,825

MTA EXAMS

► CLOSE JUNE 15

4628 Maintainer Helper - Group B \$24.28 per hour
4621 Signal Maintainer - NYCT \$42.82 per hour

► CLOSE JUNE 30

4129/4333 Bus Operator (MaBSTOA and MTA Bus) \$26.98 per hour
4144/4344 Bus Mechanic's Helper (C/Maintainer's Helper) (MaBSTOA & MTA Bus) 19.60 per hour
4617 Bus Operator - NYCT \$26.98 per hour

NASSAU COUNTY EXAMS

► CLOSING JUNE 17

88-575 Correction Officer \$39,155-\$107,532

► CLOSE JUNE 19

4017D Assistant Director of Pharmacy \$106,880-\$144,480
4023D Registered Professional Nurse Supervisor (School) \$74,909-\$103,872
4026D Medical Technologist III \$102,462-\$118,479
4031D Oncology Pharmacist \$126,563-

\$144,480

63-776 Respiratory Therapist I \$74,114-\$99,744

89-045 Librarian II \$79,333-\$107,179

► OPEN CONTINUOUSLY

7078 CR(D) Cytotechnologist I \$43,863-\$91,243

7094 CR(D) Cytotechnologist II \$52,099-\$108,383

7095 CR(D) Cytotechnologist III \$66,357-\$132,168

61-639 CR Librarian I \$43,000-\$61,333

60-180 CR Librarian I, Bilingual (Spanish Speaking)

5263 CR(D) Medical Technologist I \$31,963-\$74,978

5002 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Acute Care) \$59,507-\$108,383

5003 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Adult Health) \$59,507-\$108,383

5004 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Community Health) \$59,507-\$108,383

5005 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Family Health) \$59,507-\$108,383

5006 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Gerontology) \$59,507-\$108,383

5007 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Neonatology) \$59,507-\$108,383

5008 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Obstetrics/Gynecology) \$59,507-\$108,383

5009 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Oncology) \$59,507-\$108,383

5010 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Palliative Care) \$59,507-\$108,383

5011 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Pediatrics) \$59,507-\$108,383

5012 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Perinatology) \$59,507-\$108,383

5013 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Psychiatry) \$59,507-\$108,383

5014 CR Nurse Practitioner I (Women's Health) \$59,507-\$108,383

3138 CR(D) Occupational Therapist Assistant \$31,963-\$74,207

7288 CR(D) Occupational Therapist/Occupational Therapist I \$37,093-\$128,172

3139 CR(D) Pharmacist I \$56,636-

\$117,533

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

► CLOSING JUNE 12

7463 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator (2A) \$72,613

► CLOSE JUNE 26

0757 Website Specialist \$65,356-\$70,000

► CLOSE JULY 3

0047 Traffic Court Specialist Trainee \$39,333

7460 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Trainee \$55,012

► 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

2701 Drug Counselor \$47,502

WESTCHESTER EXAMS

► CLOSING JUNE 30

88-984 Library Director II

► OPEN CONTINUOUSLY

06-100 Emergency Medical Technician (Basic) \$53,760-\$67,010

02-600 Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee \$45,460-\$55,390

02-601 Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/Trainee

91-136 Paramedic (Local)

01-155 Cardiothoracic Surgical Physician Assistant

02-032 Clinical Pharmacy Specialist

02-900 Health Services Coordinator \$75,406-\$125,410

86-102 Hospital Pharmacist

93-133 Occupational Therapist (School Districts)

86-113 Occupational Therapist (WCMC)

94-138 Occupational Therapy Assistant

93-134 Physical Therapist (School

Districts)

86-115 Physical Therapist (WCMC)

03-100 Physical Therapy Assistant (School Districts)

94-137 Physical Therapy Assistant

87-116 Physician's Assistant

86-117 Public Health Nurse \$72,635-\$125,175

09-002 Radiology Information Systems Analyst

90-118 Staff Occupational Therapist

90-120 Staff Physical Therapist

87-124 Supervising Hospital Pharmacist

99-101 Supervising Public Health Nurse \$81,595-\$135,715

97-363 Supervisor of Medical Social Work

99-102 Surgical Physician Assistant - Specialty Services \$96,540-\$140,776

11-531 Coordinator of Computer Services

14-723 Database Specialist

20-532 Network Engineer II (BOCES #2)

10-529 Server Engineer I \$65,210-\$81,105

10-003 Software Architect I \$77,445-\$103,235

20-492 Systems Engineer I

20-493 Systems Engineer II

10-941 Technical Support Specialist

95-145 Senior Medical Technologist (Chemistry)

95-148 Senior Medical Technologist (Microbiology)

95-149 Senior Medical Technologist (Stat - General)

07-104 Supervisor Of Laboratories (General) \$78,729-\$117,831

07-102 Supervisor of Laboratories (Microbiology)

95-151 Supervisor of Laboratories (Special Chemistry) \$78,729-\$117,831

95-150 Supervisor of Labs (Anatomic Pathology) \$78,729-\$117,831

95-142 Technical Specialist (Microbiology)

02-030 Senior Assistant General Counsel

62-705 Librarian I

62-715 Librarian I (Children's Services)

62-741 Librarian I (Spanish Speaking)

63-020 Librarian II

63-034 Librarian II (Spanish Speaking)

63-045 Library Director I

STATE EXAMS

► CLOSING JUNE 19

21-015 Library Assistant I \$40,193

► OPEN CONTINUOUSLY

20-101 Actuary Trainee (Dept. of Financial Services) \$40,507-\$51,830

20-102 Actuary Trainee (State Insurance Fund) \$40,507-\$51,830

20-103 Actuary Trainee (Teachers' Retirement System) \$41,042-\$53,549

20-690 Addictions Counselor I \$50,722-\$64,557

20-691 Addictions Counselor 1 (Spanish Language) \$50,722-\$64,557

20-692 Addictions Counselor 2 \$56,604-\$71,980

20-104 Assistant Actuary (Department of Financial Services) \$42,883-\$54,678

20-687 Audiologist 1 \$50,722-\$64,557

20-688 Audiologist 2 \$56,604-\$71,980

20-517 Bank Examiner \$59,839

20-077 Child Protective Services Specialist I \$50,722

20-078 Child Protective Services Specialist 1 (Spanish Language) \$50,722

20-075 Child Protective Services Specialist Trainee \$42,986

20-076 Child Protective Services Specialist Trainee (Spanish Language) \$42,986

20-953 Clinical Physician I \$117,556-

\$141,585

20-954 Clinical Physician 1 (Spanish Language) \$117,556-\$141,585

20-955 Clinical Physician 2 \$129,866-\$155,452

20-956 Clinical Physician 2 (Spanish Language) \$129,866-\$155,452

20-489 Community Mental Health Nurse \$59,671-\$75,785

20-490 Community Mental Health Nurse (Spanish Language) \$59,671-\$75,785

20-969 Community Nursing Services Consultant (Home Health Services) \$63,041-\$72,012

20-531 Dental Hygienist \$43,484

20-974 Dietitian 2 \$56,604-\$71,980

20-149 Direct Support Assistant Trainee \$32,972

20-150 Direct Support Assistant Trainee (Spanish Language) \$32,972

20-349 Emergency Medical Technician \$42,631

20-523 Emergency Medical Technician (Paramedic) \$53,019

20-724 State Program Examiner Trainee 1 (Fiscal) \$45,455-\$71,980

Auditor Trainee 1 (Abandoned Property)

20-911 Health Care Surveyor 2 (Nursing) \$54,045-\$68,637

20-259 Health Information Management Administrator 1 \$53,568

20-282 Health Information Management Administrator 2 \$59,671

20-283 Health Information Management Administrator 3 \$69,603

20-257 Health Information Management Technician 1 \$42,986

20-258 Health Information Management Technician 2 \$48,027

20-100 Health Services Nurse 48,027-\$61,229 (Upstate), \$62,200-75,402 (Downstate)

20-969 Hospital Nursing Services Consultant \$63,041-\$72,012

20-867 Hospital Patient Services Clerk 1 (SUNY Syracuse) \$30,461

20-869 Hospital Patient Services Clerk 1 (SUNY Stony Brook) \$33,442

20-131 Legal Specialties \$56,745-\$100,091 (M/C), \$56,604-\$102,661 (PEF)

20-050 Licensed Master Social Worker 1 \$56,604

20-051 Licensed Master Social Worker 1 (Various Language Proficiencies) \$56,604

20-052 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 \$62,726

20-054 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Acute Care/Rehabilitation)

20-056 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Addictions)

20-058 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Children and Youth)

20-060 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Developmental Disabilities)

20-062 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Forensic)

20-064 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Geriatric)

20-066 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Mental Health)

20-068 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Sex Offender Assessment and Treatment)

20-053 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 (Various Language Proficiencies) \$62,726

20-055 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 Acute Care/Rehabilitation (VLP)

20-057 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 Addictions (VLP)

20-059 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 Children and Youth (VLP)

20-061 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 Developmental Disabilities (VLP)

20-063 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 Forensic (VLP)

20-065 Licensed Master Social Worker 2 Geriatric (VLP)

20-413 Licensed Practical Nurse \$37,366-\$47,857

LABOR AROUND THE WORLD

Walmart workers score more perks

From a bonus plan to opportunities in skilled trade jobs

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
Associated Press

Walmart is offering new perks for its hourly U.S. workers, ranging from a new bonus plan to opportunities to move into skilled trade jobs within the company.

The perks program announced Wednesday comes as the nation's largest private employer says it's seeing a decline in worker turnover. But Walmart, like other employers, faces a still-competitive labor market and increasing demands from its employees.

Walmart's new bonus plan for eligible part-time and full-time U.S. store workers — including those in its pharmacy and Vision Centers — is based on their store's performance, with the maximum bonus potential also tied to years of experience.

For example, a full-time worker who's been with Walmart between one year and almost five years can earn a maximum bonus of \$350 per year, while a 20-year full-time worker can earn a maximum bonus of \$1,000, Walmart said. The plan will be available to 700,000 U.S. workers, the company said.

The company, based in Bentonville, Arkansas, is also launching a training program for hourly workers in its U.S. stores and supply networks that will give them an opportunity to move into roles in facilities maintenance, refrigeration, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, and automation. Walmart said it is looking to increase these skilled trades workers from 450 to roughly 2,000 in the next two years.

The jobs pay between \$19 and \$45 per hour, and workers will be paid during the training, the company said. Walmart's average hourly wage is close to \$18, an increase of 30 percent over the past five years. Walmart's starting wages for U.S. workers range between \$14 and \$19 an hour.

The training program is expected to start with 100 workers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. It is part of the Walmart Academy, one of the largest skill-development programs in the country.

Walmart said the skilled trades initiative is similar to a program it announced two years ago that gave employees who work in its distribution and fulfillment centers a chance to become certified Walmart truck drivers through a 12-week program taught by the company's established drivers. At the time, it said it was raising pay for its 12,000 truck drivers. The starting range for new drivers is now between \$95,000 and \$110,000 a year. The retailer said that \$87,500 had been the average that new truck drivers could make in their first year.

Walmart spokeswoman Anne Hatfield said the trucker program has produced more than 500 new drivers since launching in the spring of 2022. That's helped the company navigate an industrywide shortage of truck drivers.

Walmart has similar training and development programs for pharmacy tech and opticians.

Meanwhile, Walmart said Wednesday it is expanding the number of skills certificates available to help fast-track front-line workers into about 100,000 jobs that are higher paying and in demand at the company over the next three years.

In 2020, the company offered five skilled certificates. Now, there are 50. They include topics such as front-line manager leadership, people and business leadership, data science, software development and project management.

Employees can earn the certificates in four months, according to Lo Stomski, Walmart's senior vice president and chief talent officer.

As a key labor union pushes into the South, red states respond

BY KEVIN HARDY
Stateline

Just days before workers at a Mercedes-Benz plant in Alabama began voting last month on whether to unionize, Republican Governor Kay Ivey signed a new law that would claw back state incentives from companies that voluntarily recognize labor unions.

Alabama's move followed similar efforts in Georgia and Tennessee, where GOP leaders also have passed laws pushing against a reinvigorated labor movement.

The laws require that unions be formed only by secret ballots rather than the so-called card check process, in which employers can voluntarily recognize a union without a protracted election process. And under the laws, companies that voluntarily recognize unions risk losing state incentives, which amount to billions of dollars invested by governments to bring automakers to the region.

These new laws speak to the growing push of labor unions into Southern states — and the fierce opposition of pro-business GOP leaders there. For decades, the region has attracted investments from foreign automakers with lucrative tax breaks, low-cost labor and a lack of labor unions. Labor leaders hope that is changing now that workers at Volkswagen's plant in Chattanooga, Tennessee, overwhelmingly endorsed a union in April, becoming the first foreign auto plant in the South ever organized by the United Auto Workers.

Unions such as the UAW argue their involvement can help boost wages and improve the work environment at auto plants. But GOP forces in the South view unions as an existential threat to their manufacturing economies — of even more importance now that states are increasingly competing for electric vehicle and battery plants.

Mercedes-Benz workers outside of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, voted



George Walker IV/AP Photo

Volkswagen automobile plant employee Alvin Brookfield arrived for a watch party to see the results of a union election in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in April.

against joining a union at their plant, in a setback for the labor movement. But more organizing drives are underway in Alabama and South Carolina.

A 'blockade'

Many Southern states where unions have begun to focus already are less friendly to organizing. They are so-called right-to-work states, where each employee in a workplace can decide whether to join and pay union dues, though all workers are represented by the union.

Seeking to capitalize on major contract wins it secured for workers last year at the nation's Big Three automakers (GM, Ford and Stellantis), the United Auto Workers union announced plans to spend \$40 million through 2026 to help organize workers at auto and battery plants across the country, with a particular focus on the South. The union did not respond to multiple Stateline requests for comment.

A week before April's monumental vote at the Tennessee Volkswa-

gen plant, six Southern Republican governors warned that unionization would jeopardize the region's auto jobs. In addition to Ivey in Alabama, the governors of Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas also signed on.

And Ivey continued to rally against organized labor in auto plants, as she announced she had signed the state's bill regarding secret ballots.

"Alabama is not Michigan," Ivey said at a chamber of commerce event. "We want to ensure that Alabama values, not Detroit values, continue to define the future of this great state."

It's unclear how much impact the new laws will have. The vote in Chattanooga was conducted by secret ballot with nearly three-quarters of all workers who voted in the election choosing to join the UAW. Tennessee awarded Volkswagen more than \$500 million in incentives to build its plant there in 2008.

To Tennessee state Rep. Yusuf Hakeem, the 2023 law regarding union elections passed in his state was yet

another GOP effort to "blockade" union power in the South.

"It's typical, in my view, for Southern states to have that kind of a mindset: to have less of a voice for workers as opposed to having an exchange between workers and employer," said Hakeem, a Democrat.

Hakeem said the UAW's landslide win in his hometown of Chattanooga exposed a political miscalculation on the part of Republicans who view economic development prospects and union organizing as mutually exclusive.

"I thought it was huge," he said. "They thought that scare tactics would be the winning thing for them ... and the union workers demonstrated that they have a backbone."

The American Legislative Exchange Council, a conservative group known as ALEC that works with lawmakers across the country, introduced model legislation similar to the laws already passed in Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee.

ALEC did not respond to a request for comment, but the organization's involvement could further push the legislative concept across red states, particularly in the South.

That expansion is likely to happen, said Vincent Vernuccio, a senior fellow at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, a conservative think tank that worked with Tennessee Republican lawmakers on their legislation.

"We're seeing a snowball effect," he said of the legislation. "It is getting noticed and I fully expect it to spread."

Billy Dycus, president of the Tennessee AFL-CIO Labor Council, viewed fierce GOP opposition to Chattanooga's union effort as a boon to the cause.

"I think that helped more than it hurt," he said. "People say, 'You know what, we're kind of tired of the government telling us how we should run our lives.'"

Stateline, founded in 1998, provides daily reporting and analysis on trends in state policy.

Ahead of elections, tractors again rumble along Europe's streets

Far right pounces on farmers' discontent

BY RAF CASERT
Associated Press

The far-right Flemish Interest party had set up the demonstration in the picture-pretty rolling fields south of Brussels, ahead of the four-day European Union election starting Thursday. The goal was clear: Decrying how farmers would lose fertile land to what they see as overbearing environmentalists trying to turn it into a chain of woods, killing off a traditional way of life.

It was also another show how agriculture has been instrumentalized by the populist and hard right groups throughout the 27-nation bloc.

In a final push Tuesday, militant agricultural groups from more than a half dozen nations were converging on Brussels in a show of force that they hoped would sweep the progressive Green Deal climate pact off the table and give farmers the leeway they had for so long in deciding how to till the land. There too, the impact of the far right was clear, with representatives from several EU nations attending the protest that drew hundreds of tractors.

'Nobody defends us'

At last week's small protest south of the capital, farmer Eduard Van Overstraeten was growling. "As a farmer, you have just been turned into a number," he said. Of the 148 acres he used to farm for wheat, corn and potatoes, he said he was forced to sell a quarter of it — including his farmhouse — to help make a string of distinct woods around Brussels to become one continuous nature zone to improve biodiversity and fight pollution.

Similar stories of discontent, centering on limiting use of manure and pesticides to forcing parts of farmland to be kept pristine nature zones for the benefit of birds and bees — and eventually the population at large — have driven this influential electoral base of conserva-



Nicolas Mollo/AP Photo

French farmers drove their tractor to block the Birioutou pass, at the French-Spanish border on Tuesday. French and Spanish farmers blocked the border to seek to put pressure on the European Union ahead of Sunday's European election.

tive Christian Democrats further to the fringes of the right.

"Nobody defends us, so others have to come to power," said Van Overstraeten.

And just as a wealthy think tank funded by the self-proclaimed illiberal Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has helped Tuesday's and previous demonstrations in Brussels, it is the surging Flemish Interest party that does so at a local level.

"They are looking for another party that brings a credible story. And that is us," said Klaas Sloopmans, a parliamentarian for the Flemish Interest. "It is common sense that you need to protect farmers and food supplies."

It is the crux of the political issue that pits farmers against environmentalists, the greens and much of the left against the populist and far-

right forces: do you protect farmers and food supplies by giving farmers free rein to work as they see best? Or by hemming them in and imposing strict regulations to cut pollution and promote a life closer to nature that would contain the excesses of climate change?

Over the past year though, scientific arguments have taken a second seat to the rumble of the street.

Crucially, the center parties, especially the Christian Democrats, have started to dither and waver toward the right following months of unrelenting demonstrations across the bloc, with hundreds of tractors often blocking essential economic lifelines or many of Europe's great cities like Paris and Madrid.

As climate change, with droughts, heat waves, floods and fires, started to increasingly wreak havoc, the

EU sought to bring tough laws as part of its Green Deal to make the bloc climate-neutral by 2050. Agriculture accounts for more than 10 percent of EU greenhouse gas emissions, from sources such as the nitrous oxide in fertilizers, carbon dioxide from vehicles and methane from cattle.

For years the EU became the globe's trendsetter which earned plenty of plaudits on the international stage, but lost its farming base, which was increasingly lost in myriad rules that sometimes pinpointed when what could be sowed and reaped, and even had satellite surveillance to check on it. It was fodder for the extreme right, which railed in the European Parliament and in countless demonstrations about bureaucratic interference.