



Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

COVID-19 Updates



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Photo Credit: Mayor's Office

August 13, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NYC Mayor Announces Uptick of COVID-19 Cases in Brooklyn

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

Mayor Launches NYC Tenant Resource Portal; Department of Education Plans for Opening in Fall; Newkirk Plaza Subway Office Hours; and More!

NYS Confirmed: 423,440

NYS Deaths: 25,228

NYC Confirmed: 229,167

Brooklyn Confirmed: 63,542

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Credit: AP

- **Governor Cuomo** announced that **Hawaii, South Dakota and Virgin Islands** met the metrics to qualify for the travel advisory.
 - Individuals traveling to New York from those regions must quarantine for 14 days.
 - Alaska, New Mexico, Ohio and Rhode Island have been removed from the travel advisory.
 - View full list of restricted states [here](#).
- The governor signed bills ([S.4336/A.6163](#)) requiring all passengers in motor vehicles **over the age of 16** to wear a **seat belt**.
 - "Currently, passengers aged 16 and older are only required to wear a seat belt in the front passenger seat next to the driver."
 - Read more [here](#).
- The governor has ordered state police to investigate anti-Semitic graffiti left on two upper east side buildings, including the office of Assemblymember Rebecca A. Seawright. Read more [here](#).
- The governor threatened to revoke the licenses of PSEG and ConEd because of their "lousy" response to Tropical Storm Isaias. Read more [here](#).

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO

NYC Tenant Resource Portal

the resources tenants need in one place:
nyc.gov/tenantresourceportal



Photo Credit: Mayor's Office

- **Mayor de Blasio** announced the new **Tenant Resource Portal** to help tenants living in NYC.
 - The portal will provide resources and free legal service.
 - To access the portal visit [here](#).
- The city is bringing back the **Commercial Lease Assistance Program** to help small businesses.
 - **\$1.5 million** has been restored to the program.
 - This program provides free legal support to help small business owners address issues with their landlords.
 - **900** cases have been resolved through this program to date.
- **30** of the largest employers in NYC came together to create the NY Jobs CEO Council.
 - The council's goal to hire **100,000** low-income New Yorkers by 2030.
 - The Council will partner with CUNY to provide apprenticeship opportunities and hire **25,000** students.
- The mayor announced that there is an uptick of coronavirus cases in **Sunset Park**, Brooklyn.
 - The recent uptick of **228** cases occurred after 3,300 neighborhood residents were tested in the last two weeks.
 - This represents a **6.9%** positivity rate, compared to the citywide average of around 1%.
 - The city will increase outreach and testing efforts in Sunset Park by expanding testing capacity, and engaging with residents through door knocking, and phone calls.

- The city will also provide two mobile testing units in the Sunset Park area.
 - Read [here](#) for more information.
- According to the mayor, **10,000** businesses have been certified as a Minority and Women-owned business with the city.
 - The city has awarded **\$16 billion** to MWBE's.
 - Read more [here](#).
- The mayor launched the **community hiring economic justice plan**, which includes new Project Labor Agreements.
 - This agreement with the building trades unions will focus on economic recovery in economically disadvantaged communities.
 - This plan will provide approximately **1,300** construction jobs for every **\$1 billion** in construction for low-income communities. Read more [here](#).
 - The mayor called for the passage of the **Community Hiring Bill** in the state legislature to require that businesses who get government support hire low-income New Yorkers.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Wall Street Journal

- Last week, the number of filings for unemployment benefits fell **below one million** for the first time since March. Read more [here](#).
- Experts warn that the Trump administration's new **coronavirus database** will have "serious consequences on data integrity." Read more [here](#).

- President Trump's senior aides announced that the administration is providing **less** unemployment financial assistance than the president initially advertised. Read more [here](#).
- The U.S. government has now signed **six deals** with vaccine-makers to produce coronavirus shots, however companies are facing challenges. Read more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Photo Credit: Mayor's Office; Custodial staff cleaning classroom with electrolyte cleaning.

- The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will work with the Department of Education to ensure that every school will have a **certified nurse** this upcoming school year.
- The mayor announced that schools will be sanitized using **electrolyte** cleaning daily.
 - This method will allow custodial staff to clean classrooms in two minutes or less.
- **DOE Chancellor Richard Carranza** announced that every classroom will have hand sanitizer and disinfectant available.
 - Students will also be required to wear face coverings. Face coverings will be provided to students who do not have one.
- The mayor announced that students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms. Read more [here](#).

- This week, students can participate in the Department of Education's **Summer Enrichment Music and Dance challenge** by visiting [here](#).
- Influential principals and teachers' unions called on the mayor to **delay** the start of in-person instruction by several weeks. Read more [here](#).
 - Currently, classes are scheduled to started September 10th.
- Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and Council Member Farah Louis hosted a 2020 Fall School Reopening Plan Constituent Information Conference Call on Monday, August 10th. To hear a **recording** of the call, visit [here](#).

NYS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES UPDATE



NEW YORK STATE

Department of Motor Vehicles

COVID-19 adjustments

New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offices are now reopened and some offer in-person transactions by reservation only. All transactions that do not require an office visit must be completed online, by mail or by drop box. Visit <https://dmv.ny.gov/offices/dmv-office-locations> to see the offices open in your county.

- New Yorkers can access many services online, such as renewing licenses and vehicle registrations, changing an address, obtaining driving records or resolving New York City traffic tickets. For a full list of available online transactions, visit <https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/all-online-transactions>.
- Reservations are now available for road tests statewide. All customers arriving for a road test must adhere to safety requirements, which you can find at <https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/dmv-reopening-guidance#road>.
- Visit <https://dmv.ny.gov/offices/dmv-office-locations> to see the offices in your county that are offering in-person driver's license and permit tests and other services.
- Enhanced Driver's License and REAL ID applications have been put on hold due to federal requirements for in-person processing. The federal REAL ID enforcement deadline has been extended one year until October 1, 2021.
- The five-hour course necessary to get a driver's license can now be conducted through distance learning (<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-dmv-licensed-driving-schools-can-now-conduct-distance-learning-pre>).

To help New Yorkers avoid potential hardship, the DMV has extended until further notice: any driver's licenses, permits, non-driver identification cards, and vehicle registrations that were due to expire on March 1 or after; vehicle inspections that were due to expire on March 31 or after; and 45-day temporary registrations issued by auto dealers.

The DMV is urging New Yorkers to be patient during this time as DMV employees are working hard to answer any questions residents may have. For questions about what services the DMV is currently offering, go to www.dmv.ny.gov or call 518-486-9786.

Updated 8-11-2020

For questions about what services the DMV is currently offering, visit [here](#) or call 518-486-9786.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

NYS DOL HAS PREVENTED

\$1,000,000,000+

IN UI FRAUD SINCE MARCH

WE ARE YOUR DOL

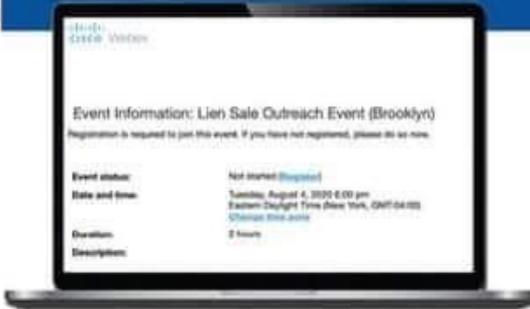


- Today, the NYS Department of Labor announced that they they prevented **42,000** cases or more than **\$1 billion** in **fraudulent** payments.
- The DOL urges anyone who did not apply for unemployment benefits but receives a monetary determination letter to immediately report it [here](#).
- According to the **Federal Trade Commission (FTC)**, here are some steps to prevent identity theft:
 - Changing passwords, logins, and pins for online accounts, especially banks;
 - Placing a free fraud alert on accounts with the three credit bureaus (Experian, TransUnion, and Equifax);
 - Getting a free credit report from [here](#);
 - Reporting the identity theft to the FTC;
 - Filing a report with their local police department, if they wish; and
 - Reporting a misused Social Security number.
 - Read more [here](#).

PROPERTY TAX LIEN SALE OUTREACH SESSION



Property Tax Lien Sale Virtual Outreach Sessions



- ▶ Learn about the NYC lien sale process for unpaid tax, water, and emergency repair charges.
- ▶ Understand the options for preventing the sale of your lien and avoid future lien sales.
- ▶ Learn about other resources available to homeowners.

August 2020 Lien Sale Virtual Outreach Sessions		
Date	Time	Host Borough
August 4	6:00pm	Brooklyn
August 12	6:00pm	Queens
August 20	6:00pm	Staten Island
August 24	6:00pm	Bronx/Manhattan
August 29	11:00am	All Boroughs

You can attend any event, in any borough, no matter where your property is located.

To register for and attend a Webex Outreach session visit:
www.nyc.gov/liensale



To register for and attend a Webex Outreach session visit [here](http://www.nyc.gov/liensale).

BLACK WOMEN EQUAL PAY DAY

BLACK WOMEN EQUAL PAY DAY

AUGUST 13

This day represents **how far into 2020 Black women must work to earn what their white male counterparts made in 2019.**

Systemic racism and inequality are damaging America. The Assembly Majority is fighting for a fairer future.



CALL OUT THE COUNT - CENSUS

CALL OUT THE COUNT

Join NYC CENSUS, BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY & YMCA of GREATER NEW YORK for a very special 2020 Census phone banking event!

Thursday, August 13th

11:30 am – 2 pm EST
(Español)

RSVP: bit.ly/MakeBKCount_ES

2:30 – 5 pm EST
(English)

RSVP: bit.ly/MakeBKCount

5:30 – 8 pm EST
(English)

RSVP: bit.ly/MakeBKCount



SENATOR ZELLNOR Y. MYRIE



SENATOR JULIA SALAZAR



CONGRESSWOMAN YVETTE D. CLARKE



ATTORNEY GENERAL LETITIA JAMES



ASSEMBLYMEMBER RODNEYSE BICHOTTE

WITH MUSIC FROM

DJ Cali Torrez
@cali_torrez

DJ Annie Red
@DJ_Annie_Red

MORE SPECIAL GUESTS TO BE ANNOUNCED!



YMCA OF
GREATER NEW YORK
Where there's a Y,
there's a way.

- Today, the Brooklyn Public Library, YMCA, Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and elected officials will participate in a **"Call Out the Count"** effort to

encourage New Yorkers to complete the census. You can sign up [here](#) to volunteer.

- The census asks just 10 simple questions that can be answered in just a few minutes online by visiting [here](#) or by calling [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020).

NEWKIRK PLAZA SUBWAY OFFICE HOURS



Photo Credit: Mapquest

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte invites you to Subway Summer Office Hours at Newkirk Plaza on Friday, **August 14, 2020** from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The Newkirk Plaza station B/Q line is located at Newkirk Avenue and East 16th Street. Please note this event may be subject to change due to weather. Rain date will be Tuesday, August 18, 2020.

AMC THEATRES



Photo Credit: Entertainment Weekly

AMC will reopen more than 100 US theaters on August 20. In order to commemorate its centennial, AMC is offering **15 cent** tickets on opening day. Read more [here](#).

ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING

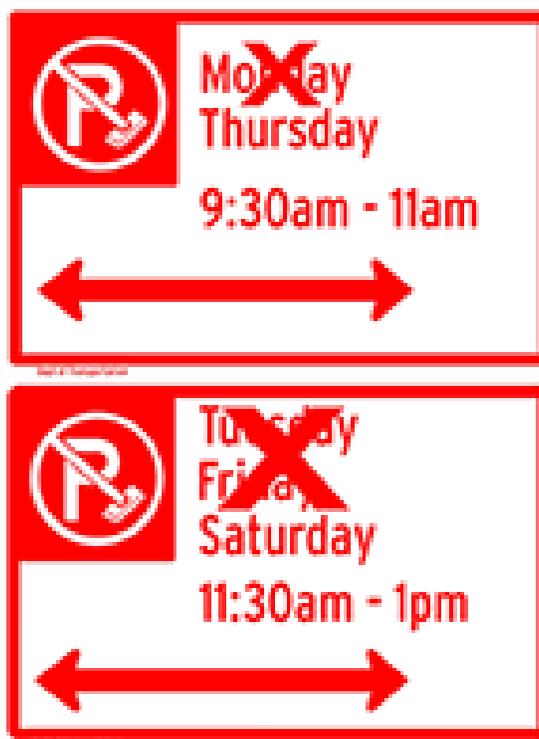


Photo Credit: NYC DOT

- NYC Alternate Side Parking (ASP) is in effect from **Monday, August 3rd** to **Friday, August 14th**. Parking meters also remain in effect.

- **Saturday, August 15:** ASP is suspended for Feast of the Assumption.
- **Monday, August 17 - Saturday, September 5:** ASP is in effect.
- **Monday, September 7:** ASP is suspended for Labor Day.
- For more information visit [here](#).

COVID-19 TESTING IN FLATBUSH

Assemblymember
Rodneyse Bichotte
42nd Assembly District

**FLATBUSH
AVENUE WALK-IN
COVID-19 TESTING SITE**

This testing site is by appointment only.

You **must** contact the
NYS Department of Health
at **1-888-364-3065** to
schedule an appointment.

Brookdale Family Care Center
1095 Flatbush Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11226

For more information about this or any community concern,
contact Assemblymember Bichotte's district office
718-940-0428 | bichotter@nyassembly.gov | www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte

We have a COVID-19 testing site in the **42nd Assembly District**. **You must make an appointment before visiting the center or you will be turned away.** To make an

appointment you **must** contact the NYS Department of Health at **888-364-3065**.

MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN CHILDREN (MIS-C)



Photo Credit: Norton Children's

Governor Cuomo announced that a new investigation is underway regarding potential COVID-19 related **cases in children**. Symptoms can be compared to Kawasaki disease and toxic shock-like syndrome. The Department of Health issued an advisory of what's called the Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children, or MIS-C, and now **requires** health care providers to **immediately report** all related cases. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene released a [health advisory](#) detailing current findings.

- New Yorkers should **seek immediate** care if a child has:
 - Prolonged fever (more than five days)
 - Difficulty feeding (infants) or is too sick to drink fluids
 - Severe abdominal pain, diarrhea or vomiting
 - Change in skin color - becoming pale, patchy and/or blue
 - Trouble breathing or is breathing very quickly
 - Racing heart or chest pain
 - Decreased amount of frequency in urine
 - Lethargy, irritability or confusion

THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



Working hard
to provide the
medication
we need.

Thank you
pharmacy workers.

During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **Pharmacy Workers** for their diligence in providing the right prescription and care to customers.

COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte

As we face unprecedented challenges in the fight against COVID-19, we must remember to complete the **2020 Census**. The census asks just 10 simple questions that can be answered in just a few minutes online by visiting [here](#) or by calling [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020).

AVOID SCAMS

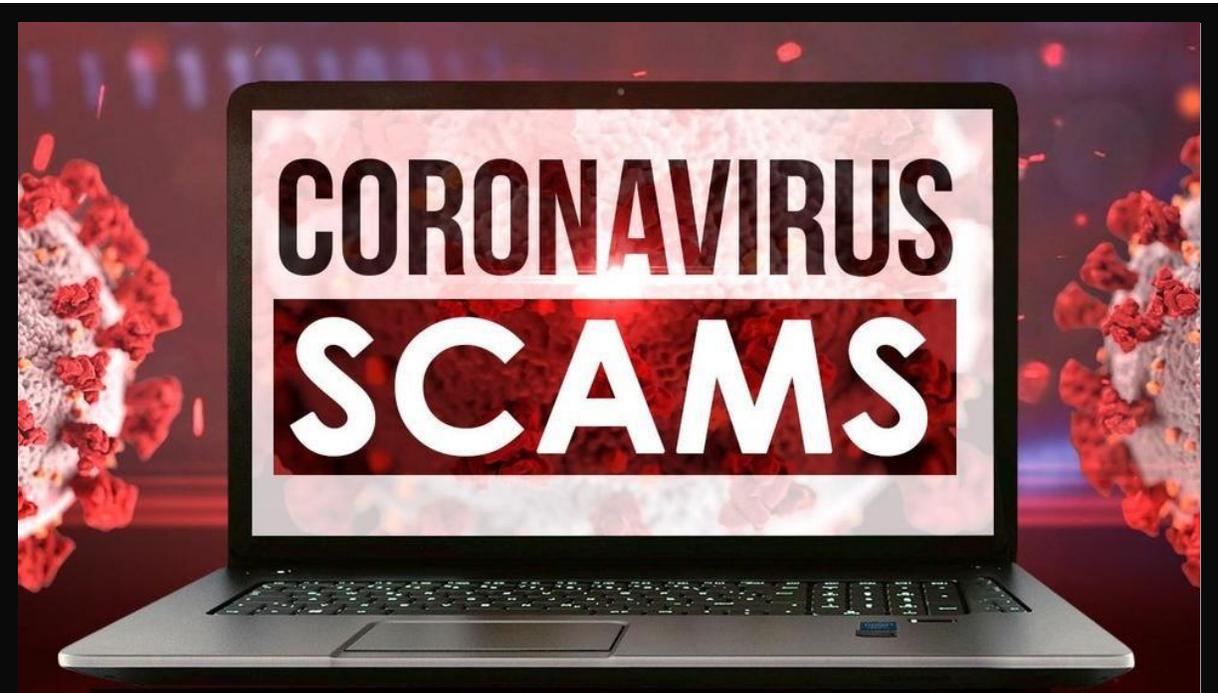


Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office by filling out a [complaint form](#).
- **NYS Price Gouging Hotline: 800-697-1220.**
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

SERVICES AND RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- **Employment Resources**
- **Food Assistance**
- **Health & Medical Assistance**
- **Financial Assistance**
- **Rent Arrears and Public Assistance**
- **Emotional Support & Spiritual Care**
- **Other Assistance**

Visit this [website](#) for resources.

NYS Department of Health Hotline for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test ([888-364-3065](tel:888-364-3065)). NYC residents should call ([844-692-4692](tel:844-692-4692)).

Volunteer to Support

Others: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers.

Free Internet Services:

[Charter](#) is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for **60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students** who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, call **844-488-8395**. Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit [here](#).

FreshDirect meals:

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams in partnership with **FreshDirect** is providing free food packages. Each box contains the following:

- Rice, 2 bags, 16oz
- Pasta, 2 boxes, 16oz
- Canned beans, 2 cans, 10-16oz
- Canned Meat/Fish, 2 cans, 3 to 5 oz
- Canned Vegetable, 2 cans, 8 to 15 oz
- Raisins / Dry Fruit, 4 boxes, 2 oz per box
- Cereal/Oatmeal, 1 Box, 10 to 20 oz
- Milk / Milk Substitute, 1 container, 32 oz
- Corn, 2 ears
- 2 Potatoes
- 1 Onion
- 1 Carrot
- Orange / Apple, 2 in total

from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Visit their [website](#) for more information.

- **Open Society Foundation** has established the **Immigrant Emergency Relief Program** which is a \$20 million fund that will provide 20,000 undocumented immigrants with a one-time monetary emergency relief.
 - \$400/individual
 - \$800/couple or single parent with children
 - \$1,000/family with multiple adults and children
 - for more information, click [here](#).

SMALL BUSINESS

- The Federal Government is offering programs to support small businesses:
 - **Paycheck Protection Program** provides a loan that will be forgiven if employees are retained on payroll for a period of time. For more information, click [here](#).
 - **Economic Injury Disaster Loan** is a low interest loan to cover expense beyond payroll costs. For more information, click [here](#).
- New York City Small Business Services has a host of other services for small businesses including grant and loan opportunities. For more information, click [here](#).

In-District Businesses open/closed provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID**: Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue Business directory [here](#). Businesses open/closed list provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation**: Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory [here](#). Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road - Foster Ave.)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Ditmas Park

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SICK WITH COVID-19



What to do if you are sick with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care

You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people in your home

As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

Call ahead before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Wear a facemask

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can and wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, immediately clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.

Clean your hands

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid sharing personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. After using these items, you should wash them thoroughly with soap and water.

Monitor your symptoms

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., shortness of breath or difficulty breathing). **Before** seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider's office keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html>.

Discontinuing home isolation

Patients confirmed to have COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Current information on COVID-19 is limited; home precautions are conservative and based on general recommendations for other diseases, like Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

STAY INFORMED

STAY INFORMED

about
coronavirus



Health officials are working tirelessly to protect public health and contain this virus. And, as your representative in Albany, I am working to ensure that our state is putting the health and safety of our families first.

Remember **COVID-19** can affect any community and we must stand by one another during this time, not alienate, threaten or discriminate against others.

For questions you can also reach out to the New York State's novel coronavirus hotline at **1-888-364-3065**. For continuous updates, you can visit the following websites:

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

The CDC also now has the option for you to sign up for weekly updates on COVID-19.

New Yorkers Can Sign Up for Email Updates [Here](#) and Ask Questions About COVID-19 [Here](#)

New Yorkers Can Find More Information About the New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law [Here](#)

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs)**, and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education, Banks, Health, and Higher Education**. She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force**.

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration, education, economic development, unemployment, education reform, health care access, senior citizen centers, affordable housing, school safety, women's and LGBTQ rights**, as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her websites:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>
and www.rodneysebichotte.net

STAY CONNECTED

