



Assemblymember  
**RODNEYSE BICHOTTE**  
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

**COVID-19 Updates**



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Photo Credit: Joshua Rashaad McFadden/New York Times

**September 8, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:**

Sabrina Rezzys

rezzys@nyassembly.gov

718-940-0428

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## **AG Letitia James Forming Grand Jury to Investigate Daniel Prude's Death**

*Amid Coronavirus Pandemic*

Governor Cuomo to Postpone Tax Lien Auction in New York City; House Democrats Plan to Launch Investigation Into Postmaster General Louis DeJoy; and More!

**NYS Confirmed: 440,578**

**NYS Deaths: 25,367**  
**NYC Confirmed: 236,434**  
**Brooklyn Confirmed: 65,757**

**NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO**



Photo Credit: Barry Williams/New York Daily News

- State Attorney General **Letitia James** said she will assemble a **grand jury** to investigate the death of **Daniel Prude**, who died after being pinned down and hooded by officers in Rochester.
  - In March, Prude's brother called medics and the police to help Prude when he was suffering a mental health crisis. Now, the death is being investigated as a homicide. To learn more about the Daniel Prude case visit [here](#).
  - The **Rochester Police Chief** and entire police command have resigned in the wake of accusations that the department covered up the circumstances of Prude's death.
  - **Governor Cuomo** asked James to investigate as "expeditiously as possible".
- Governor Cuomo issued an **Executive Order** to temporarily prevent New York City from holding its annual **lien sale**. At the sale, private companies are allowed to bid on homeowners tax and water debt.
  - The lien sale had previously been postponed from the spring.

- Attorney General Letitia James stated that the lien sale would bring an "unnecessary financial burden on New York's homeowners", especially minority owners in neighborhoods hardest hit by the pandemic. She applauded the governor's decision to postpone the sale.
- Approximately **9,100** properties are on the auction list.
- The governor's extension will last until **October 3**.
- To read more visit [here](#).
- The **hospitalization rate** for COVID-19 statewide is **410**, the lowest since mid-March, while the infection rate over the last **30 days** has been less than **1%**.
- Governor Cuomo announced today that health departments, laboratories, and school districts are now mandated to provide COVID-19 testing data from children to the **Department of Health** for the state.
  - This data will be utilized to provide a road map on the spread of the coronavirus in the state's public school system.
  - This data will be displayed in a new type of "**report card**" being created by the state Department of Health. When the reporting comes back, it will be available [here](#).
  - The governor believes these reports will give parents and teachers confidence, because they will "know on a day-to-day basis exactly what is happening," and will no longer have to rely on the school district for communication.
  - For more on this story, read [here](#).
- The NYC Board of Elections announced that voters will be able to deliver absentee ballots to **drop boxes**, which will be placed at BOE borough offices, early voting sites and polling locations.
  - The governor signed an **Executive Order** cementing that the boxes will be available at more than **300** early voting sites. Read more [here](#).

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO

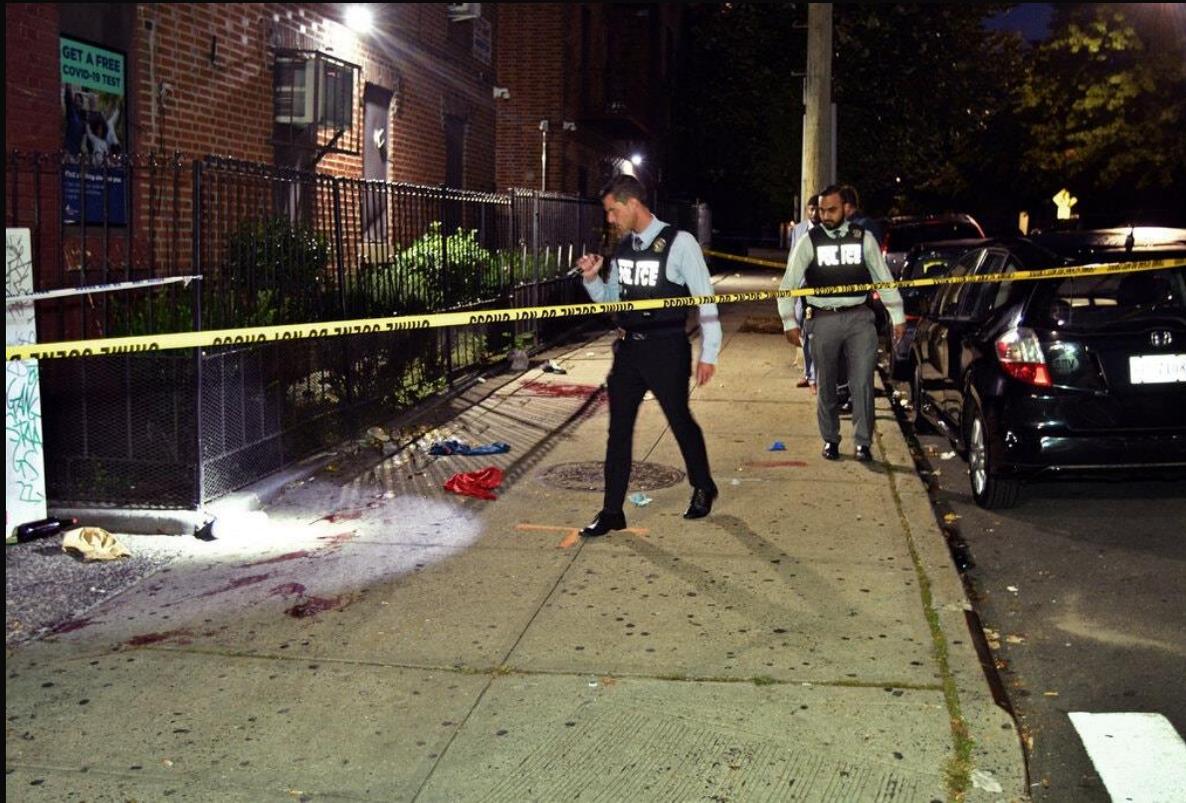


Photo Credit: Lloyd Mitchell/New York Times

- The **J'Ouvert Carnival** was canceled this year because of the coronavirus, but **5 people** were shot at unofficial celebrations in Brooklyn.
  - Among the victims of the shootings is a **6-year-old** boy who was with his mother, who was also hit when the gunfire erupted. For more information on the incident click [here](#).
- Mayor de Blasio and the **Department of Education** announced plans for in-person students who will be using **school buses** to attend classes.
  - Buses will operate at **25% capacity**;
  - **Face masks** will be required;
  - Students will be seated next to the window in every other row;
  - Only **siblings** will be allowed to sit together; and
  - Buses will be disinfected every day. To read more on this, visit [here](#).
- Mayor de Blasio also announced a new program called **Learning Bridges**, which hopes to help working class parents with children in **Pre-K to 8th grade** go back to work. The program will accept **30,000** students. For more information click [here](#).
- For any parent wishing to switch their child to fully remote learning, NYC Department of Education has created a means to do so online by clicking [here](#).
- Parents can also view the **reopening update** from DOE **Chancellor Carranza** by clicking [here](#).

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Tom Williams/Pool/Reuters

- Amidst turmoil over the defunding of the USPS, House Democrats will be launching an investigation into **Postmaster General Louis DeJoy**.
  - This investigation will highlight accusations that DeJoy reimbursed employees for campaign contributions given to GOP candidates of his choice. The House is calling for DeJoy's immediate suspension. For more information click [here](#).
- A group of **9 drug companies** joined together under a **joint pledge** that they will not put forth a vaccine until it has been scientifically vetted and tested. For more information click [here](#).
- Employees and customers of JPMorgan Chase are accused of misusing federal coronavirus aid money according to a memo reviewed by the New York Times. This comes at a time where many are seeking more help from the federal government. For more information click [here](#).
- A scaled-back **stimulus package** is being discussed by Senate Republicans.
  - Senate leader **Mitch McConnell** announced that the senate would vote on the stimulus plan today.
  - The plan is expected to allow **\$300** of federal unemployment benefits per week.
  - The plan will also allocate **\$105 billion** to get schools up and running.

- For more information click [here](#).

## NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC ADVOCATE



Public Advocate  
Jumaane D. Williams



Council Member  
Farah Louis



State Senator  
Kevin Parker

Presents

# Flatbush Census Pop Up

Wednesday, September 9  
3 PM – 6 PM

**LOCATION:**

**Flatbush Nostrand Junction  
1545 Flatbush Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11210 (HSBC Plaza)**

**RSVP: [FlatbushCensusPopUp.eventbrite.com](https://FlatbushCensusPopUp.eventbrite.com)**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



NYC Census



67th Precinct Clergy  
Council - GodSquad



East Flatbush  
Village



Brooklyn  
EmERGE



The Bridge Multicultural  
& Advocacy Project



Brooklyn Immigrant  
Community Support



Flatbush Nostrand  
Junction BID



Haitian American  
Caucus



Pakistani American  
Youth Society (PAYS)



Preferred  
Home Care

Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams, Council Member Farah Louis, and State Senator Kevin Parker are hosting a Census Pop Up event on **Flatbush Nostrand Junction** on **Wednesday September 9, 2020 from 3 PM - 6 PM**. The location is 1545 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210. To RSVP for the census event click [here](#).

**MAYOR'S OFFICE TO PROTECT TENANTS &  
MAYOR'S PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UNIT**

# NEW ANTI-EVICTION & TENANT PROTECTION TOOLS

## AN INFORMATION SESSION FOR CONSTITUENT SERVICES STAFF

**LEARN** about new city resources for tenants, including the **Tenant Helpline** and **Tenant Resource Portal**

**DISCUSS** how COVID-19, the Tenant Safe Harbor Act, and the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019 affect city renters and constituent services operations

**E-MEET** staff from the Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants and Mayor's Public Engagement Unit to better coordinate tenant support and protection in your neighborhood

**Wednesday, September 9th, 2020 11:00AM - 12:30PM**  
**To attend, follow the RSVP link in this invitation email**  
**Questions? Email [fallenj@hra.nyc.gov](mailto:fallenj@hra.nyc.gov)**



Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants   Mayor's Public Engagement Unit

On **Wednesday, September 9, 2020 from 11 AM - 12:30 PM**, the Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants and the Mayor's Public Engagement Unit is hosting an information session on the new anti-eviction & tenant protection tools for constituent services staff. To RSVP for this event click [here](#).

## CHIEF OF TRANSPORTATION'S OFFICE & CITYWIDE TRAFFIC

There will be a high police presence which will include tow trucks at the **Flatbush Avenue & Ocean Avenue corridors** starting **Tuesday, September 8, 2020**. This

will be part of the **High Visibility Corridor Enforcement Initiative** being conducted by the Chief of Transportation's office and Citywide Traffic within the 70th Precinct. This initiative will be an enforcement of the law in those corridors and also a means of educating people in within the boundaries of the precinct.

**KINGS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ERIC GONZALEZ'S OFFICE & NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT**



**ERIC GONZALEZ**  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
KINGS COUNTY



**EDMUND CHIEF**  
POLICE COMMISSIONER

**Receive a \$200 Pre-paid Card for Handguns and Assault Rifles**

**\$25 Pre-paid Card for Rifles, Shotguns, and Airguns**

**No Current or Retired Law Enforcement**

Sponsored by the Kings County District Attorney's Office and the New York City Police Department  
Payment Subject to Inspection by Department Specialists.

**Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**ST. PAUL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

Enter at 858 Hendrix St, Brooklyn, NY 11207  
10:00 A.M - 4:00 P.M.

**FACE COVERINGS ARE REQUIRED.**  
Social distancing guidelines will be adhered to during this event.

[@BrooklynDA](#) [/BrooklynDA](#) [@BrooklynDAOOffice](#)

The office of District Attorney **Eric Gonzalez** and the **New York Police Department** is hosting a **Cash for**

**Guns** event on Saturday, September 12, 2020 from 10 AM - 4 PM at St. Paul Community Baptist Church's Family Life Center. The address is 858 Hendrix St, Brooklyn, NY 11207.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### PS 152/PS 315 PLAYGROUND OPENING



Children playing on the ropes at the opening of PS 315/PS 152 Playground on Monday, September 9, 2020.



Assemblymember Bichotte, Senator Kevin Parker, Council Member Farah N. Louis, District Leader Josue Pierre, and District Leader Edu Hermelyn at the PS 315/PS 152 Playground opening on Monday, September 9, 2020.

## 67TH POLICE PRECINCT BBQ



Assemblymember Bichotte, Council Member Farah N. Louis, Officer Mark Pierre, Marie Delus from Moms Demand Action at the 67th Precinct BBQ on Saturday, September 5, 2020.



Assemblymember Bichotte, District Leader Edu Hermelyn, and police officers at the 67th Precinct BBQ on Saturday, September 5, 2020.

## GOLDEN BLUE BAR & RESTAURANT



Assemblymember Bichotte, Council Member Farah N. Louis, District Leader Edu Hermelyn, and others at the grand opening of Golden Blue Bar & Restaurant on Saturday, September 5, 2020.



Assemblymember Bichotte with a reporter from Pix 11 at the grand opening of Golden Blue Bar & Restaurant on Saturday, September 5, 2020.

## ELITE LEARNERS



Assemblymember Bichotte, Council Member Farah N. Louis, District Leader Josue Pierre, District Leader Edu Hermelyn and Camara Jackson the Executive Director of Elite Learners and others at the organization's back to school event on Sunday, September 6, 2020.



Assemblymember Bichotte, Council Member Farah N. Louis, District Leader Josue Pierre, and Camara Jackson the Executive Director of Elite Learners at the organization's back to school event on Sunday, September 6, 2020.



Assemblymember Bichotte at the Elite Learners back to school event playing basketball with the youth.



## ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING



Photo Credit: NYC DOT

- Alternate Side Parking (ASP) is in effect through **September 18**.
- The ASP rules will be suspended again on **September 19** for Rosh Hashanah.

## 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](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

The packages will arrive by FreshDirect vehicles to locations listed [here](#). If you have any questions, call (718) 802-3700.

**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

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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](http://www.rodneysebichotte.net)

**STAY CONNECTED**

