



September 12, 2025

Greetings –

Reflecting on September 11th

Like yesterday, September 11th, 2001, was a warm and beautiful late summer day. I remember it well. I was off of school because it was primary day for the Mayor and City Council, and I was volunteering on a campaign. As a city and country, that era seems so long ago, but the wounds run deep for many New Yorkers. The attack on our city and country was shocking and terrible. We should never forget the victims and heroes of that day and the selflessness, bravery, and unity shown during and in the aftermath of the attacks should be what we all strive for.

Thoughts on the state of our politics

The murder of political activist and media figure Charlie Kirk on Wednesday while speaking at a college in Utah is yet another horrible marker of the rise of violence and toxicity in our politics. It should not have to be said that no one should be killed for political speech no matter if some find their views abhorrent. We have seen too many attacks on political figures including the killing of the Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives Melissa Hortman and her husband and shooting of a member of the Minnesota Senate and his wife, the attack on Nancy Pelosi's husband, and the shooting of Congressman Steve Scalise.

I have been active in politics since I was a teenager and I ran for Assembly with the belief that our political system, despite its flaws, could deliver policies that would improve our collective well-being. I still believe this; sensible gun laws, for example, will help reduce the number of shootings and gun related deaths. But it is going to require leadership from politicians and other public figures across the political spectrum to try and set a very different tone in our public discourse than the one that now prevails. President Trump, as the holder of the highest office in the country, in particular bears responsibility in this regard; unfortunately, he has been condoning violence throughout his time as a public figure from suggesting it is ok to beat up protestors at his campaign rallies to encouraging the January 6th attack on the Capitol.

In his remarks following Kirk's shooting instead of forcefully denouncing all political violence President Trump only listed acts of violence committed by those he views as opponents of his. His characterization of anyone who disagrees with him as the "radical left" is part and parcel of the problem.

I remain hopeful that we can forge a different path forward. For me this will mean continuing to work on policy measures that I believe make New York better for all while continuing to speak out forcefully against policies and politics that I believe are harmful or wrongheaded, but also trying to find common ground with those I may disagree with where possible.

I would ask that everyone take a deep breath and think about the country and world we want those who come after us to live in. We should strive to treat each other more like neighbors than enemies.

If you have any concerns about any legislative or community issue, please email me at carrollr@nyassembly.gov or call (718) 788-7221.

-Bobby

DISTRICT OFFICE
416 7th Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11215
(718) 788-7221

ALBANY OFFICE
LOB 557
Albany, NY 12248
(518) 455-5377

Assembly District 44 | carrollr@nyassembly.gov