



# This Week in New York

**Covering New York State and City Government**  
*A Publication of Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC*  
 November 2, 2018 Edition



## In the News – State



## 2018 General Election, Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

**All Polls OPEN at 6 a.m.  
& CLOSE at 9 p.m.**

**Voter Registration & Polling Place Information:** [Voter Information Link](#)

**Candidate List:** [NYS Candidates Link](#)

### Sample Statewide Candidate Ballot

OFFICE	1 Governor and Lieutenant Governor (Vote Once)	3 Comptroller (Vote for One)	4 Attorney General (Vote for One)	5 United States Senator (Vote for One)
DEMOCRATIC A ★	DEMOCRATIC 1A <input type="radio"/> <b>Andrew M. Cuomo</b> for Governor <b>Kathy C. Hochul</b> for Lieutenant Governor	DEMOCRATIC 3A <input type="radio"/> <b>Thomas P. DiNapoli</b>	DEMOCRATIC 4A <input type="radio"/> <b>Letitia A. James</b>	DEMOCRATIC 5A <input type="radio"/> <b>Kirsten E. Gillibrand</b>
REPUBLICAN B ★	REPUBLICAN 1B <input type="radio"/> <b>Marc Molinaro</b> for Governor <b>Julie Killian</b> for Lieutenant Governor	REPUBLICAN 3B <input type="radio"/> <b>Jonathan Trichter</b>	REPUBLICAN 4B <input type="radio"/> <b>Keith Wofford</b>	REPUBLICAN 5B <input type="radio"/> <b>Chele Chiavacci Farley</b>
CONSERVATIVE C ★	CONSERVATIVE 1C <input type="radio"/> <b>Marc Molinaro</b> for Governor <b>Julie Killian</b> for Lieutenant Governor	CONSERVATIVE 3C <input type="radio"/> <b>Jonathan Trichter</b>	CONSERVATIVE 4C <input type="radio"/> <b>Keith Wofford</b>	CONSERVATIVE 5C <input type="radio"/> <b>Chele Chiavacci Farley</b>
GREEN D ★	GREEN 1D <input type="radio"/> <b>Howie Hawkins</b> for Governor <b>Jia Lee</b> for Lieutenant Governor	GREEN 3D <input type="radio"/> <b>Mark Dunlea</b>	GREEN 4D <input type="radio"/> <b>Michael Sussman</b>	
WORKING FAMILIES E ★	WORKING FAMILIES 1E <input type="radio"/> <b>Andrew M. Cuomo</b> for Governor <b>Kathy C. Hochul</b> for Lieutenant Governor	WORKING FAMILIES 3E <input type="radio"/> <b>Thomas P. DiNapoli</b>	WORKING FAMILIES 4E <input type="radio"/> <b>Letitia A. James</b>	WORKING FAMILIES 5E <input type="radio"/> <b>Kirsten E. Gillibrand</b>
INDEPENDENCE F ★	INDEPENDENCE 1F <input type="radio"/> <b>Andrew M. Cuomo</b> for Governor <b>Kathy C. Hochul</b> for Lieutenant Governor	INDEPENDENCE 3F <input type="radio"/> <b>Thomas P. DiNapoli</b>	INDEPENDENCE 4F <input type="radio"/> <b>Letitia A. James</b>	INDEPENDENCE 5F <input type="radio"/> <b>Kirsten E. Gillibrand</b>
WOMEN'S EQUALITY G ★	WOMEN'S EQUALITY 1G <input type="radio"/> <b>Andrew M. Cuomo</b> for Governor <b>Kathy C. Hochul</b> for Lieutenant Governor	WOMEN'S EQUALITY 3G <input type="radio"/> <b>Thomas P. DiNapoli</b>		WOMEN'S EQUALITY 5G <input type="radio"/> <b>Kirsten E. Gillibrand</b>
REFORM H ★	REFORM 1H <input type="radio"/> <b>Marc Molinaro</b> for Governor <b>Julie Killian</b> for Lieutenant Governor	REFORM 3H <input type="radio"/> <b>Thomas P. DiNapoli</b>	REFORM 4H <input type="radio"/> <b>Nancy B. Siwa</b>	REFORM 5H <input type="radio"/> <b>Chele Chiavacci Farley</b>
SAM LIBERTARIAN I ★	SAM LIBERTARIAN 1I <input type="radio"/> <b>Stephanie A. Miner</b> for Governor <b>Michael J. Volpe</b> for Lieutenant Governor	LIBERTARIAN 2I <input type="radio"/> <b>Larry Sharpe</b> for Governor <b>Andrew C. Hollister</b> for Lieutenant Governor	LIBERTARIAN 3I <input type="radio"/> <b>Cruger E. Gallaudet</b>	LIBERTARIAN 4I <input type="radio"/> <b>Christopher B. Garvey</b>
WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN	WRITE-IN



## Fantasy Sports Games Violate NYS Constitution

New York State Supreme Court Judge Gerald Connolly ruled late last week that fantasy sites like Fan Duel and Draft Kings are illegal under New York's gambling laws. Parties to the case, *White v. Cuomo* (Index No. 5861-16), were notified of the decision on Monday.

The decision overruled a 2016 Law (Chapter 237 of the Laws of 2016) which permitted and regulated daily fantasy contests. The law, which resolved a legal battle between the State Attorney General and the fantasy sports providers, stipulated that the fantasy contests were games of skill and, therefore, not a true form of gambling.

Judge Connolly, however, ruled that Interactive Fantasy Sports (IFS) contains “an element of chance” and the State Legislature did not have the authority to make exceptions to the New York State Constitution’s gambling prohibition.

The New York Constitution prohibits gambling and authorizes the legislature to pass legislation to deter gambling offenses. It stipulates specific exemptions to the prohibition, but it does not specifically define “gambling.” New York’s Penal Law defines “gambling” as when a person “stakes or risks something of value upon the outcome of a contest of chance or a future contingent event not under his control or influence, upon an agreement or understanding that he will receive something of value in the event of a certain outcome.”

With respect IFS, Judge Connelly found that “Based upon the stipulated facts and submissions before the Court, IFS involves, to a material degree, an element of chance, as the participants win or lose based on the actual statistical performance of groups of selected athletes in future events not under the contestants [players] control or influence.”

In addition, he asserted “the plain language ...of the constitutional provision ... does not give the Legislature unlimited authority to define what is ‘not’ gambling for purposes of such provision. Such interpretation would render the constitutional prohibitions on ‘...pool-selling, bookmaking or any other kind of gambling’ meaningless, as the entire field would then be effectively governed by statute, rather than the constitutional provision.”

The court decision upheld the portions of the 2016 law that exempted fantasy sports from the definition of gambling under New York Penal Law.

State officials are reviewing the decision and are expected to appeal.

# In the News – City



## Sample City General Election Ballot

Specific ballot information: [View Voter Specific Ballot](#)  
 Flip the Ballot to Vote on the Ballot Proposals: [Ballot Proposal Information](#)

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION - City of New York - County of New York - November 6, 2018  
 See Enclosed Instructions

Papeleta Oficial para la Elección General  
 Ciudad de Nueva York - Condado de Nueva York  
 6 de Noviembre del 2018

See the Instructions Adjuntas

	Democratic	Republican	Conservative	Green	Working Families	Independence	WRITE-IN CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO
Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote Once	<input type="radio"/> ANDREW M. CUOMO and -y <input type="radio"/> KATHY C. HOCHUL	<input type="radio"/> MARC MOLINARO and -y <input type="radio"/> JULIE KILLIAN	<input type="radio"/> MARC MOLINARO and -y <input type="radio"/> JULIE KILLIAN	<input type="radio"/> HOWIE HAWKINS and -y <input type="radio"/> JIA LEE	<input type="radio"/> ANDREW M. CUOMO and -y <input type="radio"/> KATHY C. HOCHUL	<input type="radio"/> ANDREW M. CUOMO and -y <input type="radio"/> KATHY C. HOCHUL	<input type="radio"/> CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO
Governador y Vicegobernador Vote una vez	Democratic	Republican	Conservative	Green	Working Families	Independence	
Comptroller Vote for one	<input type="radio"/> THOMAS P. DINAPOLI	<input type="radio"/> JONATHAN TRICHTER	<input type="radio"/> JONATHAN TRICHTER	<input type="radio"/> MARK DUNLEA	<input type="radio"/> THOMAS P. DINAPOLI	<input type="radio"/> THOMAS P. DINAPOLI	<input type="radio"/> CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO
Fiscal General Vote por uno	Democratic	Republican	Conservative	Green	Working Families	Independence	
Attorney General Vote for one	<input type="radio"/> LETITIA A. JAMES	<input type="radio"/> KEITH WOFFORD	<input type="radio"/> KEITH WOFFORD	<input type="radio"/> MICHAEL SUSSMAN	<input type="radio"/> LETITIA A. JAMES	<input type="radio"/> LETITIA A. JAMES	<input type="radio"/> CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO
Fiscal General Vote por uno	Democratic	Republican	Conservative	Green	Working Families	Independence	
United States Senator Vote for one	<input type="radio"/> KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND	<input type="radio"/> CHELE CHIAVACCI FARLEY	<input type="radio"/> CHELE CHIAVACCI FARLEY	<input type="radio"/> KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND	<input type="radio"/> KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND	<input type="radio"/> KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND	<input type="radio"/> CANDIDATO POR ESCRITO
Senador de los Estados Unidos Vote por uno	Democratic	Republican	Conservative	Green	Working Families	Independence	

Remember to vote both sides  
 See Enclosed Instructions

Recuerde votar en ambos lados  
 Veá las Instrucciones Adjuntas

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 6, 2018 CITY OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

Affidavit Stamp Here

66th Assembly District  
 E.L.D. 77  
 ELE Style: 0535

Remember to vote both sides  
 See Enclosed Instructions

Recuerde votar en ambos lados  
 Veá las Instrucciones Adjuntas

Proposal Number One, a Question: Campaign Finance  
 This proposal would amend the City Charter to lower the amount a candidate for City elected office may accept from a contributor. It would also increase the public funding used to match a portion of the contributions received by a candidate who participates in the City's public financing program. In addition, the proposal would make public funds available earlier in the election year to participating candidates who can demonstrate need for making calls. The amendments would apply to participating candidates who choose to have the amendments apply to their campaigns beginning with the 2021 primary election, and would then apply to all candidates beginning in 2022. Shall this proposal be adopted?

Propuesta Número Uno, Una Pregunta: Financiamiento de campañas  
 Esta propuesta enmendaría el Estatuto de la ciudad para reducir la cantidad que puede aceptar un candidato a representante electo por la ciudad por parte de un contribuyente. También aumentaría el financiamiento público utilizado para igualar una porción de las contribuciones recibidas por un candidato que participa en el programa de financiamiento público de la ciudad. Además, la propuesta haría que los fondos de contabilidad pública estén disponibles antes de la campaña para los candidatos participantes que pueden demostrar la necesidad de hacer llamadas. Los enmiendas se aplicarían a los candidatos participantes que deciden aplicar a sus campañas a partir de las elecciones primarias de 2021 y luego se aplicarían a todos los candidatos a partir de 2022. ¿Debería adoptarse esta propuesta?

YES SI NO

Proposal Number Three, a Question: Community Boards  
 This proposal would amend the City Charter to impose term limits of a maximum of four consecutive full two-year terms for community board members with certain exceptions for the initial transition to the new term limits system. Require Boards to seek out persons of diverse backgrounds in making appointments, and if Question 2, Civic Engagement Commission. If approved, require the proposed Civic Engagement Commission to provide resources, assistance, and training related to land use and other matters to community boards. Shall this proposal be adopted?

Propuesta Número Tres, Una Pregunta: Juntas comunitarias  
 Esta propuesta enmendaría el Estatuto de la ciudad para imponer límites de mandato de un máximo de cuatro términos consecutivos de dos años para los miembros de la junta comunitaria, con ciertas excepciones para la transición inicial al nuevo sistema de límites de mandato. Exigir a las Juntas de los Distritos que busquen personas de diversos orígenes en la designación de juntas comunitarias. La propuesta también exigiría nuevos requisitos de diversidad a informes relacionados con estas designaciones. Si se aprueba la Propuesta 2, la Comisión de Participación Ciudadana, se requiere que la Comisión de Participación Ciudadana proporcione recursos, asistencia y capacitación relacionados con el uso de la tierra y otros asuntos a las juntas comunitarias. ¿Debería adoptarse esta propuesta?

YES SI NO

Proposal Number Two, a Question: Civic Engagement Commission  
 This proposal would amend the City Charter to create a Civic Engagement Commission that would implement no later than the City Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2020, a civically participatory budgeting program established by the Mayor to promote participation by City residents in making recommendations for projects in their communities. Require the Commission to partner with community based organizations and civic leaders, as well as other City agencies, to support and encourage civic engagement efforts. Require the Commission to establish a program to provide language interpretation at City public events. To be implemented for the general election in 2020. Permit the Mayor to appoint and remove members, with 3 members appointed by the Commission. Provide that the Civic Engagement Commission consist of 10 members, with 3 members appointed by the Mayor, 3 members by the City Council Speaker and 1 member be elected through Primary and Provide for one of the Mayor's appointees to be Commission Chair and for the Chair to employ a direct Commission staff. Shall this proposal be adopted?

Propuesta Número Dos, Una Pregunta: Comisión para la Participación Ciudadana  
 Esta propuesta enmendaría el Estatuto de la ciudad para crear una Comisión de Participación Ciudadana que implementaría, no más tarde que el año fiscal de la ciudad que comienza el 1º de julio de 2020, un programa de presupuesto participativo de la ciudad establecido por el Alcalde para promover la participación de los residentes de la ciudad para hacer recomendaciones para proyectos en sus comunidades. Exigir que la comisión se asocie con organizaciones comunitarias y líderes cívicos, así como con otras agencias de la ciudad, para apoyar y facilitar las relaciones de participación ciudadana. Exigir que la comisión establezca un programa para proporcionar intérpretes de idiomas en los sitios de votación de la ciudad, a implementarse para las elecciones generales de 2020. Permitir que el Alcalde designe a la comisión los poderes y deberes necesarios de algunas otras agencias de la ciudad. Exigir que la Comisión de Participación Ciudadana tenga 10 miembros, con 3 miembros nombrados por el Alcalde, 2 por el Presidente del Consejo Municipal y 1 por el Alcalde. Permitir que el Alcalde designe a los miembros de la comisión y proporcione que uno de los miembros de la comisión sea el Presidente de la comisión y designe a uno de los miembros de la comisión a ser el Presidente de la comisión y designe a uno de los miembros de la comisión a ser el Presidente de la comisión y designe a uno de los miembros de la comisión a ser el Presidente de la comisión. ¿Debería adoptarse esta propuesta?

YES SI NO



## Vision Zero: “Dusk and Darkness” Safety Campaign Returns With New Focus on Younger Drivers

As part of the Vision Zero initiative, the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT), NYPD and the Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) began their third annual *Dusk and Darkness* campaign, including the *Alive at 25* program focused on young drivers. The NYPD also announced progress in its crackdown on private garbage hauling trucks, which have been “disproportionately involved” in fatal crashes during overnight hours.

“We are relentlessly pursuing Vision Zero and working to save lives every single day,” said Mayor Bill de Blasio. “Our *Dusk and Darkness* campaigns help us further that goal, especially as nighttime hours – and dangerous driving – increase. At the same time, educating our young drivers will help curb dangerous driving habits before they take hold, making the road safer for everyone.”

The *Alive at 25* program aims to engage younger drivers between the ages of 18 and 25. In 2017, those drivers were behind the wheel in 20 percent of all New York City fatal crashes (a total of 44 crashes) despite making up less than 10 percent of the driving population. Funded by the National Safety Council, *Alive at 25* is offered to high school seniors. This fall, DOT safety educators began teaching the program to 2,500 students at ten public high schools around New York City, including the entire senior class of 700 students at New Dorp High School on Staten Island.

In the five years before the *Dusk and Darkness 3.0* campaign began, New York City averaged 63.4 traffic fatalities in the period between November 1 and March 15<sup>th</sup>. In the first year of *Dusk and Darkness*, the overall fatality number declined to 51; in the second year, fatalities declined further to 44.

NYPD has begun focusing enforcement resources on the most hazardous violations (speeding and failure-to-yield to pedestrians), with precincts increasing their on-street presence around sunset hours when data show serious pedestrian crashes increase. NYPD will also focus resources on drunk-driving efforts.

In addition, NYPD has begun a major enforcement effort focused on the City’s private garbage hauling industry which operates predominantly during overnight hours. In the first three nights of the initiative that began Sunday evening, NYPD has inspected 128 garbage hauling trucks, issued 163 moving summonses, and 458 criminal summonses. NYPD has also towed five garbage trucks that were deemed not road-safe.



## Comptroller Stringer: City Continues to Short Change Minority and Women-Owned Businesses

New York City is still lagging behind on spending with minority and women-owned business enterprises (M/WBEs), City Comptroller Scott Stringer in releasing his annual Making the Grade report. The City received its fourth-consecutive “D+” grade by awarding \$1 billion in contracts to M/WBEs out of a \$19.3 billion budget in FY18 –5.5 percent of the total budget.

“New York City is one of the most diverse cities in the world, and yet our own government fails to make fairness and equality a priority when it comes to spending city dollars. There needs to be someone in every city agency making sure minority and women-owned businesses are being given a fair shot to get a piece of a \$19 billion budget – that’s why the City Charter has to be changed to include a Chief Diversity Officer,” said Comptroller Stringer. “If we are going to build a five-borough economy, we cannot perpetuate a system that fails to build wealth in communities that have historically been left behind. While progress is happening, this report shows just how far we have to go.”

The fifth annual “*Making the Grade*” report showed that while overall spending with diverse firms increased in Fiscal Year 2018, 80% of certified M/WBEs are still not receiving any business from the City. The City earned an “F” for spending with Black-owned firms. Spending with Asian-American firms earned the City a “C”, with Hispanic-Americans a “D”, and with Women-owned firms a “D.”

On a positive note, several agencies made progress over the last fiscal year. For example:

- Grades increased at 9 agencies, decreased at 5 agencies, and stayed the same at 17 agencies – meaning almost 30 percent of agencies increased their grade; and,
- Three agencies received an “A” grade – Department for the Aging, Commission on Human Rights, and Department of Health and mental Hygiene.

Comptroller Stringer’s report advances four proposals to level the playing field for M/WBEs, including:

- **Mandate a Chief Diversity Officer.** Comptroller Stringer is calling for a City Charter change to mandate the hiring of a Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) in the Mayor’s cabinet and in every city agency. According to public data, out of 32 mayoral agencies, only seven currently have a CDO, with only four reporting to the Commissioner.

- **Create competitive opportunities for M/WBEs on citywide requirements contracts.** Comptroller Stringer asserts that a major obstacle to increasing M/WBE spending is the Citywide “requirements” contracts that represent approximately 10 percent of the City’s total budget. These contracts are agreements that agencies enter with a limited number of vendors to meet the City’s demand for particular goods or services on an “as-needed” basis, often over multiple years. Examples of items and services purchased through requirement contracts are automobiles, fuel, equipment maintenance, cleaning services, and large scale printing of election documents. The City spent more than \$1.5 billion through requirement contracts in FY18, but M/WBEs received only \$102.5 million – less than seven percent – of this spending. The Comptroller suggests that the City should increase opportunities for M/WBEs by awarding requirements contracts to a pool of vendors, rather than one vendor alone.
- **Require prime vendors to disclose details about their commitment to diversity, including their own supplier diversity plans.** Comptroller Stringer recommends that the City should require vendors to share details of their own supplier diversity programs when they bid on City contracts. Agencies should be allowed to award points to prospective vendors with robust M/WBE programs and Chief Diversity Officers.
- **Amend the City Charter to assigning deadlines to every agency in the contract review process.** The Comptroller suggests that in order to make the process more efficient and sustainable for all firms, the Charter Revision Commission should include specific timeframes for each oversight agency in the procurement process.

## Bills Approved by the Council

**Introduction 444-A**, sponsored by Council Member Laurie Cumbo, will require new NYPD recruits receive specialized training for responding to survivors of sexual assault and harassment, including sensitivity to differences in culture, gender, gender expression and sexual orientation. The bill will also require interactive refresher trainings every two years for all uniformed members of the department who regularly interact with crime victims.

**Introduction 465-A**, sponsored by Council Member Daniel Dromm, will require the Department of Buildings and the Commission on Human Rights to conduct education and outreach to businesses and the public to increase awareness of the existing requirement that single-occupant toilet rooms be available for use by persons of any gender, as well as the related posting and signage requirements for such toilet rooms.

**Introduction 644-A**, sponsored by Council Member Mathieu Eugene, will expand the Building Code’s carbon monoxide detector requirements to all business and mercantile spaces. In addition, this bill will make the Building Code’s carbon monoxide detector requirements retroactive, applying them to all new and existing covered buildings equipped with fire alarm systems, by January 1, 2021. Finally, this bill will require the Department of Buildings to promulgate rules addressing the installation of the specific carbon monoxide detectors required, and potential methods of alternative compliance for existing buildings.

**Introduction 781-A**, sponsored by Council Member Carlina Rivera, will protect the personal information of victims and prevent potential leaks by requiring the commissioner to limit access to Special Victims Division (SVD) files to individuals who need to see those case files in order to perform their job functions. It would also require the NYPD to audit the system to monitor everyone who accesses those case files and report the results of the audits to the Council.

**Introduction 784-A**, sponsored by Council Member Deborah Rose, would require the department to report on the staffing and caseloads for SVD investigators, and report on the factors the commissioner considered in setting staffing levels for the SVD.

**Introduction 785-A**, sponsored by Council Member Helen Rosenthal, will require the department to create a comprehensive Special Victims Training Program for new Special Victims Division (SVD) investigators including a core set of training components for all new SVD investigators and require current SVD investigators to demonstrate proficiency in all of these core subjects. Finally, the bill will require annual reporting on the content, the number of officers participating, and any changes made to the program.

**Introduction 836-A**, sponsored by Council Member Robert Cornegy, will consolidate operations for the approval processes for alternative automatic fire extinguishing systems, fire alarm systems, emergency alarm systems, fire department in-building auxiliary radio communication systems and fire protection plans. Currently, the approval processes for these plans and systems are divided between the Department of Buildings and the Fire Department. This bill will streamline this process by requiring the systems to be approved only by the Fire Department.

**Introduction 899-A**, sponsored by Council Member Keith Powers, will permit non-public campaign funds to be spent on childcare services for children under 13 years of age, in an election year and the year immediately preceding an election year, when the need for such services exists because of the campaign. Such childcare expenses would be exempted from the expenditure limit for the first \$20,000 spent in the election year. Candidates would not be required to spend campaign funds on childcare and choosing to pay with their personal funds or receiving below market childcare would not be considered a contribution to the campaign.

**Introduction 925-A**, sponsored by Council Member Jumaane Williams, will clarify that, when a commuter van is operating in violation of a provision within TLC's commuter van enforcement authority, TLC has the power to seize that vehicle regardless of seating capacity. Int. No. 925 would also amend the definition of "for-hire vehicle," so that, for enforcement purposes, the definition includes vehicles with a seating capacity greater than 20. These amendments would allow for TLC to enforce against vehicles that seat more than 20 passengers, whether they are commuter vans or for-hire vehicles.

## **Briefs**

### **Governor Cuomo Announces Statewide Investigation into Pregnancy Discrimination and Retaliation in the Security Industry at JFK Airport**

New York State has launched a multi-agency investigation into pregnancy discrimination and retaliation and other workplace violations in the security industry following new at JFK airport.

According to Governor Andrew Cuomo, the investigation comes after reports that two Global Elite Group employees alleged that they were suspended because they asked to be reassigned from areas that exposed them to noxious fumes because they were pregnant. The Global Elite Group provides security services at JFK Airport, which is a Port Authority of NY/ NJ property.

The Department of Labor and the Division of Human Rights (DHR) will lead the investigation through the Governor's Joint Task Force on Worker Exploitation and Employee Misclassification. The State Department of Labor, the Department of State, DHR, and the Workers' Compensation Board will investigate pregnancy discrimination and retaliation and other workplace violations including unemployment insurance fraud, workers' compensation fraud, wage violations and licensing improprieties.

In the last two years alone, DHR has received 323 complaints alleging various types of discrimination, including some based on pregnancy, in the security industry; DOL has opened 357 wage theft investigations with approximately \$1 million in stolen wages identified; and DOS has opened 1,174 investigations into licensing improprieties, with nearly \$500,000 in fines imposed and 238 licenses suspended or revoked.

### **NYS Dept of Financial Services Grants Bitcoin License to Teller Machine Company**

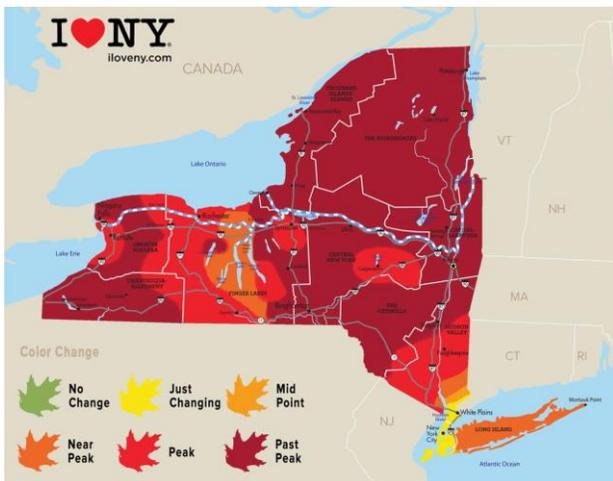
The New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS) has approved the application of Coinsource, Inc. for a virtual currency license. Coinsource owns and operates touchscreen kiosks, which allow customers to buy Bitcoin with, or sell Bitcoin for, fiat currency in the form of cash. Coinsource is the first DFS virtual currency licensee to operate Bitcoin Teller Machines (BTM).

Presently Coinsource operates 40 Bitcoin kiosks in New York, located in New York City, Westchester and Nassau County. The company allows customers to insert cash and buy bitcoin (and store it on their mobile wallet) or sell bitcoin for cash (by scanning their mobile wallet at the kiosk).

## \$10 Million Grant Program to Protect New York's Non-Public Schools, Cultural Centers, Religious-Based Institutions

New York State is now accepting applications for the Securing Communities Against Hate Crimes (SCAHC) Program to support safety and security at New York's nonpublic schools, day care centers and cultural museums.

The program is administered by the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. It provide up to \$50,000 in funding for additional security training needs, cameras and state-of-the-art technology, door-hardening, improved lighting and other related security upgrades at each eligible facility. Organizations that operate more than one facility may submit up to three applications for a total request of up to \$150,000. Applications for these awards are due by 5 p.m. on December 19, 2018.



### NYS Foliage Report

As foliage makes its way across New York State, many areas of the Finger Lakes region and parts of the lower Hudson Valley will see peak leaves this weekend, according to observers for Empire State Development's I LOVE NY program. Peak leaves will make their last appearances in the Greater Niagara and Catskills regions, and Long Island will be flush in near-peak color.

I LOVE NY defines 'peak' as the overall best appearance the foliage will have during the season. Foliage change has been uneven this season and travelers may find that some areas classified as peak and near-peak contain an abundance of green leaves, combined with the possibility of leaf droppage.

## Coming Up

### New York State

Wednesday November 14<sup>th</sup>

**Healthy Aging: New Yorkers aging independently and safely within their homes and communities**  
Assembly Standing Committee on Aging, Hamilton Hearing Room B, Legislative Office Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Albany, 10 a.m.

**Examining the effectiveness of medication-assisted treatment programs in state and local correctional facilities in the state**

Joint Assembly Standing Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, Committee on Health, and Committee on Correction, Assembly Hearing Room, 250 Broadway, Room 1923, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, 10:30 a.m.

***Thursday November 15<sup>th</sup>***

**Improving opportunities to vote in New York State**

Joint Assembly Standing Committee on Election Law and Subcommittee on Election Day Operations and Voter Disenfranchisement, Assembly Hearing Room, 250 Broadway, Room 1923, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, 10:30 a.m.

***Friday November 16<sup>th</sup>***

**Recycling**

Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation, Roosevelt Hearing Room C, Legislative Office Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Albany, 11:30 a.m.

**Electronic filing of court papers**

Assembly Standing Committee on Judiciary, Assembly Hearing Room, 250 Broadway, Room 1923, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, 10 a.m.

***New York City***

***Monday November 5<sup>th</sup>***

**Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitting and Maritime Uses, City Hall, 10:45 a.m.**

**Committee on Land Use, Committee Room – City Hall, 11 a.m.**

***Thursday November 8<sup>th</sup>***

**Committee on Higher Education, Committee Room – 250 Broadway, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, 10 a.m.**

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