



This Week in New York

Covering New York State and City Government

A Publication of Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC

August 26, 2022 Edition



“Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right.”
-George Orwell, 1984-



September 11th
Victim Compensation Fund

NY Pension Fund Filing Deadline: 9/11/22

URGENT: 9/11/22 Disability and Workers' Compensation Deadline for Responders and Volunteers

If you were a New York State or New York City employee between 9/11/01 and 9/11/02, and worked in a responder capacity to the 9/11 attacks, then you must file an applicable notice of participation by September 11, 2022 to protect your WTC presumption for workers' compensation, disability pension, and death benefits.

NOTE: There is legislation which has passed both houses of the State Legislature which would extend this deadline by four years. This deadline is not related to the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund which does not have a 9/11/22 deadline. Links to the necessary forms:

New York State & Local Retirement System (NYSLRS)

<https://www.osc.state.ny.us/files/retirement/forms/pdf/rs6047-n.pdf>

New York City Employees' Retirement System (NYCERS)

<https://www.nycers.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/622.pdf>

Workers' Compensation Board (WTC-12)

<http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/forms/wtc-12.pdf>

New York City Board of Education Retirement System

www.bers.nyc.gov/assets/bers/downloads/pdf/forms/notice-of-participation-wtc.pdf

New York City Police Pension Fund

https://www1.nyc.gov/html/nycppf/downloads/pdf/250_wtc_nop_chapter_266_2018.pdf

Teachers Retirement System of New York City <https://www.trsnyc.org/memberportal/WebContent/forms/pdf/DI40>

New York City Fire Pension Fund (NYCFPF)















The NYC Fire Pension Fund is for the City's firefighters and fire officers. For more details, please call 929-436-0099

In the News – New York State

August 23rd Primary Results

Two of the most closely watched Congressional Primary contests took place on August 23rd. In the Manhattan/ Brooklyn CD#10 race, the voters picked Dan Goldman from a large field. Although the candidates agreed on most issues, the main controversies revolved around money and the BDS movement. The candidates disputed their relative identifications as “progressive” while independent expenditure committees poured millions into the contest. Per the NYC Board of Elections, the unofficial results were reported as follows:

Representative in Congress 10th Congressional District - Democratic

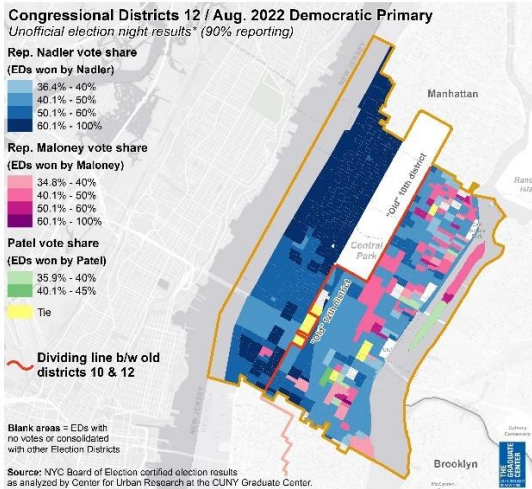
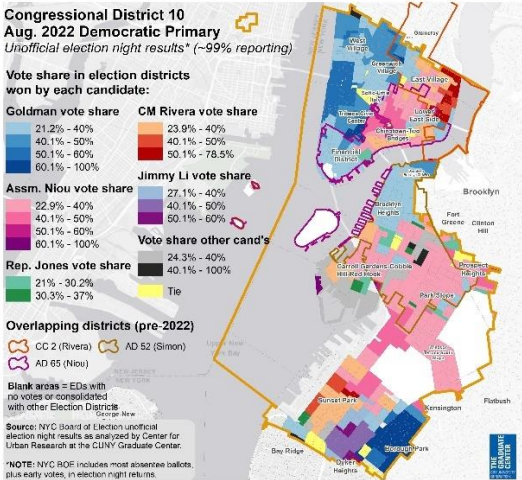
	Name	Party	Votes	Percentage	
1	Mondaire L. Jones	Democratic	11777	18.16%	
2	Jo Anne Simon	Democratic	3991	6.15%	
3	Peter J. Gleason	Democratic	147	0.23%	
4	Yan Xiong	Democratic	686	1.06%	
5	Daniel Goldman	Democratic	16686	25.72%	
6	Jimmy Li	Democratic	777	1.20%	
7	Maud Maron	Democratic	578	0.89%	
8	Bill de Blasio	Democratic	477	0.74%	
9	Elizabeth Holtzman	Democratic	2845	4.39%	
10	Yuh-Line Niou	Democratic	15380	23.71%	
11	Carlina Rivera	Democratic	10985	16.93%	
12	Quanda Francis	Democratic	121	0.19%	
13	Brian Robinson	Democratic	322	0.50%	
14	WRITE-IN		97	0.15%	
			<hr/>		
			64869		

Manhattan’s 12th CD saw veteran Congressional members Jerrold Nadler and Carolyn Maloney fighting for survival. For the first time in recent election history the East and West sides of Manhattan became “all around the town”. At the end of the day, the West Side overwhelmed the East Side and Congressman Nadler won the primary. From the NYC Board of Elections:

Representative in Congress 12th Congressional District - Democratic
(Vote for one)

	Name	Party	Votes	Percentage	
1	Carolyn B. Maloney	Democratic	20038	24.35%	<div style="width: 24.35%; height: 10px; background-color: #4CAF50;"></div>
2	Ashmi Sheth	Democratic	832	1.01%	<div style="width: 1.01%; height: 10px; background-color: #4CAF50;"></div>
3	Jerrold L. Nadler	Democratic	45545	55.35%	<div style="width: 55.35%; height: 10px; background-color: #4CAF50;"></div>
4	Suraj Patel	Democratic	15744	19.13%	<div style="width: 19.13%; height: 10px; background-color: #4CAF50;"></div>
5	WRITE-IN		122	0.15%	<div style="width: 0.15%; height: 10px; background-color: #4CAF50;"></div>
			82281		

Steven Romalewski, a researcher at the Center for Urban Research at the City University of New York Graduate Center, who mapped the results posted the following graphic analysis of the two races on Twitter (@SR_spatial):





SUNY and CUNY Will Each Receive \$2 Million To Support Students Underrepresented in Mental Health Degree Programs

Governor Kathy Hochul announced \$4 million in federal funding to support underrepresented students entering or enrolled in mental health degree programs at State University of New York or City University of New York campuses. Through a partnership with the New York State Office of Mental Health, SUNY and CUNY will each be provided \$2 million to support tuition assistance, paid internships, and direct stipends for minority and multilingual students.

"As we continue to strengthen our health care system in New York, we must ensure that we build a diverse and inclusive workforce," Governor Hochul said. "This partnership will provide incentives for underrepresented students to enroll or remain in mental health programs - helping diversify our future workforce and ensure that all communities are well-served by our public health care system."

The partnership will incentivize minority and multilingual students enrolled at 18 CUNY campuses - including five community colleges, eight senior colleges, three comprehensive colleges and the CUNY Graduate Center and CUNY School of Professional Studies - and 16 SUNY campuses - including eight community colleges, four comprehensive colleges, and four university centers - to enter in or continue paths of study that will prepare them for the mental health field. This is the latest action New York State has taken to address a lack of diversity in the field, which in turn leads to disparities in the delivery of mental health care for marginalized populations.

Minority health care providers are more likely to meet the needs of underserved populations, with a diverse workforce resulting in greater patient and client satisfaction, engagement, and retention in care. Additionally, the mental health workforce is experiencing a shortage of multilingual clinicians, further driving disparities in access, quality, and treatment outcomes for individuals who have limited English proficiency.

In the News – New York City

\$27 Million Invested In Growth Of Life Sciences

New York City Mayor Eric Adams and New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) President and CEO Andrew Kimball awarded \$26.6 million to further spur the growth of New York City's life sciences industry and create family-sustaining jobs for New Yorkers. Through NYCEDC's \$1 billion LifeSci NYC initiative, the city is awarding \$15 million to the City College of New York and \$11.6 million to the Mount Sinai Health System. Both awards will support the construction of new facilities that will allow the creation of new life sciences startups in the city and promote the next generation of talent and world-class innovation — creating jobs, connecting research to industry, and advancing health care and technology.

“With these awards, our administration is making critical investments in the health and prosperity of New Yorkers,” said Mayor Adams. “Life sciences are central to our city’s public health and economic recovery, and we will continue to marshal the resources necessary to grow this industry, create new economic opportunities for New Yorkers, and keep our city moving forward.”

Over its first 10 years, the collaborative is estimated to catalyze:

- The creation of over 1,400 family-sustaining life science jobs in Greater Harlem,
- The employment and training of more than 275 fellows and interns,
- The creation and/or attraction of more than 100 new life sciences ventures,
- The acceleration of 150 new medical technology products, and
- The deployment of more than \$290 million in seed and venture capital

“Together with the mayor and NYCEDC, we aim to build a center of excellence in surgical innovation that will attract national and global collaborators to New York City to solve today’s most intricate challenges in medicine,” said Erik Lium, PhD, chief commercial innovation officer, Mount Sinai Health System; and president, Mount Sinai Innovation Partners. “Mount Sinai has tremendous momentum in innovation, actualizing many achievements and successes in patient-centric solutions, and bringing these to the market and to the patients that need them. The new surgical innovation center, alongside existing and future academic and industry partners will harness research, clinical, and commercial strengths to rapidly advance breakthrough devices to the clinic.”



Speaker Adrienne E. Adams, Council Members, and Department for the Aging Announce Over \$3 Million in Funding for Specialized Vehicles to Deliver Meals

New York City Council Speaker Adrienne E. Adams and Council Members have announced a \$3.08 million allocation to the Department for the Aging’s community-based partners for repair and replacement of an estimated 44 hotshot vans for the City’s home delivered meals program. The program serves millions of meals annually to older adults, who are homebound due to health or physical challenges. The meals are reviewed by registered dietitians to ensure they are nutritionally balanced.

“Our seniors are the jewels of our communities who deserve to be supported with nutritious home-delivered meals,” said Speaker Adrienne Adams. “The City Council prioritized investing \$3 million of its funds to help community-based partners continue delivering meals in a safe and timely manner. It is critical that our city meets the needs of older adults, and this funding will contribute to the vital services for homebound New Yorkers. I am proud to join my colleagues in celebrating this important allocation by the City Council in the city budget.”

Briefs

More NYC Primary Election Results

All incumbent New York State Congress members and State Senators facing primary elections were successful in staving off their challengers. For the most part, voter turnout was much lower than supporters of democracy would like to see. The political pundits have put forth many theories as to why the challengers were unsuccessful, but the bottom line remains the same. If you want the voters to fire their current representative, you need to persuade the voter that the incumbent is not doing their job and that the challenger is ready to do a better job.

Congratulations to those in NYC who will newly represent their party in November – Robert Zimmerman (D-CD3), Max Rose (D-CD11), Tina Forte (R-14), Jessica Scarcell-Spanton (D-SD23), Joseph Tirone, Jr. (R-SD 23), Nathalia Fernandez (D-SD34), Kristen Gonzalez (D-SD59).

DiNapoli: Despite Challenges, Agriculture Among the Most Resilient State Industries During the Pandemic

Agriculture in New York state paid close to \$1 billion in wages and produced roughly \$3.3 billion in gross domestic product in 2021, according to a report by New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. The sector has proved to be among the most resilient during the COVID-19 pandemic, losing just 1% of jobs in 2020 compared to the statewide annual employment loss of 8.7%. Both employment and wages in the farming sector grew in 2021 to reach new highs of 23,868 employees and \$970.2 million in wages.

“Agriculture supports jobs and communities throughout New York,” DiNapoli said. “In addition to the growth in employment and wages in the sector, local farms contributed to the food security in their communities during the COVID pandemic as disrupted supply chains left shelves empty in many places. Agriculture, particularly the family farm, is vital to New York’s health and economy. Many of our farms face significant challenges to their bottom line, making it important for the state to ensure that this sector continues to thrive.”

Attorney General James Secures \$4 Million After Uncovering an Illegal Kickback Scheme to Deregulate Rent-Stabilized Apartments

New York Attorney General Letitia James announced she has secured \$4 million from a group of 29 New York City landlords after uncovering an illegal kickback scheme by the management companies they employed to deregulate hundreds of rent-stabilized apartments in New York City. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) reached a settlement with 29 LLCs (the owners) affiliated with Sentinel Real Estate Corporation for wrongdoing committed by employees at the now-defunct property

management firms the owners used: Newcastle Realty Services, LLC (Newcastle) and Highcastle Management, LLC (Highcastle). Newcastle and Highcastle inflated and falsely stated renovation costs for rent-stabilized apartments in an attempt to deregulate them and their employees accepted more than \$1 million in kickbacks from contractors in exchange for hiring them on renovation jobs. The owners failed to provide sufficient oversight of Newcastle's and Highcastle's practices.

As part of the settlement, the owners paid \$4 million to Attorney General James' Affordable Housing Fund with the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), which preserves and expands affordable housing in New York City. They have also engaged an independent auditor to evaluate the regulated status and legal regulated rents of the apartments previously managed by Newcastle and Highcastle.

2022 New York State Fair Butter Sculpture Unveiled



Coming Up

New York State

Saturday, August 27th

Joint – MTA Bridges and Tunnels, New York State Department & New York Department of Transport,
Virtual Hearing, 1 p.m.
Oversight - Proposed Congestion Pricing Program.

Sunday, August 28th

Joint – MTA Bridges and Tunnels, New York State Department & New York Department of Transport,
Virtual Hearing, 1 p.m.
Oversight - Proposed Congestion Pricing Program.

Monday, August 29th

Joint – MTA Bridges and Tunnels, New York State Department & New York Department of Transport,
Virtual Hearing, 1 p.m.
Oversight - Proposed Congestion Pricing Program.

Tuesday, August 30th

Joint – MTA Bridges and Tunnels, New York State Department & New York Department of Transport,
Virtual Hearing, 5 p.m.
Oversight - Proposed Congestion Pricing Program.

Wednesday, August 31st

Joint – MTA Bridges and Tunnels, New York State Department & New York Department of Transport,
Virtual Hearing, 10 a.m.
Oversight - Proposed Congestion Pricing Program.

New York City

Tuesday, August 30th

Committee on Public Safety, Council Chambers – City Hall, 10 a.m.

- Int 0602-2022 - Determining and identifying the area commonly known as Times Square. (For the purposes of state penal law definition of sensitive area for the carrying of guns, defines the area commonly known as Times Square. Also authorizes the New York City Police Department to promulgate such rules as may be necessary to implement the bill, including rules applicable, as appropriate, to persons with a firearms license who live or work in the area commonly known as Times Square.)

Wednesday, August 31st

Joint - Committee on Government Operations & Fire and Emergency Management,

Council Chambers – City Hall, 10 a.m.

Oversight – Examining Preparedness and Response to Public Health Emergencies.

- Int 0095-2022 - Requiring the commissioner of emergency management to report on the city's preparedness and response to citywide public health emergencies.
- Int 0367-2022 - Establishing an office of pandemic preparedness.

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