



This Week in New York

Covering New York State and City Government

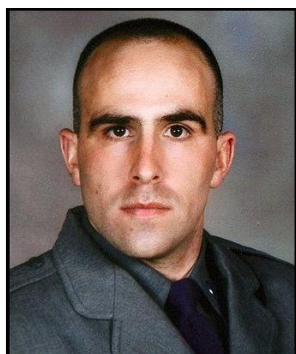
A Publication of Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC

July 14, 2017 Edition



In Memoriam:

New York State Police Trooper Joel R. Davis



We extend our deepest condolences to the family, friends, and fellow officers of New York State Police Trooper Joel R. Davis who died Sunday night in the line of duty.

Trooper Davis, 36, was shot once while responding to a domestic incident in Theresa, Jefferson County, on Sunday evening. Prior to joining the State Police in 2012, Trooper Davis spent 10 years as a deputy at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. He is survived by his wife and three children.

“The entire New York family grieves today for Trooper Joel Davis, who was shot and killed in the line of duty,” Governor Andrew Cuomo said. “Trooper Davis served as a member of the New York State Police for four years, and his death is yet another sad reminder of the risks law enforcement officers face each day in order to protect our communities and serve the residents of this great state. I ask all New Yorkers to keep Trooper Davis’ family, loved ones and colleagues in the state police in their prayers during this incredibly difficult time.”

Detective First Grade Miosotis Familia



Thousands of police officers, family members, citizens, and city officials gathered Tuesday for the funeral of NYPD Detective Miosotis Familia, who was shot and killed while on duty in the Bronx last week.

Detective Familia was posthumously promoted to Detective First-Grade before the service, which was held 12 years to the day that she officially joined the NYPD. Prior to her public service, Detective Familia worked as a patient care assistant at New York University Hospital and for the American Red Cross.

She is survived by three children and was caring for her 86-year-old mother. Donations “In memory of Detective Miosotis Familia” may be made so marked to the “DEA Widows & Children’s Fund” c/o DEA, 26 Thomas Street, New York, N.Y. 10007, Attn: Vice President Paul DiGiacomo.

In the News – New York State



Bills Signed by the Governor

Chapter 83 (Sponsored by M of A Pretlow/Senator Stewart-Cousins) -- Extends the expiration date of the personal income tax surcharge imposed in the city of Yonkers.

Chapter 85 (Sponsored by M of A Morelle/Senator Helming) -- Creates the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence Seaway flood recovery and International Joint Commission Plan 2014 mitigation grant program.

Chapter 88 (Sponsored by M of A Lupardo/Senator O'Mara) -- Promotes the production of industrial hemp in New York State.

Chapter 86 (Sponsored by Senator Addabbo/M of A Pheffer Amato) -- Extends prior approved work permits in Breezy Point relating to Hurricane Sandy.

Bills Delivered to the Governor

A1189 – Sponsored by M of A Cusick/Senator Lanza -- Extends, until December 31, 2018, the authorization of residential property owners in high risk brush fire areas on Staten Island to cut and remove reeds.

A6955 – Sponsored by M of A Buchwald/Senator Bonacic -- Relates to contracts for publication of official court reports.

A7281 – Sponsored by M of A Peoples-Stoke/Senator Gallivan -- To expand the list of enumerated, surviving family members eligible for reimbursement of crime scene cleanup expenses when a victim/family member is killed in a shared residence.

A7532 – Sponsored by M of A Gottfried/Senator Hannon -- Clarifies that any health care practitioner who has the necessary experience, prescribing authority, and scope of practice, may enter into a collaborative agreement with a person or entity seeking to possess and/or operate an automated external defibrillator.

A7985A – Sponsored by M of A Blake/Senator Gallivan -- Allows for county jails to contract with medical professional corporations for the provision of inmate health care services.

A8101 – Sponsored by M of A Weinstein/Senator Golden -- Relates to terms and conditions of employment of certain nonjudicial officers and employees of the unified court system.

S5411 – Sponsored by Senator Croci/M of A DenDekker -- Allows towns to adopt a local law or resolution to include reserve veterans for the veteran alternative exemption.

S5506 – Sponsored by Senator Amedore/M of A Santabarbara -- Makes permanent the provisions of law authorizing the hunting of big game in the county of Schenectady with pistols, rifles, shotguns, crossbows and long bows.

S5894 – Sponsored by Senator Gallivan/M of A Weprin -- Extends from September 1, 2017 to September 1, 2020, the expiration of provisions authorizing local correctional facilities to enter into agreements to take custody of out of state inmates.

S5958 – Sponsored by Rules/M of A Levine -- Relates to allowing certain special assessing units other than cities to adjust their current base proportions.

In the News – New York City



De Blasio Administration Announces \$32 Million Neighborhood Rat Reduction Plan

Mayor Bill de Blasio this week announced a \$32 million, multi-agency plan to reduce the city's rat population that targets the three most infested parts of city: the Grand Concourse area, Chinatown/East Village/Lower East Side and Bushwick/Bedford-Stuyvesant. This interagency initiative aims to reduce rat activity by up to 70 percent in the targeted zones by minimizing food sources and available habitats.

According to the Mayor, by reducing the available habitats and food sources in targeted areas, rat reproduction will diminish and rat colonies will decline. The City will achieve this by cementing dirt basements in NYCHA, purchasing better waste containers, increasing trash pickup and increasing enforcement of rat-related violations in these areas. All aspects of this plan will be launched by the end of 2017 including:

- ***New waste containers:*** The City will purchase 336 solar compactors that restrict access to trash with a “mail-box” opening and that have resulted in 90% rat reductions when fully deployed in concentrated areas. The City will also replace all the remaining wire waste baskets in the zones with 1,676 steel cans—both in parks and on street corners. Installation of solar compactors and steel cans will begin by September.
- ***Rat Pads in NYCHA buildings:*** The City will allocate \$16.3 million in capital spending to replace dirt basement floors with concrete “rat pads” in prioritized NYCHA buildings within the Mitigation Zones. The cementing of basements, complemented by extermination and cleanouts, has been evidenced to reduce resident-generated work orders related to rats at NYCHA facilities by 40%. Additionally, \$8.8 million will be invested in new NYCHA trash compactors to properly store waste. Requests for Proposal will be issued before the end of the year, with installation set to begin in 2018.
- ***Better trash management in DOHMH-designated areas:*** The plan proposes a local law that requires buildings containing more than ten units within the Mitigation Zones to curb garbage after 4am the day of trash collection. To further minimize rats’ food source, local laws will be proposed to require enrollment in organics collection by Food Service Establishments and low-performing buildings in the DOHMH-designated areas. A citywide local law will also be proposed to increase fines for illegal dumping by private business from \$1,500 to \$5,000 for first time offenses, with fines reaching up to \$20,000 for additional violations.
- ***More frequent trash pickup and anti-rat staff:*** The plan calls for increased DSNY basket and residential service in the most critical areas within the Mitigation Zones. Similarly, NYC Parks basket pickup will be done daily in all parks within the Mitigation Zones, accompanied by targeted litter removal from parks. Increased DSNY and NYC Parks waste basket pick up has already begun, with increased DSNY residential pick up beginning by the end of August. Eight staff will be added to DOHMH’s anti-rat team; seven front-line staff and a sophisticated data scientist to allow DOHMH to conduct data-driven rat mitigation efforts. Finally, NYCHA’s MyNYCHA mobile app will be modified to ensure tenants can effectively create work orders for trash removal and rat mitigation.
- ***Ramped-up enforcement of rat-related violations:*** DOHMH will lead full-building, multi-agency inspections of targeted private buildings alongside DOB, HPD, and DSNY to identify conditions that contribute to rat infestations, order owners to make repairs and issue violations when warranted. DSNY will undertake a three-month enforcement effort against illegal dumping at major NYCHA facilities to pilot tactics that can reduce rat food sources and habitat. In addition, DSNY will focus outreach and enforcement to promote waste management best practices, including separating organic waste.

- ***New laws to require better trash management:*** The Administration will work with City Council to introduce new laws to improve trash management and reduce food for rats in these mitigation zones. These laws will require buildings with 10+ units to put out trash at 4 AM in DOHMH set areas, call for low-performing buildings to enroll in organics collection, instruct Food Service Establishments to enroll in organics in areas set by DOHMH, and increase fines for improper waste disposal and illegal dumping.

Briefs

Senate GOP: \$4M Available For Bulletproof Glass For NYPD

Command vehicles and patrol cars of the New York City Police Department will be receiving an upgrade of bulletproof glass under a \$4 million retrofit announced Monday by Senate Republicans.

“Every day we cherish and thank the proud men and women of the NYPD for putting their lives on the line to protect New York’s largest city,” said Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan. It’s only appropriate that we do everything possible to help defend those who defend us.”

The grant allocation is coming from the State and Municipal Assistance capital program.

NY State Police Issue More Than 10,000 Tickets During Crackdown on Aggressive Driving, DWI

New York State Police issued more than 10,000 tickets during a four-day Fourth of July crackdown on drunken and impaired drivers, as well as speeding and aggressive drivers.

The 10,435 tickets were issued July 1 through midnight July 4th across the state. Troopers said they charged 240 people with driving while intoxicated and investigated 152 crashes, in which 248 people were injured and three people were killed. State police set up sobriety checkpoints, added extra patrols on the roadways and conducted underage drinking details throughout the holiday weekend.

Among the tickets issued during the campaign were:

- Speeding: 4,115
- Distracted Driving: 245
- Seat belt violations: 603
- Move Over Law violations: 274

During the 2016 Fourth of July STOP-DWI crackdown, state police issued 10,882 tickets and charged 206 people with DWI.

The Governor's Traffic Safety Committee paid for expenses related to this year's Fourth of July STOP-DWI enforcement campaign.

Prospect Park Will Go Entirely Car-Free This Summer

Prospect Park in Brooklyn would go entirely car-free for the first time this summer. Currently open to northbound traffic during the morning rush-hour, Prospect Park will be car-free 24/7 from Monday, July 17 until Monday, September 11th, the weekend after Labor Day.

The East Drive of Prospect Park is currently open to northbound traffic between Park Circle and Grand Army Plaza from 7-9 a.m. on weekdays (except holidays). According to DOT data, vehicle volumes on the East Drive are consistently lower during summer months: during a peak morning hour in the summer, fewer than 300 vehicles use the East Drive (a decline from over 400 hourly vehicles on a fall morning) while during a peak morning hour, the drive is used by nearly 1,000 pedestrians, joggers and cyclists.

The summertime car-free hours are also anticipated to have a negligible effect on travel times on alternative routes on streets around the park.

NYC ACS Creates Accountability Office

New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) Commissioner David Hansell this week announced the newly-formed ACS Accountability Office to centralize the agency's internal oversight functions, streamline responses to external oversight inquiries, and support management reforms within the agency. Eden Hauslaib, former agency Senior Advisor of Strategic Initiatives, was appointed Chief Accountability Officer to oversee the new division. The office will be comprised of two units: Internal Staff Audit and External Accountability.

Ms. Hauslaib has extensive experience both on the frontline and in leadership positions within ACS' Division of Child Protection (DCP), where she served as Acting Deputy Commissioner, as well as Family Court Legal Services (FCLS). Prior to serving as Acting Deputy Commissioner, she was an Associate Commissioner within DCP. She holds a law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law.

The Accountability Office will provide a systematized approach to reviewing and responding inquiries from external oversight bodies, overseeing ACS' implementation of accepted recommendations, and ensuring the highest level of case practice.

The Accountability Office will also conduct audits of case practices of ACS employees working within the two major divisions that provide direct services to the public: the Division of Child Protection (DCP), which employs close to 3,000 staff who conduct investigations throughout the five boroughs; as well as the Division of Youth and Family Justice (DYFJ) with 750 staff who serve young people in the juvenile detention and placement systems throughout the city.

Coming Up

New York State

No meetings scheduled.

New York City

Monday July 17th

Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises, Council Chambers – City Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitting and Maritime Uses, Committee Room – City Hall, 11 a.m.

Subcommittee on Planning, Disposition and Concession, Committee Room – City Hall, 1 p.m.

Wednesday July 19th

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

Committee on Courts and Legal Services, 250 Broadway – Committee Room 16th Floor, 2 p.m.

Thursday July 20th

Committee on Finance, Committee Room – City Hall, 10 a.m.

City Council Stated Meeting, Council Chambers – City Hall, 1:30 p.m.

Disclaimer: The materials in this *This Week in New York* report are provided for informational purposes only and are not intended to be a comprehensive review of legislative or governmental or political developments, to create a client-consultant/lobbyist relationship, or to provide consulting, lobbying or political advice. Readers are cautioned not to attempt to solve specific problems on the basis of information contained in this *This Week in New York*. If consulting, lobbying or government relations advice is required, please consult a professional expert in such matters. The information contained herein, does not necessarily reflect the opinions of Pitta Bishop & Del Giorgio LLC, or any of its members or employees or its clients. Neither Pitta Bishop & Del Giorgio LLC, nor its members or employees make any warranty, expressed or implied, and assume no legal liability with respect to the information in this report, and do not guarantee that the information is accurate, complete, useful or current. Accordingly, Pitta Bishop & Del Giorgio LLC is not responsible for any claimed damages resulting from any alleged error, inaccuracy, or omission. This communication may be considered an advertisement or solicitation.

To request that copies of this publication be sent to a new address or fax number, to unsubscribe, or to comment on its contents, please contact Theresa Cosgrove at tcosgrove@pittabishop.com or at (518) 449-3320.

To Our Clients: If you have any questions regarding any of the matters addressed in this newsletter, or regarding any legislative, government relations or political or consulting or related issues in general, please contact the Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC professional with whom you usually work.

This Week in New York is a publication of Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC.

120 Broadway, 28th Floor
New York, New York 10271
Telephone (212) 652-3890
Facsimile (212) 652-3891

111 Washington Avenue, St. 401
Albany, New York 12210
Telephone (518) 449-3320
Facsimile (518) 449-5812

25 Hyatt Street, St. 202
Staten Island, New York 10301
Telephone (718) 943-1050
Facsimile (718) 943-1051