



FY 2016 EXECUTIVE BUDGET HEARING  
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

TESTIMONY BY STACEY CUMBERBATCH  
COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF CITYWIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
JUNE 2, 2015

Good morning Chair Ferreras-Copeland, Chair Kallos, and Committee members. I am Stacey Cumberbatch, Commissioner of the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. I am joined by members of my senior staff today, with Deputy Commissioner of Fiscal and Business Management Richard Badillo and General Counsel Suzanne Lynn sitting with me at the table, to discuss the planned expenditures and revenues for FY16, as well as highlights of the DCAS Capital plan. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. It has been a pleasure working with the Council and we look forward to continuing a productive and collaborative working relationship.

**OVERVIEW**

DCAS serves the other City agencies by making sure they have the critical resources and support needed to provide the best possible services to the public. As the back office for City operations, it is our job to ensure our sister agencies have the tools they need to do their jobs. Each of our six lines of service is dedicated to helping support this Administration's important goals of equity..... growth.... resiliency and sustainability in carrying out the business of the City.

I'd like to take a minute to go over just a few of our accomplishments:

- **DCAS Fleet Services**
  - As part of Vision Zero, Fleet is contributing to safer streets as it oversees the installation of Canceivers in city-owned vehicles. These units help improve driving behavior and reduce collisions by collecting data, such as: speed, hard-

braking or acceleration, and seatbelt use. To date, more than 17,000

Canteen have been installed. Fleet has also trained more than 19,000 City employees in safe driving techniques.

- As part of a pilot study, Fleet is on schedule with the installation of truck side guards on 240 City vehicles. One-third of the trucks in the pilot have been outfitted with the guards, including all 19 trucks at the Department of Education. The rest of the installations will be completed by the end of 2015.

- **Human Capital Line of Service:**

- Human Capital oversees the provisional workforce reduction plan. You'll recall under the Plan Extension DCAS will address up to 8,600 provisionals over the next two years. As of April 30<sup>th</sup> the provisional headcount is 21,516.
- By the end of Fiscal Year 2015 we will have administered 107 civil Service exams including the largest exam in more than 25 years – as more than 75,000 candidates took the Sanitation Worker exam! For FY 2016, we will administer a record high of 124 exams.
- Human Capital also established the Office of Citywide Recruitment which is using workforce data:
  - to ensure that job categories with greater attrition are targeted, and
  - that historically underrepresented communities receive information about employment opportunities offered by the City of New York.
- And for current City employees, Human Capital has offered more than 1,600 professional development courses to more than 20,000 employees.

- **Citywide Diversity and EEO Office:**

- Our Citywide Diversity and EEO Office launched a new computer- based training module focused on diversity and inclusion training. To date, nearly 10,000 City employees have received this training.
- The Office also established a Diversity and Best Practices Group composed of EEO Officers and other professionals to promote:
  - comprehensive and consistent EEO policies,
  - as well as diversity and inclusion best practices, across City government.
- The group is open to nearly 80 City agencies, the offices of elected officials, boards and commissions.

- **Office of Citywide Procurement:**

- Our Office of Citywide Procurement leverages the City's purchasing power to obtain the most competitive pricing for goods and services by aggregating demand and consolidating contracts.
- We continue to maximize M/WBE vendor participation by conducting outreach and ensuring that M/WBE's are included as a normal part of the agency purchasing culture.
- For FY 15 to date DCAS has awarded approximately \$ 18 million dollars to M/WBE's.

- **Energy Management:**

- DCAS plays a central role in the City's efforts to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from City government operations by 80 percent by 2050 – and a 35 percent decrease in emissions from City buildings by 2025.

- This year, Energy Management helped increase the City's use of renewable sources of energy with the successful installation of solar panels on:
  - PS 69 in Staten Island -the first of 24 solar installations at City Schools.
  - And at the Port Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plant on Staten Island - the largest solar installation on any City building. The solar panels are expected to offset 10 percent of the Plant's electricity.
- Energy Management also oversaw an increase in the Demand Response Program. This program provides economic incentives to agencies who agree to reduce energy usage during peak times. In FY15 the program committed over 47 megawatts of capacity - generating more than \$4.9 million in revenue for 11 City agencies.
- And, in FY 2015, through Round 3 of the Accelerated Conservation and Efficiency (ACE) program, DCAS awarded \$37 million of capital across nine agencies, for projects with estimated greenhouse gas reductions totaling 12,500 metric tons.
- **Asset Management:**
  - As a cost savings measure, Asset Management has implemented a new Fire Guard Training Program. For the first time, DCAS custodians are being trained as FDNY certified Fire Guards eliminating the need for an outside vendor.
    - As of May 2015 a total of 40 custodians have already passed the exam and received their certificates.
  - Going forward, we will increase our sustainability efforts in support of One NYC as our Asset Management Team expands its preventative maintenance

capabilities at DCAS buildings - further reducing energy consumption and the production of greenhouse gases.

I would now like to discuss highlights of DCAS' expense budget, expense savings program, the revenue budget and lastly the Capital Plan.

## **EXPENSE BUDGET**

DCAS' expense budget reflects funding of \$1.2 billion and a budgeted headcount of 2,036 in FY16.

The majority of our planned FY16 expenditure – \$756.8 million – is allocated for citywide heat, light and power expenses. The FY16 energy budget is a collaborative effort between DCAS and OMB in forecasting agency energy usage as well as commodity rates in the upcoming fiscal year. As previously mentioned, DCAS continues to work closely with agencies citywide to enhance the energy performance of their facilities through a range of programs, which include retrofitting equipment, improving operations and maintenance, and training and outreach to reduce the City's energy costs.

## **EXPENSE FUNDING ADDITIONS**

DCAS received funding in FY16 for the following initiatives:

- **One NYC:** DCAS' Asset Management Line of Service received 26 positions and \$3.0 million for a Preventive Maintenance Program as a component of the OneNYC Initiative. Preventive maintenance will be performed on building systems including the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment at all the City-owned buildings in DCAS' portfolio with three benefits in mind. The first benefit of this program is that timely preventive maintenance will

help building systems perform more efficiently. The second benefit is the avoidance of costly corrective maintenance repairs that occur when systems are not maintained properly. The third and most significant benefit is that improved performance of this equipment will lead to significant reductions in both energy consumption and the production of greenhouse gases.

- **Provisional Reduction:** DCAS' Human Capital Line of Service is tasked with reducing the number of provisional employees citywide. The major strategy to reduce the number of provisional staff is the administration of more civil service examinations. One of the components of this strategy is to increase the number of computerized testing centers to augment the Brooklyn and Manhattan locations that are currently in operation. This budget allocates \$1.1 million so that DCAS can lease space for two new testing centers. One testing center will be located in Queens and the other in Staten Island. The projected opening date for both is spring 2017.
- **Capital Construction Unit:** DCAS will be overseeing three Capital Court Construction Projects at the following DCAS managed facilities: One Centre Street, 210 Joralemon Street, 345 Adams Street. These projects will also involve new lease space that has yet to be identified. DCAS received IFA Funding for 8 positions and \$750,000 that will be tasked with managing these projects from inception to completion.

#### **EXPENSE SAVINGS PROGRAM**

DCAS identified savings that can be absorbed without adversely affecting our ability to provide services to both the public and our sister City agencies. DCAS' FY16 budget includes the following expense savings initiatives:

- **Attrition Savings of 10 positions and \$300,000:** DCAS will identify 10 positions that will not be backfilled as incumbent staff leaves the agency in the upcoming fiscal year. The workload from the identified staff will be redistributed to the remaining staff and will not affect our core functions.
- **Overtime Savings of \$200,000:** Various lines of service reviewed the work that in the past required overtime with the intent of reducing overtime expenses. The review resulted in the establishment of new schedules for staff in certain bureaus which has resulted in a \$200,000 reduction of overtime.
- **Contractual Guard Savings of \$300,000:** DCAS' Office of Citywide Procurement issued a new citywide security guard contract effective July 1, 2014. The average hourly rate under this contract is approximately 7% lower than the prior contract. The savings to be realized will have no impact on DCAS' current contractual guard staffing.

## REVENUES

The FY16 total DCAS revenue budget is \$60.2 million.

- Our largest source of recurring revenue is from 460 leases for commercial rentals of City-owned property, projected to be \$42.0 million.
- Another significant revenue source is the sale of surplus vehicles and other City owned equipment totaling \$6.9 million.

- DCAS also receives revenue from applicant filing fees for civil service examinations. DCAS anticipates collecting \$3.5 million in FY16 from these fees.

## **CAPITAL PLAN**

As you are aware, the Executive Budget reflects an updated Ten-Year Capital Plan representing FY2016 – FY2025. I will now discuss highlights of the Ten-Year Plan, followed by specific projects funded in the FY16 Capital Plan.

### **The FY16 - FY25 Ten-Year DCAS Capital Plan totals \$3.6 billion. Highlights include:**

**\$2.5 Billion - OneNYC - Energy Efficiency Measures and Building Retrofits such as:**

- Accelerated Conservation and Efficiency (“ACE”) Program.
- Local Law 87 deep retrofits.
- Solar panels installations, city-wide.

**\$184.5 Million - Renovation of Leased Space including:**

- Additional office space in both Brooklyn and Queens for the Department of Finance: \$31 million.
- The establishment of two additional DCAS Computerized Testing and Application Centers in Queens and Staten Island: \$4.3 million

**\$386 Million - Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Public Buildings such as:**

- HVAC, fire alarm, and office renovations at 345 Adams St. in Brooklyn: \$48 million.
- Electrical and HVAC work at the Brooklyn Municipal Building: \$36.8 million.



- Electrical, fire alarm, HVAC, and office renovations at 253 Broadway: \$25.5 million.
- Reconstruct space for the Taxi and Limousine Commission in Woodside, Queens: \$43.7 million.

**Highlights of the FY16 Capital Budget totaling \$536 million are as follows:**

- Energy conservation projects: \$243.3 million.
- Construction of DCAS-managed non-court facilities: \$116 million. Projects include the reconstruction of space at 1 Centre St. to house the Office of Court Administration's Summons parts for \$21.3 million, and an electrical system upgrade to the Brooklyn Municipal Building for \$22 million.
- Lease space renovations: \$46.5 million

The City-wide Courts ten year capital plan totals \$1.5 billion. \$161 million of this amount is allocated to DCAS infrastructure projects in FY16 for projects such as:

- The relocation of housing and civil court parts from leased space at 141 Livingston Street to 210 Joralemon Street: \$68.8 million.
- Essential infrastructure improvements such as Local Law 11 work on building facades, elevator upgrades, fire alarm systems, and electrical upgrades to various court buildings: \$85.4 million.

## **CONCLUSION**

Thank you for this opportunity to testify about the Department of Citywide Administrative Services' planned expenditures and revenues for FY16 as well as our Capital budget. I would be pleased to take any questions at this time.



**New York City Campaign Finance Board**  
100 Church Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007  
212.409.1800 | [www.nyccfb.info](http://www.nyccfb.info)

**Testimony of Amy Loprest  
Executive Director  
New York City Campaign Finance Board**

**City Council Committees on Governmental Operations and Finance  
June 2, 2015**

Good afternoon to the Chairs, Council members Kallos and Ferreras-Copeland, and committee members. I am Amy Loprest, Executive Director of the New York City Campaign Finance Board (CFB). I am joined today by Eric Friedman, the CFB's Assistant Executive Director for Public Affairs.

As I do every year at this time, I want to thank the Council for your continued support of the Campaign Finance Program and for the opportunity to testify today. Our budget for fiscal year 2016 will support the CFB's dual mission of preventing actual or apparent corruption in City government and spurring greater voter participation in City elections.

Before I turn to our specific budget request, I want to invite all of you to a conference on campaign finance reform that the CFB will host with the Brennan Center for Justice on July 22. We will gather nationally recognized legal experts, scholars, elected officials and other stakeholders to discuss how public campaign finance may help to restore citizens' confidence in our elections and encourage more voters to participate in them. I'm excited to share that Public Advocate Letitia James will be participating as a panelist and that our

keynote speaker for the day is Ann Ravel, the Chair of the Federal Election Commission. I hope you all will join us for this important discussion on July 22 at the Greenberg Lounge at the NYU School of Law.

The Board's fiscal year 2016 budget is \$14.5 million and it is attached to this testimony. Pursuant to New York City Charter, Section 1052(c), the Board submitted its budget for City Fiscal Year 2016 to the Mayor on April 6, 2015, and it was included in his Executive Budget.

The CFB's budget request includes \$1 million for the NYC Campaign Finance Fund to pay public funds to participating campaigns in special elections in the coming fiscal year. Based on media reports, we anticipate elections will be held to fill vacancies in at least two City Council districts this fall. Based on our experience, we believe our public funds request will be sufficient for those elections and other special elections that may arise later on. The CFB returns any funds remaining in the Campaign Finance Fund to the General Fund at the end of each fiscal year.

The Personal Services budget request reflects salary increases arising from settled labor contracts as well as additional staff. Specifically, the CFB is requesting adding auditors to further improve that core agency function. The CFB has focused intensively on making our post-election audit program for the 2013 election cycle more efficient and more effective. Before the audits began roughly 18 months ago, we conducted a comprehensive risk analysis to allow auditors to focus their reviews on the most risk-intensive items.

We are beginning to see the results of those efforts. As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, the CFB has completed draft audit reports to 185 campaigns, 37 more than the CFB had issued as of the same date in 2011 for the 2009 elections.

The CFB has concluded a number of audit reviews from the 2013 elections, including full final audits for 10 campaigns whose audits did not result in enforcement action. Limited reviews for another 46 campaigns that had minimal activity during the 2013 cycle have also been closed.

The Board has taken action on audit findings for eight campaigns from the 2013 elections to date. The Board has completed enforcement actions for seven campaigns, two of which did not have any penalty recommendations only public funds repayments resulting from a final bank balance. The Board determined that the eighth campaign was eligible to receive a public funds payment. By the end of the process, the CFB will complete full audits for slightly more than 200 campaigns.

The CFB's Personal Services request will also allow the agency to add software developers and other IT staff to execute our plan to overhaul and enhance all of the systems candidates use before the 2017 elections. Many of these upgrades will take place behind-the-scenes to improve functions within our candidate disclosure systems, C-SMART and C-ACCESS, but will in the long-term allow for greater enhancements. One key, public-facing enhancement currently in the works will provide expanded disclosure

of independent expenditures in City elections. The CFB's disclosure worked very well in 2013, but we are adding significantly to what will be available to City voters in 2017.

The CFB requests increased funding in its operations budget for 2016. The bulk of the increase is primarily to cover construction costs in our offices to meet current and future agency needs that were not adequately addressed in the original design. We are also working to expand the reach of some of our core programs over the next few months. The CFB's website is just weeks away from a new and exciting re-launch. Among the many benefits of the new design, we believe it will do a better job of highlighting the benefits New Yorkers receive through their investment in the campaign finance program.

Other projects on the horizon include the re-launch of our new and improved NYC Votes online contribution tool and an expansion of our non-partisan get-out-the-vote effort. NYCVotes.org, which we launched on a trial basis for the 2013 elections, will help candidates reach and engage new supporters and contributors online and on their smartphones. It will process credit card contributions, connect seamlessly to C-SMART, and transmit all the information candidates need for compliance directly to the CFB.

Our get-out-the-vote direct mail and phone banking effort in the 2014 general election helped to boost turnout among newly registered voters. We plan to expand the program for the 2016 elections beginning next spring.

As always, the CFB strives for efficiency in everything it does. New Yorkers have made an important and remarkable investment in our elections through the Campaign Finance Program. The Board and CFB staff are committed to ensuring that the City receives maximum return on that investment.

On behalf of the Board and CFB staff, we look forward to continuing to work with the Council to empower more New Yorkers to make their voices heard in city elections. Thank you for your time, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

**NEW YORK CITY CAMPAIGN FINANCE BOARD OPERATING BUDGET  
FISCAL YEAR 2016**

<b>FISCAL 2015 CFB BUDGET</b>		<b>FISCAL 2016 CFB BUDGET</b>	<b>CHANGES FROM 2015 ADOPTED</b>
<b>PERSONAL SERVICES (PS)</b>	<b>\$ 7,632,777</b>	<b>\$8,140,985</b>	<b>\$508,208</b>
<b>OTHER THAN PERSONAL SERVICES (OTPS)</b>			
OTPS	\$3,919,000	\$4,860,650	\$941,650
VOTER GUIDE	\$391,500	\$476,500	\$85,000
NYC CAMPAIGN FINANCE FUND	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0
SUB TOTAL OTPS	\$5,310,500	\$6,337,150	\$1,026,650
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 12,943,277</b>	<b>\$14,478,135</b>	<b>\$1,534,858</b>

<b>HEADCOUNT</b>	<b>FY2015 Full Time</b>	<b>Seasonal</b>	<b>FY2016 Full Time</b>	<b>Seasonal</b>	<b>CHANGE Full Time</b>	<b>Seasonal</b>
	91	7	96	7	5	0

New York City Campaign Finance Board		
Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget By Appropriation Code		
<b>Personal Services</b>		
Unit of Appropriation 001	\$	8,140,985
<b>Other Than Personal Services</b>		
Unit of Appropriation 002		
CFB Core Operations		\$4,860,650
Voter Guide		\$476,500
Sub total 002		\$5,337,150
<b>NYC Election Fund</b>		
Unit of Appropriation 003		\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>		<b>\$14,478,135</b>



BETANYC  
CITIZENS UNION  
CIVICHALL.ORG  
COMMON CAUSE NEW YORK  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP  
REINVENT ALBANY  
WOMEN'S CITY CLUB OF NEW YORK

June 2, 2015

The Honorable Bill de Blasio  
Mayor, City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Mr. Dean Fuleihan  
Director, Office of Management and Budget  
City of New York  
255 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10012

**VIA EMAIL AND MAIL**

**Re: Funding for Commission on Public Information and Communication (COPIC)**

Dear Mayor de Blasio and Director Fuleihan,

We write as government watchdog groups and members of the NYC Transparency Working Group to request that the final city budget include funding sufficient for the Commission on Public Information and Communication (COPIC) to hire staff and conduct its charter mandated duties.

COPIC was created by the 1989 City Charter revision. Section 1061(c) of the City Charter regarding COPIC, states: "The commission shall appoint an executive director, a general counsel and such other officers, employees, and consultants as are necessary to fulfill its duties, within appropriations available therefor."

We believe that this indicates the COPIC should receive its own budget, beyond that provided to the Public Advocate for its current staff. We understand that the Public Advocate has requested \$100,000 for such staffing, though note that the charter-mandated listing of staff indicates that a higher number of \$250,000 would be more appropriate.

The Commission on Public Information and Communication was most recently reconvened by Public Advocate Letitia James in December 2014, with appointees from your administration, and other representation from the Public Advocate, City Council and Borough Presidents. It held its second meeting on May 19, 2015, voting on a plan to carry out its mandate, specifically focusing on compliance with Local Law 103 of 2013 regarding the webcasting of city government entities.

Given the promise of COPIC to increase public accessibility of city government meetings, data and information, we request the modest budget of \$250,000 for staffing of COPIC to ensure it is able to fulfill

the duties outlined in the City Charter. We believe this will also serve to assist other city government entities in fulfilling their mandates by expanding their reach and accessibility to the public.

Sincerely,

Noel Hidalgo, Executive Director  
BetaNYC

Rachael Fauss, Director of Public Policy  
Citizens Union

Andrew Rasiej, Founder  
CivicHall.org

Lauren George, Associate Director  
Common Cause New York

Cathy Gray, Vice President  
League of Women Voters of the City of New York

Gene Russianoff, Staff Attorney  
NYPIRG

John Kaehny, Executive Director  
Reinvent Albany

Jacqueline Ebanks, Executive Director  
Women's City Club of New York

Cc. Public Advocate Letitia James  
Councilmember Julissa Ferreras, Chair, Committee on Finance  
Councilmember Ben Kallos, Chair, Committee on Governmental Operations  
Umair Khan, Interim Executive Director, COPIC  
Jon Paul Lupo, Director of City Legislative Affairs, Office of the Mayor  
Jeff Merritt, Director of Innovation, Mayor's Office of Technology and Innovation

**City Council Statement**  
**June 2, 2015**

Good Morning Chairs Kallos and Ferreras-Copeland and members of the Government Operations and Finance Committees. It is a pleasure to come before you to discuss the Law Department's fiscal year 2016 Executive Budget.

Attached is my statement to your Committee of March 19, 2015. The Executive Budget has added headcount and funding for some further initiatives of the agency. The major initiatives are as follows:

We have received a headcount increase of ten (10) lawyers for our Labor and Employment Division to assist them in handling their caseload given the increasing time and effort of e-discovery and the difficulties of maintaining a proper level of effort in the face of increasing attrition. We believe this increase in headcount will allow the division to better litigate their cases.

We have also received a headcount increase for four (4) lawyers and one (1) paralegal to enhance the City's ability to bring code enforcement actions.

Funding has been added for various case related expenses and for certain other expenses, such as administrative expenses involved in the renewal of the lease for our headquarters at 100 Church Street.

In the Executive Budget for financial year 2016, the Personal Services budget amount is \$124,951,262, the Other-Than-Personal-Services budget amount is \$60,879,415, for a total of \$185,830,677. The Law Department's total headcount for fiscal year 2016 is 1,475.

I will be happy to answer any questions your Committee may have.

**City Council Statement**  
**March 19, 2015**

**Introduction:**

Good afternoon Chair Kallos and distinguished Members of the Government Operations Committee. It is a pleasure to come before you to discuss the Law Department's fiscal year 2016 Preliminary Budget.

Over the past year, I have been engaged with Law Department staff on numerous individual matters with enormous liability, policy and operational implications for the City and its constituent agencies. Some of these matters involve public safety. Others involve the City's contractual relationships with various service providers. Still others raise important issues concerning access to services. On every occasion, I have never failed to be impressed by the professionalism, hard work, depth of knowledge and expertise and dedication of our lawyers and the extraordinary staff, that supports them.

Ultimately, our mission is to vigorously defend the legal interests of the City with an appreciation for the importance of fair outcomes to public confidence in City government.

The Corporation Counsel is the attorney for the City and its agencies and has responsibility for all litigation and other legal matters involving the City. The Department employs approximately 730 attorneys and 630 support staff. Let me add that of our 730 attorneys approximately 21% are persons of color and 58% are women.

The Law Department consists of sixteen legal and three support divisions. We handle an extraordinary array of cases and non-litigation matters: from tort to tax, from environmental and administrative issues to economic development and municipal financing. We also represent the City as plaintiff in a wide variety of affirmative matters.

Our total proposed appropriation (PS and OTPS) for fiscal year 2016 is \$171,584,437. Our proposed fiscal year 2016 headcount is 1,460.

**Litigation:**

The volume of litigation matters pending against the City presents a substantial challenge. The Torts Division alone defends some 20,000 cases currently pending against the City, its agencies and employees. Approximately 7000 cases are filed against the City each year. Approximately 6000 cases are resolved each year by trial, motion practice and settlement. The Tort Division secured approximately 1000 dismissals by motion.

While claims for monetary damages represent the lion's share of cases pending against the City, substantial resources are devoted to the defense of cases demanding injunctive relief, most often seeking operational reforms of agency practices. Where we determine that such claims are without merit, we oppose them vigorously. However, where a claim brings to the City's attention operational issues in need of correction or reform, we use our resources to assist

our agency clients in making necessary operational changes, thereby reducing future liabilities and serving the public more effectively.

In addition to defending claims against the City, the Law Department prosecutes claims to advocate the City's fiscal, commercial and policy interests. Our Affirmative Litigation Division brought aggressive, effective litigation against traffickers of untaxed cigarettes, not only protecting an important revenue stream, but public health. Our Appellate Division submitted amicus briefs on marriage equality, immigration, and environmental protection.

#### **Family Court Division:**

Our Family Court division balances the dual goals of serving the best interest of the child brought before the court and ensuring community safety. Last year, the Division's Juvenile Delinquency Prosecution Unit handled approximately 4,600 juvenile delinquency cases.

In anticipation of the State Legislature's possible passage of the "Raise the Age" bill in the coming weeks, we are already planning the expansion of our Delinquency Unit to accommodate the added population of 16 and 17 year old juveniles to Family Court caseloads.

#### **Our work with City Council:**

Over the past year, the City Council, with our support, has produced a host of groundbreaking legislative achievements, which have improved the lives of millions of New Yorkers. Together, we tackled income inequality by developing legislation to extend paid sick leave to half a million more New Yorkers. We assisted the Council's efforts to protect the rights of transgender New Yorkers, who no longer must prove that they had surgery in order to change their sex designation on their birth certificates. We partnered with the Council to protect the rights and wellbeing of immigrant New Yorkers through the development of the new municipal ID program and by placing reasonable limits on the City's cooperation with needless detentions and deportations. We look forward to building upon these successes and continuing to support the City Council's efforts in the coming year.

#### **Organizing to Enhance Client Agency Service:**

We look forward to deepening our existing relationships with City agencies. To that end, we've created agency liaison teams within the Law Department to provide more effective, efficient and proactive service to our City agency clients.

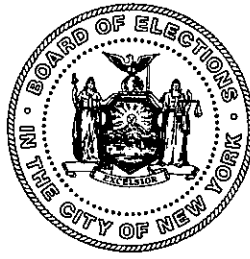
With the additional resources we have requested, we will aggressively litigate patently frivolous police cases, saving public funds and discouraging litigation.

MICHAEL MICHEL  
PRESIDENT

BIANKA PEREZ  
SECRETARY

JOSE MIGUEL ARAUJO  
RONALD CASTORINA Jr.  
JOHN FLATEAU, Ph.D.  
MARIA R. GUASTELLA  
MICHAEL A. RENDINO  
ALAN SCHULKIN  
SIMON SHAMOUN  
FREDERIC M. UMANE

COMMISSIONERS



## **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

IN  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE, 32 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10004-1609  
(212) 487-5300  
FAX (212) 487-5349  
[www.vote.nyc.ny.us](http://www.vote.nyc.ny.us)

MICHAEL J. RYAN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DAWN SANDOW  
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PAMELA GREEN PERKINS  
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER

GEORGEA KONTZAMANIS  
OPERATIONS MANAGER

# **Testimony of Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director Board of Elections in the City of New York**

## **Committee on Governmental Operations Council of the City of New York**

### **Fiscal Year 2016 Executive Budget**

### **June 2, 2015**

Chair Kallos and members of the New York City Council's Committee on Governmental Operations, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on behalf of the Board of Elections (Board). I am Michael Ryan, the Executive Director of the Board.

Present at today's hearing are the Board's:

- Administrative Manager, Pamela Perkins
- Operations Manager, Georgea Kontzamanis
- General Counsel, Steven H. Richman, Esq.
- Deputy General Counsel, Raphael Savino, Esq.
- Finance Officer, Gerald Sullivan
- Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Valerie Vazquez
- Financial Analyst, Stanley Bailey

## **FY 2015 Recent Events**

Before I begin discussing the Mayor's Executive Budget for FY 2016, I would again like to thank the City Council and the Mayor for providing the necessary funding to the Board in FY 2015 to meet its Constitutional and statutory mandates as well as the needs of the Voters of the City of New York. This responsible funding partnership has allowed the Board to conduct the business of election administration properly, manage its finances and engage in more effective short and long-term budget planning. I look forward to continuing our collective work and to ensuring that public resources are utilized judiciously and responsibly while at the same time affording all eligible voters the opportunity to freely and independently exercise the voting franchise.

### **Continuation of the Tablet Pilot in the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Special Election**

As was mentioned in the FY 2016 Preliminary Budget, during the November 2014 General Election, the Board successfully conducted a pilot to transmit Unofficial Election Night Results directly from over 200 Poll Sites using handheld electronic tablets. The Board assessed the November 2014 pilot a success (as the unofficial election results from these poll sites were entered into the system by 9:40 p.m.) and the Board Commissioners directed the continuation of the pilot, with a view toward implementation in all poll sites as expeditiously as possible. In furtherance of the Board's efforts to evaluate and implement the utilization of tablets citywide, they were utilized during the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Special Elections for the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (covering Staten Island and a portion of Brooklyn) and the 43<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District (covering a portion of Brooklyn).

The results from the Scanners were uploaded commencing at the close of polls. By 9:32 p.m. the results from ninety percent (90%) of the Scanners were unofficially reported. All results from the Scanners were received and reported by 11:05 p.m. The outcome was an expedited distribution of unofficial election results to the various interested parties, including the public, the State Board of Elections and the media. By all accounts, this marks a vast improvement from the publishing of unofficial election results in prior elections. The Board is confident that this process can continue to be utilized and improved over the course of the intervening months. In addition, based upon reviewing the manner in which unofficial results are



reported elsewhere on election night, as well as comparing information with other election administrators, the Board is further confident that this advancement will place New York City at the forefront of technological innovation in the reporting of unofficial election results. It truly is an exciting time to be an election administrator in New York City.

In addition to the reporting of election results, the Board will be utilizing the tablets for various other functions (phased in over several election events), including, poll worker check-in/check-out (this will improve the assignment of stand-by poll workers in the morning and the post-election processing of poll worker payroll), information clerks will utilize the tablets to assist voters in identifying the correct ED/AD table and/or poll site (this will expedite the process and reduce the use of the paper street finder books and other reference materials at the poll site) and will permit the expansion of the Board's "M-Elect" system to fully implement technology-assisted dispatching of technical staff to resolve Scanner related problems on election day.

With the funding provided by the Mayor's office and the City Council, the Board plans to expand the new reporting process citywide. The Board fully expects to implement the new election night reporting process for the 2016 General Election.

### **Mayor's Executive Budget for Fiscal Year 2016**

The Board would like to take this opportunity to extend its gratitude to Mayor de Blasio, his administration and the New York City Council for partnering with the Board. The funding provided in the Mayor's FY16 Executive budget is \$111.2 Million, of which \$46 million was allocated for the Personal Services (PS) and \$65.2 million allocated for Other Than Personal Services (OTPS). The Board acknowledges that its fiscal needs are fully met through the end of calendar year 2015. The Board continues to work closely with the Mayor's administration to ensure that all fiscal needs will be provided for through the end of FY 2016. The Board and the administration have conducted regular meetings throughout this process. It is anticipated that the pattern of consistent communication will continue throughout the fiscal year. This will allow for periodic adjustments based upon the needs of individual election events and for any special elections that may occur due to vacancies.

In FY 2015-2016, the Board anticipates conducting as many as four Citywide election events including a State and Local Primary (2015), General (2015), Presidential Primary (2016), and Federal Office Primary (2016). Offices included in these Elections are District Attorney, Civil and Supreme Court Justices, Presidential Candidates, Delegates to the National Conventions, and all members of Congress along with numerous party positions. As always, the potential for special elections remain.

Barring any unforeseeable election events in the next fiscal year, an effective budget strategy will allow the Board to operate more efficiently and effectively serve the voters of the City of New York.

### Conclusion

The Board remains sensitive to the fiscal challenges faced by the Mayor's Administration and the New York City Council and is mindful of its obligations to serve the voters of the City of New York. The Board remains committed to the partnership that has been forged with this Administration and this Council. The Board reaffirms its commitment to this Council that any allocated resources will be wisely utilized and the public trust will continue to be its guidepost.

As always, my colleagues and I are available to answer any questions that you may have, and we are always available if anyone should need further information.



**CITIZENS UNION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**Testimony to the City Council Committee on Governmental Operations**  
**on a Funding for the Commission on Public Information and Communication**  
**June 2, 2015**

---

Good afternoon, Chair Kallos and members of the Governmental Operations committee. My name is Rachael Fauss, and I am the Director of Public Policy at Citizens Union. Citizens Union is a nonpartisan good government group dedicated to making democracy work for all New Yorkers. We serve as a civic watchdog, combating corruption and fighting for political reform.

As you consider the mayor's final budget proposal for agencies under the purview of the Governmental Operations Committee, we urge the Council to support funding for the Commission on Public Information and Communications (COPIC), which was reconvened by Public Advocate Tish James in December 2014.

Given the promise of COPIC to increase public accessibility of city government meetings, data and information, we request the modest budget of \$250,000 for staffing of COPIC to ensure it is able to fulfill the duties outlined in the City Charter. We believe this will also serve to assist other city government entities in fulfilling their mandates by expanding their reach and accessibility to the public.

COPIC was created by the 1989 City Charter revision. Section 1061(c) of the City Charter regarding COPIC, states: "The commission shall appoint an executive director, a general counsel and such other officers, employees, and consultants as are necessary to fulfill its duties, within appropriations available therefor."

We believe that this indicates the COPIC should receive its own budget, beyond that provided to the Public Advocate for its current staff. We understand that the Public Advocate has requested \$100,000 for such staffing, though note that the charter-mandated listing of staff indicates that a higher number of \$250,000 would be more appropriate.

This funding request is supported by Citizens Union and other members of the NYC Transparency Working Group, who sent today the attached letter to Mayor de Blasio and Office of Management and Budget Director Dean Fuleihan.

Thank you, and I am available to answer any questions you have.

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Amy Loprest

Address: 100 Church Street 12<sup>th</sup> Floor

I represent: New York City Campaign Finance Board

Address: 100 Church Street 17<sup>th</sup> Floor

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Michael J Ryan

Address: 42 Broadway

I represent: Exec Director, NYC Board of

Address: Elections

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Muriel Goode-Trufant

Address: 100 Church Street

I represent: Law Department

Address: 100 Church Street

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Zachary Carter

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: Law Department

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/2/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Zachary Carter

Address: 100 Church St.

I represent: LAW DEPT.

Address: 100 Church St.

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Georgia Pestane

Address: NYC Law Dept. 100 Church Street

I represent: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: June 2015

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jeffrey D Friedman

Address: 100 Church St

I represent: NYC A12 Dept

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/2/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: G. Foster Wilson

Address: 100 Church Street

I represent: Car Department

Address: 100 Church St.

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Commissioner Stacy Cumberbatch

Address: 1 Centre St. NY NY 10007

I represent: DCA's

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/2/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Keith T. Korman

Address: 1 Centre Street

I represent: DCAS

Address: B

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dawn M. Pinnock / Deputy Commissioner

Address: Human Capital

I represent: DCAS

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/2/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ricardo E. Morales

Address: 1 Centre Street

I represent: Department of Citywide Admin. Serv.

Address: 1 Centre St.

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Gaerth Turnbull

Address: 532 Centre Street Bklyn NY 11233

I represent: DCAS

Address: 1 Centre Street NYC

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/2/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: RICHARD BASILLO

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: DCAS/CFO

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/2/15

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: K. Ozgen Onaktekin

Address: 1 Centre Street / DCAS

I represent: DCAS

Address: 1 Centre Street

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms