

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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September 8, 2011

Start: 2:07 pm

Recess: 3:35 pm

HELD AT: Emigrant Savings Bank
49-51 Chambers Street

B E F O R E:
CHRISTINE C. QUINN
Speaker

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Charles Barron
Gale A. Brewer
Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Crowley
Inez E. Dickens
Erik Martin Dilan
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Julissa Ferreras
Lewis A. Fidler
Helen D. Foster
Daniel R. Garodnick
James F. Gennaro
Vincent J. Gentile
Sara M. Gonzalez
David Greenfield
Daniel J. Halloran III

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Vincent M. Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Peter A. Koo
G. Oliver Koppell
Karen Koslowitz
Brad S. Lander
Jessica S. Lappin
Stephen T. Levin
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
James Sanders, Jr.
Larry B. Seabrook
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
James G. Van Bramer
Albert Vann
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams
Ruben Wills

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Dr. Thomas Moulton
Chief of Hematology and Oncology
Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center

Justin Moton-Long
Youth Poet Laureate
NYC Campaign Finance Board and Urban Word NYC

Rabbi Michael Miller
Executive Director
Jewish Community Relations Council

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: We are going to
3 have two ceremonials today. Chuck is talking to
4 the press - - that he is. So let's try to get the
5 meeting started--two ceremonials; one is going to
6 be led by Council Member Dromm, which is the first
7 one, and then the second one by Council Member
8 Jackson. Where's Danny? All the honorees come
9 on up.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you
11 very much, Speaker Quinn. I'm very excited today
12 to join Speaker Quinn and marking National Sickle
13 Cell Awareness Month by honoring an extraordinary
14 organization and an individual--The South Central
15 Bronx Sickle Cell Disease and Hemoglobinopathy
16 Cooperative and Dr. Thomas Moulton [phonetic].
17 Thank you for help with that word.

18 Sickle cell disease is a
19 debilitating condition that affects many New
20 Yorkers, especially African Americans and African
21 immigrants. Through the efforts of today's
22 honorees and many others, treatment of sickle cell
23 disease has become better and more comprehensive
24 resulting in a dramatic increase in the average
25 lifespan of patients.

1
2 SPEAKER QUINN: Here we go. It just
3 got quiet, but if we could get quiet. Thank you.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I first want
5 to recognize and thank Dr. Atleema Muhammad
6 [phonetic] of the Urban Health Plan and Donnette
7 Carroll, president of the Sickle Cell Thalassemia
8 Patients' Network. Your work with the cooperative
9 has improved the care of countless sickle cell
10 patients in the city and beyond. Just as
11 important, your work has educated the entire
12 community so that families, friends, neighbors and
13 healthcare providers can work together with sickle
14 cell patients to ensure the best quality of life.

15 Finally, I want to recognize my
16 good friend, Dr. Thomas Moulton, chief of
17 hematology and oncology at Bronx Lebanon Hospital
18 Center, for his tireless work on this issue.

19 [applause]

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Tom, your
21 work was the driving force behind the recently
22 awarded Federal Human Resources and Services
23 Administration grant that brought in \$500,000 to
24 Bronx Lebanon Hospital to do research on a
25 traditionally overlooked population of 16-year-old

1
2 to 21-year-olds in the sickle cell anemia
3 research--excuse me, 1.5 million over four years.
4 This funding will enable the cooperative to expand
5 its valuable programs to serve an even more
6 greater population with even more services. Thank
7 you, South Central Bronx Sickle Cell Disease and
8 Hemoglobinopathy Cooperative and Dr. Thomas
9 Moulton and Speaker Quinn and my colleagues for
10 helping to bring attention to the great work being
11 done in this city around sickle cell anemia.
12 Clerk, would you please read the proclamation?

13 CLERK: Council City of New York
14 Proclamation. In observing September as National
15 Sickle Cell Awareness Month, the Council of the
16 City of New York is proud to honor Dr. Thomas
17 Moulton for his outstanding service and
18 contributions to raising awareness of this blood
19 disorder in New York City and the South Central
20 Bronx Sickle Cell Disease and Hemoglobinopathy
21 Cooperative on the occasion of National Sickle
22 Cell Awareness Month.

23 And whereas, sickle cell disease is
24 an inherited blood disorder that causes the red
25 blood cell to change its shape from a round

1
2 discoid shape to a sickle shape, clogging blood
3 vessels and resulting in oxygen deprivation to all
4 parts of the body and the life-threatening and
5 debilitating complications that effect sickle cell
6 patients daily.

7 And whereas, sickle cell disease
8 effects people of many racial and ethnic groups.
9 In the United States, 1 in 500 African American
10 newborns have the disease. Other people affected
11 typically include Hispanics, people of
12 Mediterranean and Middle Eastern descent and
13 Asians. In addition, more than 2 million people
14 carry the gene that allows them to potentially
15 pass the disease on to their children. Each year
16 more than 1,000 infants are born with sickle cell
17 disease, including more than 160 in New York City.

18 And whereas, Dr. Thomas Moulton,
19 chief of pediatric hematology/oncology at Bronx
20 Lebanon Hospital Center, has played an
21 instrumental role in obtaining and highly
22 competitive grant from the Human Resources and
23 Services Administration to the sickle cell disease
24 and South Central Bronx Sickle Cell Disease and
25 Hemoglobinopathy Cooperative, which one of only

1
2 six national grants dealing with sickle cell
3 disease throughout the patient's life.

4 And whereas, the South Central
5 Bronx Sickle Cell Disease and Hemoglobinopathy
6 Cooperative is comprised of federally qualified
7 health centers: Lincoln Hospital, Dr. Martin
8 Luther King, Jr. Healthcare Center, Morris Heights
9 Health Center and Urban Health Plan; community
10 based organizations such as the African Services
11 Committee Sickle Cell Thalassemia Patients'
12 Network and Sierra Leone Nurses' Association and
13 the Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center at Bronx
14 Lebanon Hospital Center.

15 And whereas, the cooperative
16 recently won a highly competitive Human Resources
17 and Services Administration grant, which is only
18 one of six national grants dealing with sickle
19 cell disease throughout the patient's life.

20 And whereas, under the coordination
21 and supervision of Dr. Thomas Moulton and Bronx
22 Lebanon Hospital Center, the program aims to raise
23 awareness in the community and among medical
24 professionals, increase access to care and serve
25 as a resource for both pediatric and adult

1
2 patients, including operating a much needed day
3 hospital and hematology clinic.

4 Now therefore, be it known that the
5 Council of the City of New York most gratefully
6 honors Dr. Thomas Moulton and the South Central
7 Bronx Sickle Cell Disease and Hemoglobinopathy
8 Cooperative on the occasion of National Sickle
9 Cell Awareness Month. Christine C. Quinn, Speaker
10 for the entire Council, Daniel Dromm, Council
11 Member 25th District Queens.

12 [applause]

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you
14 and Speaker Quinn, I'd like to introduce Dr.
15 Thomas Moulton, who will speak on behalf of the
16 group today. Thank you.

17 DR. THOMAS MOULTON: I'm told to
18 make brief comments.

19 SPEAKER QUINN: No, it is on. Can
20 we have quiet? Folks in the back... Thank you.

21 DR. THOMAS MOULTON: I'd like to
22 thank you, Madam Speaker, all distinguished City
23 Council Members here today on behalf of the sickle
24 cell disease community as well as the South
25 Central Bronx Sickle Cell Disease and

1
2 Hemoglobinopathy Cooperative. As you know and as
3 mentioned, September is Sickle Cell Disease Month,
4 and it's nice in terms of that we are now getting
5 the recognition of sickle cell disease in the City
6 Council. Sickle cell disease affects
7 approximately 70-100,000 persons in the United
8 States, and it's estimated that 2 million people
9 in the United States have the sickle cell trait.
10 Of those, 1,000 infants are born each year in the
11 United States with sickle cell disease and New
12 York State, there are approximately 220 infants
13 born, which gives over 1/5 of the newborns with
14 sickle cell disease in the United States are born
15 actually in New York State. Of those born in New
16 York State, 74% are born in New York City. In the
17 Bronx, actually 28.6% of those born in New York
18 State are born in the Bronx. Of those that are
19 born in the Bronx, 84% born in the Bronx are
20 actually born in the Catchman [phonetic] area of
21 the South Central Bronx Community Cooperative.

22 Danny has mentioned a little bit in
23 terms of sickle cell disease. It does affect all
24 parts of the body as the blood goes to all parts
25 of the body and can cause stroke, even in small

1
2 children. It can cause severe pain, which may
3 require high doses of narcotics to control as well
4 as kidney damage and many more effects. The
5 median life expectancy of sickle cell disease in
6 1970 was 17 years of age. In the 1990s, that has
7 now been 42 for men and 48 years for women, but
8 it's still far behind the normal population.
9 Right now there is no readily available cure for
10 sickle cell disease. I want to give you a brief
11 information about the actual costs of sickle cell
12 disease to our nation and to actually New York
13 State. It is estimated that sickle cell disease
14 costs the United States 1.1 billion dollars per
15 year in health costs. The average cost is \$2,000
16 per patient per month, and the average medical
17 costs for a patient living to age 45 is \$1
18 million. The majority of these patients are on
19 Medicaid and Medicare. In 2004 in New York State,
20 70 sickle cell patients cost the Medicaid system
21 \$6 million, and that was only just for emergency
22 room care and hospitalizations. Despite this,
23 funding for sickle cell disease programs has been
24 cut dramatically both federally as well as in the
25 state. New York State funding for sickle cell

1
2 disease has never been great, but it's been cut
3 50% in the last ten years, and this is before the
4 financial debacle of 2008. It's also been shown
5 that day hospital care can decrease medical costs
6 for sickle cell patients, but there are no day
7 hospitals in either the Bronx or Manhattan for
8 sickle cell, and why? My opinion is the hospitals
9 can't afford it, and the insurance companies don't
10 pay for it, even though the insurance companies
11 are the ones that are benefitting from this.
12 There are many other sickle cell programs in the
13 city that deserve recognition and every single
14 borough, please find them. Please help support
15 them. Please provide the funding, so that we can
16 provide access to care and decrease our medical
17 costs.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very,
19 very much, and let me give this proclamation back
20 and just on behalf of all of us in the City
21 Council, thank you Council Member Dromm for
22 raising our awareness of sickle cell disease, but
23 more importantly, thank all of you and carry that
24 thanks back to your many colleagues. Thank you
25 all for your work.

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[applause]

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SPEAKER QUINN: Okay, great. We

4

have one more ceremonial, which is going to be led

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by Council Member Jackson. Thank you very much.

6

Alright, so as we bring up the next ceremonial, if

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I can ask the folks just from the first ceremonial

8

to... Robert Jackson has a very, very exciting and

9

impressive young man to introduce us to, so I

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would for everybody's attention because this young

11

man I know we're going to see from and hear about

12

again in the future, so RJ?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,

14

Madam Speaker, my colleagues. This afternoon we

15

are honoring a young man by the name of Justin

16

Long-Moton. He is the Poet Laureate of the City

17

of New York that won in a strict competition that

18

was sponsored by the New York City Campaign

19

Finance Board along with Urban Word NYC, and as a

20

result of him winning and being the Poet Laureate,

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around the city of New York he has spoken to many

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groups and individuals and libraries and public

23

venues. He's speaking at the 9/11 Memorial. He

24

has won a full scholarship to Adelphi University.

25

[applause]

1
2 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: And we are
3 all so proud of this young man because the aim of
4 that program is to get young people to speak and
5 talk about engaging and the political process and
6 registering to vote, and that's very, very
7 important. He is joined today by Michael Cirelli.
8 Mike is the executive director of Urban Word NYC;
9 They have been in existence about 14 years, Oneida
10 Mayors [phonetic], the director of voter
11 assistance at the Campaign Finance Board, and Amy
12 Loprest, the executive director of the Campaign
13 Finance Board.

14 [applause]

15 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I think
16 it's so important that we honor young people that
17 are working so hard to do well for themselves and
18 to engage young people in the voter registration
19 and participation process. Justin, on behalf of
20 the Speaker, Christine Quinn, myself as the Chair
21 of the Education Committee and your Council
22 Member, Larry Seabrook, and all of my colleagues
23 sitting in front of you and standing next to you,
24 we honor you today for everything that you have
25 done for yourself and for young people in the

1
2 great city of New York. So with that, I'm going
3 to ask the clerk to please read the proclamation.

4 CLERK: Council City of New York
5 Proclamation. The Council of the City of New York
6 is proud to honor Justin Long-Moton for his
7 outstanding service and contributions as a Youth
8 Poet Laureate.

9 And whereas, the New York City
10 Youth Poet Laureate Program—a joint partnership of
11 the New York City Campaign Finance Board and Urban
12 Word NYC—is a voter themed spoken word competition
13 designed to energize a population of new voters.
14 Each year, a poet between the ages of 16 and 19
15 has chosen to be an ambassador for civic
16 engagement and voting awareness. The competition
17 begins with a series of workshops where teens can
18 hone their writing and community leadership
19 skills. Later a judging panel assesses not only
20 their writing and performance portfolio, but also
21 the participant's history of and commitment to
22 civic engagement. After competing in the semi-
23 finals, the top 12 scores qualify as finalists and
24 compete in the NYC Voter Poet Final Slam.

25 And whereas, Justin Long-Moton has

1
2 a long record of community engagement, having
3 helped with food drives, AIDS walks, soup kitchens
4 and Central Park clean up events, but his poetry
5 steadily illuminated the way to victory. Since
6 being named the 2010 Youth Poet Laureate, Justin
7 has travelled across the five boroughs along with
8 Poet Ambassadors performing and speaking on the
9 importance of voting and civic engagement. His
10 appearances have included a city-wide library tour
11 and an Urban Word Poetry Slam. He has also served
12 as a youth advisor to the NYC Campaign Finance
13 Board, worked with the Mayor's Office to perform
14 at Poem in Your Pocket Day, and opened the Urban
15 Word NYC Youth Poetry Slam finals at the world
16 famous Apollo Theater in the Spring.

17 And whereas, a Bronx resident who
18 grew up in Co-Op City and recently graduated from
19 Belmont Preparatory High School, Justin is an
20 ambitious writer, performance poet and activist,
21 who has performed at venues across the county,
22 sharing his love of poetry, but also telling other
23 young people how the arts gave him purpose and
24 sparked an investment in improving his community.

25 And whereas, in addition to being

1
2 crowned New York City Youth Poet Laureate, Justin
3 has won many other prestigious awards, including
4 the 2011 Scholastic Art and Writing Gold Key, A
5 National American High School Poetry Competition
6 and the 2010 Brave New Voices International Poetry
7 Slam.

8 And whereas, Justin's first book of
9 poetry, part of his prize for becoming Youth Poet
10 Laureate, will be published this fall. During the
11 same period, Justin will continue to hone his
12 writing skills as a freshman at Adelphi
13 University, where he will attend on a full
14 scholarship.

15 And now therefore, be it known that
16 the Council of the City of New York gratefully
17 honors Justin Long-Moton for his outstanding
18 service and contributions at New York City Poet
19 Laureate. Signed, Christine C. Quinn, Speaker
20 for the entire Council; Robert Jackson, Chair of
21 the Education Committee, Council Member 7th
22 District Manhattan; Larry Seabrook, Council Member
23 12th District Bronx.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Great. Thank you.
25 If I could just ask-'cause we're now going to hear

1
2 from the Poet Laureate himself, so we need quiet.
3 We see people in the back still talking. Alright,
4 Justin. The mic is yours.

5 JUSTIN LONG-MOTON: Thank you. I'd
6 like to say thanks to everyone who has made this
7 possible. I'd like to say a few names: Councilman
8 Robert Jackson along with the whole City Council
9 in its entirety, as well as Michael Cirelli,
10 executive director of Urban Word NYC, a non-profit
11 organization that I'm a part of, as well as Amy
12 Loprest; she's the executive director of the
13 Campaign Finance Board and Ms. Oneida Mayors, the
14 director of voter assistance, so I'd like to thank
15 them for making this all possible 'cause without
16 them, I wouldn't be here today, and thank you for
17 being here as well. Because of this unique
18 program, I've had the opportunity to speak to
19 youth, ages 13-19, my peers, about the importance
20 of voting and civic engagement and going out into
21 the community and really making a difference being
22 that we are the next generation. We are the
23 voices for the people for this city, and I feel
24 it's only fitting that since I am the Poet
25 Laureate, I share a poem. So this particular poem

1

2 was actually for this program for the Youth Poet
3 Laureate Program, and it's called—I did it at the
4 second round in the finals slam last November, and
5 it's called "59 Years."

6 In 1951 the first community board
7 was established. Its purpose to give New Yorkers
8 a voice, a medium to which they could express
9 their concerns to those in authority in a more
10 public setting. 59 years later there are 59
11 divided amongst the 5 boroughs--in the Bronx there
12 are 12. Your specific community board is based on
13 address. My designated ear is number 10. Each
14 month people with opinions gather in a slouching
15 auditorium, coughing problems in the faces of men
16 and women wearing corporate hazmat suits. They're
17 unaffected and don't care about the social and
18 financial diseases infecting our neighborhoods.
19 Residents complain about trivial things. Ms.
20 Whiskers with the 9 cats and a thing for silence,
21 "You should do something about those black boys
22 playing basketball outside my window causing my
23 mirrors to shake, I can't see my ignorance that
24 clearly." Mr. Toupee, "We got a lot of soul food
25 in the area. I man who likes fine cuisine, I like

1
2 pasta. Can we get an Italian Restaurant?" And I
3 sit there, wondering when did the struggle get so
4 gentrified? I wanted to ask the board how about
5 another police officer on the corner of 100 and
6 Co-Op City Blvd because the sweetest elderly woman
7 I know almost had her purse stolen last week.
8 Perhaps some kind of gang intervention because
9 three months ago the doctors had to sweep my
10 friend Maurice's lungs back into his body, but I
11 stayed quiet. If nothing is said, nothing is
12 changed. The purses remain desirable and the
13 breath lingers on the sidewalk.

14 Thank you.

15 [applause]

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Give it up
17 for Justin. Great job. We are so proud of you.
18 Keep up the great work. We're sure that we're
19 going to see much of you in the future.

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Like I said, you're
21 going to see and hear from him again. Thank you
22 very much, Justin. Congratulations. Do well at
23 school, and that concludes today's ceremonials.

24 [background noise]

25 CLERK: Ladies and gentlemen, could

1
2 I have your attention please? At this time,
3 please place all cell phones and pagers to
4 vibrate. Thank you.

5 [background noise]

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: My
7 colleagues, please rise for the pledge of
8 allegiance.

9 I pledge allegiance to the flag
10 of the United States of America and to the
11 Republic for which it stands, one nation under
12 God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for
13 all.

14 Thank you. Roll call?

15 CLERK: Arroyo?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

17 CLERK: Barron?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

19 CLERK: Brewer?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Here.

21 CLERK: Cabrera?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

23 CLERK: Chin?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

25 CLERK: Comrie?

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Here.

3

CLERK: Crowley?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Here.

5

CLERK: Dickens?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [no

7

audible response]

8

CLERK: Dilan?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

10

CLERK: Thank you. Dilan?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: [no audible

12

response]

13

CLERK: Dromm?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

15

CLERK: Eugene?

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

17

CLERK: Ferreras?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

19

CLERK: Fidler?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Here.

21

CLERK: Foster?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: [no audible

23

response]

24

CLERK: Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

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CLERK: Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

CLERK: Gentile?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: [no
audible response].

SPEAKER QUINN: Can we get quiet?

CLERK: Gonzalez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

CLERK: Greenfield?

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

CLERK: Halloran?

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Present.

CLERK: Ignizio?

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

CLERK: Jackson?

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.

CLERK: James?

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Here.

CLERK: Koo?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

CLERK: Koppell?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.

CLERK: Koslowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

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CLERK: Lander?

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

CLERK: Lappin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

CLERK: Levin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [no
audible response]

CLERK: Mealy?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [no audible
response]

CLERK: Mendez?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [no audible
response]

CLERK: Nelson?

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Present.

CLERK: Mendez?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

CLERK: Thank you. Palma?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [no audible
response]

CLERK: Recchia?

COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: [no

1

2 audible response]

3 CLERK: Reyna?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Here.

5 CLERK: Rodriguez?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Here.

7 CLERK: Rose?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

9 CLERK: Sanders?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Present.

11 CLERK: Seabrook?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: [no

13 audible response]

14 CLERK: Ulrich?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

16 CLERK: Vacca?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.

18 CLERK: Vallone?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Here.

20 CLERK: Van Bramer?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

22 CLERK: Vann?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

24 CLERK: Weprin?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

1

CLERK: Williams?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

3

CLERK: Wills?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Present.

5

CLERK: Oddo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [no audible

7

response]

8

CLERK: Rivera?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

10

CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

11

SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

12

CLERK: We have a quorum.

13

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: A quorum is

14

present. My colleagues please rise for the

15

invocation being delivered today by a good friend,

16

Rabbi Michael Miller, Executive Director of the

17

Jewish Community Relations Council.

18

SPEAKER QUINN: And just—I want to

19

make note, if I may, Mr. Majority Leader, before

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Rabbi Miller delivers the invocation, I had

21

specifically asked Rabbi Miller to come today to

22

give us the invocation because after we spread the

23

invocation in full on the record, I will be making

24

some comments about the passing of a good friend

25

1
2 of the Council and the City of New York, Sally
3 Goodgold and a few other members will be speaking
4 about it, so I've also asked Michael to make
5 reference to our good friend, Sally, today as
6 well. Thank you, Rabbi Miller.

7 RABBI MILLER: In the 18th Chapter
8 of the Book of Genesis, we find the patriarch,
9 Abraham, negotiating with God in an effort to save
10 the wicked city of Sodom and its inhabitants.
11 Abraham says, "If there are 50 righteous within
12 the city, will you destroy and not forgive the
13 place for the 50 righteous who dwell there?" And
14 God answers, "If I find in Sodom 50 righteous
15 within the city, I will forgive the entire place
16 for their sake." Why doesn't God just say if he
17 finds in Sodom the 50, he'll forgive the entire
18 place? Why does God add within the city? Why the
19 need for those three seemingly superfluous words?

20 The great 19th Century Hasidic
21 Master, Rabbi Simcha Bunam, gave the following
22 explanation: God was saying that it's not enough
23 that there be righteous sitting on the benches of
24 the study hall. Yes, they are important, but God
25 was seeking the righteous who were within the city

1
2 intermingled with their fellow creations, engaged
3 in the realities of the world; and yet
4 nonetheless, remained righteous. Only then would
5 God forgive the entire place for their sake. In
6 contemporary time is to ensure the future of our
7 city, we too need the bench sitters in the study
8 halls, our scholars and clergy, but to ensure a
9 secure tomorrow, we must also produce righteous on
10 another level—within the city, fully enmeshed,
11 interwoven, coalesced with the other diverse
12 inhabitants wrestling with, delving into,
13 addressing and remedying the difficult challenges
14 of today that we collectively face in our world
15 within our cities.

16 The members of this Council indeed
17 are our righteous within the city, protecting,
18 defending and legislating toward the improvement
19 of the people's quality of life and their future
20 and your mission is at times aided by committed,
21 dedicated altruistic individuals such as the late
22 Sally Goodgold, who labored all her life to
23 selflessly act for the benefit of others and
24 toward the advancement of this great city. May
25 God confer his blessing upon the Speaker and all

1
2 the members of this Council and the holy work in
3 which you are engaged and with Sally at his side,
4 provide you with divine guidance and wisdom to
5 continue to better the lives of the people of the
6 City of New York. Amen.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: And with that great
8 image of Sally Goodgold there on the side of God,
9 I request, Mr. Majority Leader, for a motion to
10 spread the invocation in full upon the record and
11 ask my colleagues to remain standing.

12 On August 18th, 2011, Sally
13 Goodgold, who was 82—and she had been the first
14 woman elected president of the City Club—passed
15 away, and as the New York Times put it, “an
16 outspoken civic leader, who was the Ethel Merman
17 of land use. Bold, brassy and capable of sounding
18 notes that could be heard over an orchestra”
19 passed away at Lennox Hill Hospital. Born in
20 1929, she grew up in the Theatre District and
21 after graduating Hunter College High School and
22 Bucknell University, she volunteered at Beth
23 Israel Hospital, where she met her late husband,
24 Dr. Murray Goodgold. Sally became active in civic
25 service during the Lindsay Administration in the

1
2 1960s. She practiced what was known as bagel
3 diplomacy, having guests at her apartment between
4 8am and 9:30am, where she fed and kept them
5 talking for as long as it took to chew through a
6 whole bagel. She said that Stanley Zabar
7 [phonetic] told her he knew the state of the city
8 by the size of her Zabar's bills every month. As
9 a long-time board member of the Jewish Community
10 Relations Council, she was extremely active in
11 Jewish causes and lived by the Jewish philosophy
12 of l'takken olam, which means she was always
13 working to repair the world. Sally's dry sense of
14 humor and tireless commitment to public service
15 will surely be missed. She once said that, "Every
16 Saturday my mother would drop me off at the public
17 library while she went shopping. The city babysat
18 for me, and that is one reason I am trying to pay
19 the city back." Sally survived by her son, Jay,
20 who said his mother "loved New York and all
21 aspects of urban life, her daughter, Iris, her
22 sister, Betty and three grandchildren, her
23 tireless voice and the effects of it will resonate
24 in our lives and memories for so many years to
25 come.

1
2 I just want to share one personal
3 story as it related to Sally, who was a tremendous
4 encourager and supporter and booster of mine
5 throughout my whole career, but particularly since
6 becoming the first woman speaker of the City
7 Council. A few years ago, we took a trip—chuck
8 Mara [phonetic] and Council Members and myself and
9 others with Michael to Israel, and when we were in
10 - - , there was a bomb—a rocket that hit a mile
11 away from where we were in the city hall, and
12 there was some press coverage, et cetera, of this.
13 This was I think in January or February. At a St.
14 Patrick's Day event, I saw Sally, and she told me
15 that she was so touched by mine and the councils
16 in Israel, and so touched that we stayed in - -
17 after the rocket attack, and spent the rest of the
18 day there and that we did not retreat or run—that
19 she wanted to really make sure I knew her
20 gratitude, so she had unbeknownst to me made a
21 contribution to a fund that gives scholarships at
22 John Jay College to members of the - - , the
23 police department in the south of Ireland and to
24 the PSNI, the police department in the north of
25 Ireland, and she told me she would keep making

1
2 that contribution every year until peace came and
3 stayed in the north of Ireland, until peace came
4 and stayed in Israel, because she saw all people
5 in the world as ones who deserve peace to come and
6 to stay, and she will sorely, sorely be missed in
7 the city. So thank you so much, Michael, for
8 being with us. Let me call on two of my
9 colleagues who wanted to add their reflections on
10 Sally. I will just add it's going to be hard to
11 imagine this year's State of the City because
12 somehow, no matter where my State of the City was,
13 Sally was always the first one-ahead of my father,
14 ahead of Kim [phonetic], ahead of anybody else to
15 give me a kiss and say it went well. Council
16 Member Jackson and then Council Member Brewer.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Well,
18 thank you, Madam Speaker. In fact, when I only
19 heard the news a couple of days ago, I was shocked
20 to hear that Sally had passed, and I went online
21 and read some articles in the New York Times, and
22 there were several people who responded and I had
23 to put my last words in. Basically, I said I
24 didn't know her well, but I knew her and she knew
25 me through my process in becoming a member in the

1
2 City Council, and we definitely had respect for
3 one another. I also said that New York City, our
4 country and our world would be so much a better
5 place if there were so many more people like
6 Sally. I ended with rest in peace, my sister, RJ.

7 SPEAKER QUINN: Council Member
8 Brewer?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you
10 very much. When I worked for Council Member Ruth
11 Messinger [phonetic], she was chair of Community
12 Board #7, and we remember the bagels on West 79th
13 Street and the best part was Donald Trump coming
14 to have the bagel and having to listen to Sally
15 Goodgold, and that was really a scene that you'll
16 never forget, and of course, he had to do what she
17 said. She came into the Community Board 7 world,
18 I think when there weren't a lot of women, who
19 weren't in a professional job situation, taking
20 the leadership. She took leadership of that issue
21 and that community board and those zoning issues
22 really before anybody else on the community board
23 scene did the same, and she became a household
24 name in the whole city in terms of her expertise.
25 I've joined the City Club because of her and I

1
2 remember to this day, I will never mix up the
3 Women's City Club and The City Club because she
4 would get upset with anybody who did.

5 She also shared with me—we co-
6 chaired every year for the last decade the
7 Westside Community Garden Event, June 15th. She
8 and I were the co-chairs. Just picture this:
9 these are gardeners, mostly older, toddly
10 [phonetic] and we would all come to the St.
11 Martin's community room to plan the fundraiser.
12 Who's first in the door? Sally Goodgold. And she
13 would sit there figuring out what the dessert's
14 going to be, who's going to put it where every
15 single year. No task was too small for Sally
16 Goodgold, and yet she was able to really—as the
17 Speaker indicated—repair the world. She treated
18 everybody with dignity. There were some very,
19 very contentious--as we are familiar--community
20 board meetings. Nobody felt unheard. Everybody
21 felt respected, and that's the kind of dignity
22 that I think we should all aspire to. I don't
23 know if it was because of the background the
24 Speaker articulated, but whatever—I think what I
25 remember the most about her she didn't mind whom

1

2 she was speaking to or what the topic was; she
3 listened, she responded and she felt that
4 everybody should have their say and everybody
5 should be respected. Thank you very much.

6

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very
7 much. I don't know if any of my other colleagues
8 want to add anything? Thank you.

9

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
10 very much, Madam Speaker. The docket of the
11 minutes, Council Member Jackson?

12

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I move
13 that we spread the minutes all across the record.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
15 Messages and papers from the Mayor?

16

CLERK: M630 withdrawing Pamela
17 Brier for reappointment to the Board of Health.

18

SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
19 printed and filed.

20

CLERK: M631 withdrawing Dr.
21 Diptoman Gota [phonetic] for appointment to the
22 Board of Health.

23

SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
24 printed and filed.

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CLERK: M632 withdrawing Dr. Susan

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Klitzman for reappointment to the Board of Health.

SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered,
printed and filed.

CLERK: M633 submitting Paula Berry
for appointment to the Waterfront Management
Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges
and Elections.

CLERK: M634 submitting Edward
Kelly [phonetic] for appointment to the Waterfront
Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges
and Elections.

CLERK: M635 submitting Roland
Lewis [phonetic] for appointment to the Waterfront
Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges
and Elections.

[gavel]

CLERK: M636 submitting Andrew
McGovern [phonetic] for appointment to the
Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges
and Elections.

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CLERK: M637 submitting Peggy

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Shepherd [phonetic] for appointment to the

4

Waterfront Management Advisory Board.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges

6

and Elections.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:

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Communication from city, county and borough

9

offices?

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CLERK: M638 submitting Rayann

11

Bessor [phonetic] for appointment to the City

12

Planning Commission.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Rules, Privileges

14

and Elections.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Petitions

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and Communications?

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CLERK: None.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Land Use

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call ups.

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CLERK: M639 through M641, various

21

applications.

22

SPEAKER QUINN: If we could couple

23

all of those items, please, and then have a roll

24

call on the coupled Land Use call ups.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.

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CLERK: Arroyo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

3

CLERK: Barron?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I have

5

a unanimous consent to vote aye on all general

6

order items?

7

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

8

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

9

CLERK: Brewer?

10

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

11

CLERK: Cabrera?

12

COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [no

13

audible response]

14

CLERK: Chin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

16

CLERK: Comrie?

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

18

CLERK: Crowley?

19

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote

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aye, and if I could have consent to vote aye on

21

all calendar items?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

23

COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you.

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CLERK: Dickens?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [no
audible response]

CLERK: Dilan?

COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I vote aye.

CLERK: Dromm?

COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

CLERK: Eugene?

COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

CLERK: Ferreras?

COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.

CLERK: Fidler?

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

CLERK: Foster?

COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

CLERK: Garodnick?

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

CLERK: Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

CLERK: Gentile?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Present

and aye.

CLERK: Gonzalez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

all.

1
2 CLERK: Greenfield?
3 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Yes.
4 CLERK: Halloran?
5 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.
6 CLERK: Ignizio?
7 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.
8 CLERK: Jackson?
9 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Here.
10 CLERK: James?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.
12 CLERK: Koo?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye. Mr.
14 Majority Leader, I want to ask for per-[break in
15 audio]
16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.
17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I want vote
18 aye.
19 CLERK: Koppell?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.
21 CLERK: Koslowitz?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.
23 CLERK: Lander?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.
25 CLERK: Lappin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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3

CLERK: Levin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

5

CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [no

7

audible response]

8

CLERK: Mealy?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [no audible

10

response]

11

CLERK: Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Nelson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

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CLERK: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [no audible

17

response]

18

CLERK: Reyna?

19

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

20

CLERK: Rodriguez?

21

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

22

CLERK: Rose?

23

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

24

CLERK: Sanders?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: I vote

1

2 aye. Permission to vote on all previous Land Use
3 items?

4

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

5

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: I vote

6

aye.

7

CLERK: Seabrook?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: I vote

9

aye.

10

CLERK: Ulrich?

11

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

12

CLERK: Vacca?

13

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [no audible

14

response]

15

CLERK: Vallone?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

17

CLERK: Van Bramer?

18

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

19

CLERK: Vann?

20

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

21

CLERK: Weprin?

22

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Permission

23

to vote on all Land Use call ups and the general

24

order calendar?

25

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

1

2

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye on all.

3

CLERK: Williams?

4

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: [no

5

audible response]

6

CLERK: Wills?

7

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

8

CLERK: Oddo?

9

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

10

CLERK: Rivera?

11

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

12

CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

13

SPEAKER QUINN: Aye.

14

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Today's

15

Land Use call ups were adopted by a vote of 47 in

16

the affirmative with 0 in the negative.

17

Communication from the Speaker?

18

SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you. If I

19

could get quiet for a sec. Just before I talk

20

about the pieces of legislation, I want to mention

21

a couple of other important matters. First, today

22

is Liz Fine [phonetic], our general counsel's

23

birthday. So happy birthday, Liz Fine. I don't

24

know if Liz is with us or not. Maria Alvarado,

25

our press secretary, went to get lunch. I'm not

1
2 sure if she's back, but she's coming back—and
3 tomorrow is Maria Alvarado's last day before she
4 goes on maternity leave, so everybody needs to
5 wish Maria well, and we'll see her in a few
6 months. If I could ask for a second—Ed O'Malley
7 [phonetic], our director of administrative
8 services, and Wayne Miller, our facilities
9 manager, to come up to the front, that would be
10 great. Ed and Wayne—I know Ed's here. I saw him
11 in the back. Okay. Is Wayne here? While Ed
12 makes his way up and hopefully, Wayne does too, I
13 just wanted to take a second to thank Ed and
14 Wayne. The day the earthquake occurred I was
15 going into 250 Broadway as people were coming out,
16 and everyone knows I'm less than enthusiastic
17 about 250 Broadway, so when somebody told me 250
18 Broadway was swaying, I thought it was just a 250
19 Broadway problem 'cause the building has its
20 challenges. I didn't think more globally—
21 literally, but Ed and Wayne did a terrific job
22 making sure that they guided the staff incredibly
23 calmly and effectively, getting every one of the
24 council staff, which is everyone now, out of 250
25 Broadway, getting them accounted for, and making

1
2 sure everyone was taken care of, so—Wayne was
3 supposed to be here, but apparently, he was too
4 potentially embarrassed to be here, so Ed, thank
5 you, and if you would convey that to Wayne as
6 well. So thank you guys very, very much.

7 [applause]

8 SPEAKER QUINN: I also wanted to
9 ask our first deputy chief of staff, Ramon
10 Martinez, who I'm sure won't come to the front,
11 but will continue to ask—he's not even here,
12 Ramon. So that's not coincidental. Our director
13 of emergency services, Edgar Moya, and also our
14 deputy director of community outreach, Howard
15 Pollack, and Walter Algorin [phonetic] of
16 community outreach to come to the front. Where's
17 Walter? Walter, I think is coming front. These
18 three guys with Ramon during the hurricane—these
19 two guys and Walter took around the clock shifts,
20 staffing our desk at command center, and I know I
21 speak for the Council that there wasn't one
22 problem you had in your district that when you
23 called these guys, they didn't get it taken care
24 of. If they couldn't get it taken care of, they
25 brought it to Ramon's attention. If they and

1
2 Ramon couldn't get it taken care of, they brought
3 it to my attention, and it got taken care of. The
4 important point here is that it got taken care of,
5 but second, that we were able to have the eyes and
6 ears of you guys, the eyes and ears of your
7 constituents plugged right in to the central
8 command center, so the administration and the
9 commissioners and the deputy mayors, who were
10 doing a terrific job and trying to do without a
11 doubt, the best job ever, could know where things
12 may not have been going 100%. So I just really
13 want to thank you three. Nobody said they were
14 tired. Nobody said I can't get it done. Nobody
15 said it was too late, and the problems just kept
16 coming like the rain, and you guys really made us
17 proud, so thank you three and Ramon very much.
18 Thank you guys.

19 [applause]

20 SPEAKER QUINN: I also--before I
21 talk about legislation, want to call on our--
22 There's Liz Fine. Happy Birthday, Liz Fine.

23 [applause]

24 SPEAKER QUINN: --call on our
25 Assistant Majority Leader, Inez Dickens and then

1
2 our Majority Leader, Joel Rivera to talk about a
3 member of our staff, who is moving to other
4 challenges, who we very, very much want to thank.
5 Inez?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you,
7 Madam Speaker, and Happy Birthday, Liz, and thank
8 you Howie, Edgar and Walter. I want to mention
9 just for a moment, Lamon Bland. Today will be his
10 last Stated with us today. Stand up, Lamon.

11 [applause]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Yeah, it
13 looks like he just got here, but he came to my
14 office before he passed the bar, and he worked
15 very hard and diligently and was a great
16 supporter. He's now moving on to the world of
17 consultancy. I pray that this is the best move
18 for him because these are difficult times. I know
19 that you will do well. You will work hard as you
20 have devoted to the City Council, to the Speaker's
21 Office and to all of the members of this
22 prestigious body. I just wanted to say publically
23 to you, Lamon, thank you for what you have done.
24 You have learned a lot while you were in my
25 office. You've learned a lot since you've been

1
2 with the Council. I too learned from you. God
3 bless you. May you succeed, and please, never
4 forget that it started here in the City Council.
5 Thank you.

6 [applause]

7 SPEAKER QUINN: And with that,
8 Lamon, she means don't ever forget it started with
9 Inez 'cause when we say it started with the City
10 Council, we mean Inez. Majority Leader Rivera?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much, Madam Speaker. I just want to echo the
13 remarks of my good friend, Councilwoman Inez
14 Dickens. Lamon Bland is someone that we have been
15 able to utilize for the past good amount of time
16 here in the Council. He serves with us in the
17 Rules Committee. He sits on the right hand side.
18 So he is my right hand guy on the Rules Committee,
19 and here, on a day that he sits on my left hand
20 side. So he's the left hand guy up here when
21 we're here in Emigrant Bank. On either side, he
22 makes us look good. He does such a great job in
23 making sure the Rules Committee, along with Chuck
24 Davis and the rest of the team, is on point and
25 making sure it functions well, and even up here,

1
2 he makes sure that we are well-organized and I
3 know exactly where we are. He makes me look good,
4 when I'm doing my job here. I want to thank Inez
5 for bringing Lamon up to us and to have him with
6 us because we have a tremendous amount of talent
7 in the Council and unfortunately, we're losing a
8 very talented young man to the private sector. He
9 will be sorely missed, but we know that success is
10 definitely in the cards and in your future, and
11 wherever you go, you will definitely shine.
12 Lamon, thank you very much for all your hard word,
13 and thank you, Inez, for introducing him to the
14 City Council. Everyone, we are losing a great
15 talent today, but we can always depend on him
16 'cause he's not going too far.

17 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very much
18 and Lamon, best of luck.

19 [applause]

20 SPEAKER QUINN: Let me talk about
21 the two pieces of legislation we are voting on
22 today—Intro 531A, a piece of legislation sponsored
23 by the chair of the committee it went through,
24 Housing and Buildings' Chair Dilan, and I want to
25 thank him. I want to Laura Rogers [phonetic], Ben

1
2 Goodman [phonetic], Bob Aham [phonetic] and Jeff
3 Haberman [phonetic], who worked on this
4 legislation. 531A does something very smart. We
5 all know how important window guards are, and what
6 an important part of our homes—they are
7 particularly, if we have children. Oddly, it is
8 the Department of Health who's historically
9 enforced and given out violations for not
10 following the window guard laws. What we're doing
11 here today is amending the Housing Maintenance
12 Code to make failing to have a window guard a
13 violation of the Housing Maintenance Code. What
14 this means is in addition to Department of Health
15 inspectors, who are not often in our homes, the
16 300+ HPD field inspectors can now also write
17 violations for lacking in window guards. This a
18 better use of city workers because HPD go out to
19 people's homes. Second, the bulk of HPD
20 complaints come in in the winter—heat and hot
21 water. Summer when window guards are more
22 relevant is a time when they have less worth, so
23 it's also a better way to utilize our HPD
24 inspectors. I want to thank folks from the
25 landlord and the tenant community, who have

1
2 engaged with us in this effort to better use our
3 workers and have an expanded enforcement and thank
4 everyone who has worked on the bill.

5 We're also voting on Intro 53A
6 today, a piece of legislation introduced and
7 sponsored by the Chair of the Committee. It went
8 through Mike Nelson, the Waterfront Committee. I
9 want to thank Jeff Baker [phonetic], Jeff Haberman
10 [phonetic] and Crystal Gold-Pound [phonetic] for
11 their work on this bill. 53A is a piece of
12 legislation whose goal is to get our waterfront
13 and our water spaces and our waterways to be
14 clean. It requires that the city create and
15 publish a comprehensive waterfront cleanup plan.
16 Right now there are numerous city agencies—even
17 the department of small business services—who have
18 legal responsibility for cleaning our waterfronts.
19 They're not coordinated. They don't work
20 together. And you end up with situations like the
21 one we had a picture of at the pre-Stated press
22 conference of tires piled up on the side of the
23 Harlem River, and then being there forever. So we
24 will—as a result of 53A—have a plan, have
25 coordination, but also, have reporting of how many

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2 sites get visited for inspection, how many
3 violations get written, how many tickets get
4 given, how much money gets collected. That will
5 be posted online that way all of us and our
6 constituents can look, and if we know a place
7 where there is waterfront dumping or vessels
8 abandoned in the water, and the city agencies have
9 not checked that location, we can tell them they
10 need to go there and check it. So I want to thank
11 Chair Nelson for his work on 53A. I'm calling him
12 to say a few words.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you,
14 Madam Speaker. I would also like to thank Jeffrey
15 Baker, counsel to the Committee, and Steve Zeltzer
16 [phonetic], my deputy chief, and especially you,
17 Madam Speaker and Robert Kennedy Jr. and all those
18 involved with this. For too long, we've all
19 witnessed tires and other debris all along our
20 waterfront, and we've probably scratched our heads
21 and said, "How could this be?" And it has been for
22 so many decades. Now with this comprehensive
23 plan, part of 2020, we hope to finally be able to
24 utilize a combination, a cohesive group of
25 different agencies in the city and hopefully,

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2 state and federal agencies as well, be able to
3 target the areas that are the worst, target ways
4 of stopping people before they dump and
5 prosecuting them if they do. So again, thank you
6 to the Speaker and the Council and my entire
7 Committee members.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very, Mr.
9 Chair and that concludes communications from the
10 Speaker.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
12 very much. Discussion of general orders. We have
13 no one will move forward. Reports of special
14 committees?

15 CLERK: None.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Reports of
17 standing committees?

18 CLERK: Report of the Committee on
19 Finance Intro 518, Atlantic Avenue Business
20 Improvement District.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
22 orders.

23 CLERK: Report on the Committee on
24 Housing and Buildings Intro 531A, installation of
25 window guards.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on
Land Use LU 444 and Reso 1009 and 450 and Reso
1010 sidewalk cafes.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

CLERK: LU 451 and Reso 1011-455
and Reso 1015 special permits.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

CLERK: LU 457 and Reso 1016 zoning
amendment.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

CLERK: LU 458 and Reso 1017 and
459 and Reso 1018 landmark designations.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

CLERK: LU 460 and Reso 1019
special permit.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

CLERK: Pre-considered LU 461 and

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Reso 120 Harlem Hospital Center.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Pre-considered LU 462 and Reso 1021 UDAP Manhattan.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Pre-considered LU 463 and Reso 1022 and 464 and Reso 1023 property transfers.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders.

CLERK: Report of the Committee on Waterfronts, Intro 53A, waterfront plan.

SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled on general orders.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: General order calendar.

CLERK: Resolution appointing various persons, Commission of Deeds.

SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general orders, and this time, I'd like to ask for a roll call on the items that have been coupled on the general order calendar please.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: So ordered.
3 CLERK: Arroyo?
4 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.
5 CLERK: Brewer?
6 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.
7 CLERK: Cabrera?
8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: [no
9 audible response]
10 CLERK: Chin?
11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.
12 CLERK: Cormier?
13 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye on all.
14 CLERK: Dickens?
15 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye on
16 all.
17 CLERK: Dilan?
18 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Aye on all.
19 CLERK: Dorm?
20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all.
21 CLERK: Eugene?
22 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.
23 CLERK: Ferraris?
24 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Aye.
25 CLERK: Fiddler?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Mr.

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Majority Leader, if I may be excused for a brief

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moment?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: With regard

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to the Atlantic Avenue BID, I'm going to voting in

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the affirmative, but I want to make it clear that

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at today's Finance Committee Meeting, Chairman

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Richie and I and the entire Committee were given

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an assurance by SBS that this BID is not going to

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be gobbled up as the others in downtown Brooklyn

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have been by the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership,

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and that in fact, a prevision to that effect will

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be put in their master contract. Frankly, if that

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representation were not made I would be voting no,

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so I am relying upon that as I think my fellow

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Committee members relied on it as well. With

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that, I vote aye on all.

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CLERK: Foster?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Aye.

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CLERK: Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [no

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audible response]

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CLERK: Gennaro?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr.

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Leader, I wish for the opportunity to speak on my

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vote.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Yes.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I just

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want to offer my congratulations to Chair Dilan

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and Mike Nelson for their great work, particularly

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with the waterfront bill. I think it's really

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terrific. Mike has formed a great relationship

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with River Keeper [phonetic] and other great

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organizations and I'm just very happy about this

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bill. I just wanted to offer my congratulations

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both to Erik and to Mike for a great job, and I

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vote yes.

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CLERK: Gentile?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: With my

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congratulations to my Brooklyn colleagues, I vote

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aye on all.

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CLERK: Gonzalez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [no

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audible response]

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CLERK: Greenfield?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Aye.

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CLERK: Halloran?

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COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye on
all.

CLERK: Ignizio?

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: If I could
just briefly be excused to explain my vote, Mr.
Acting Presiding Officer. I had the unique
combination of being psychotic, an insomniac and a
workaholic, which really is a bad thing in terms
of a family life, but nonetheless, I wanted to
point out my gratitude towards people I really
annoyed all night during the hurricane, and that
was Edgar and Howard. I was running an all night
vigil on Facebook with my constituents, and
everything they sent in to me, I in turn sent to
them to try to get answers for, and they never got
tired of it. They never got tired period. And I
just wanted to offer my sincere thanks to them and
the Speaker. They really did an unbelievable job,
Madam Speaker, and as you know, I CCed you on a
lot of things as well throughout the night, but we
managed to get through it, and a large portion of
my district was Zone A. I want to just express my
gratitude to them publicly. Thank you very much.
I vote aye on all.

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CLERK: Jackson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: James?

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COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Koppell?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye.

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CLERK: Koslowitz?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Lander?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

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CLERK: Lappin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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CLERK: Levin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

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CLERK: Mark-Viverito?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye

19

on all.

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CLERK: Mealy?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [no audible

22

response]

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CLERK: Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Nelson?

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Aye.

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CLERK: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [no audible

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response]

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CLERK: Reyna?

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Rodriguez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Rose?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

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CLERK: Seabrook?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye.

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CLERK: Ulrich?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

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CLERK: Vacca?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Yes.

18

CLERK: Vallone?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

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CLERK: Van Bramer?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on

22

all.

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CLERK: Vann?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

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CLERK: Williams?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

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CLERK: Sanders?

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COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Aye on

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all.

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CLERK: Wills?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Oddo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

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CLERK: Rivera?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye on all.

12

CLERK: Speaker Quinn?

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SPEAKER QUINN: I vote aye, and I

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just want to thank many of my colleagues who are

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working so hard in your districts throughout the

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city to make sure tonight, tomorrow, Saturday,

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Sunday that in addition the most solemn of events

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that will happen at the World Trade Center site

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that there are so many wonderful neighborhood

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events going on that remind us that what we've

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lost as a whole as a city and a society is

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experienced in homes and apartments all throughout

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this city on a personal level and the neighborhood

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events that you all are organizing make that

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message very, very clear. I just want to thank

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2 all of you and wish all of you and all of your
3 families the most peaceful and safe of days coming
4 up as we head into the tenth anniversary of
5 September 11th. Thank you, Council Member Koppell
6 for raising this issue as it related to today's
7 Stated. Thank you and I vote aye.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
9 very much, Madam Speaker. All items on today's
10 general order calendar were adopted by a vote of
11 47 in the affirmative with 0 in the negative and 0
12 abstentions and there is no revisions. We will
13 move on now to introduction and reading of the
14 bills.

15 SPEAKER QUINN: All bills are
16 referred to Committees as indicated on the agenda.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Discussion
18 of resolutions. Council Member Jackson?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I rise
20 this afternoon in order to support our Speaker and
21 all those members that are in favor in supporting
22 the New York State Attorney General, Eric
23 Snyderman, in his - - on behalf of the people of
24 New York State in order to ensure that any and all
25 actions taken by banking institutions over the

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2 past years, that we do not lose our right and
3 obligation in order to take legal action against
4 them for some of the things that they may have
5 done wrong. I think that based on everything our
6 Speaker has said—as you know, our Attorney
7 General, Eric Snyderman, who was my former State
8 Senator, was removed as a member of a national
9 committee that deals with this situation. We are
10 asking him to be reinstated and I ask you all to
11 support the resolution. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
13 very much, Council Member. Council Member Nelson?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.
15 I'm going to have to be brief because I have three
16 resos to briefly touch upon. I request my
17 colleagues' attention. Reso 100—

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA:
19 [Interposing] Mike, that's actually not at this
20 point. That will be in general discussion. Thank
21 you. Seeing no others at this point in time,
22 we're going to vote on pre-considered Resolution
23 998. It's a resolution supporting the New York
24 State Attorney General's comprehensive
25 investigation into the mortgage packaging

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2 practices of several banks, and calling upon the
3 50 state attorney general taskforce to preserve
4 the state attorney general's investigatory and
5 prosecutorial powers pursuant to the New York's
6 Martin Act [phonetic] in any settlement with major
7 financial institutions and adopted by the
8 Committee on Housing and Buildings. All in favor,
9 say aye.

10 MULTIPLE VOICES: Aye.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: All
12 opposed, say nay.

13 [pause]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: any
15 abstentions? The ayes have it. At this point in
16 time, we'll go into general discussion. First, we
17 have Melissa Mark-Viverito.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Good
19 afternoon, colleagues. I wanted to just rise in
20 support of our colleague, Jumaane Williams and
21 Kirsten Foy [phonetic] and add my voice to what I
22 had heard this past weekend. I want to thank them
23 also for their leadership and their poise. As
24 this unfortunate incident clearly demonstrates,
25 New York City's current stop and frisk policy is

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2 immoral and ineffective and it should be clear to
3 us all that this policy needs to be gutted and
4 seriously reformed. Blacks and Latinos are 9
5 times more likely than whites to be stopped and
6 searched. Only 6% are arrested—the same rate as
7 white New Yorkers. Mayor Bloomberg's comments
8 that this matter can somehow be resolved over a
9 beer were insulting, dismissive and ignore a cold
10 hard fact—that racial injustices are deeply
11 embedded in our city's criminal justice system.
12 We must do all we can to bring these injustices to
13 light and give a voice to their victims. The
14 review that is now being conducted by the police
15 department must be fair and transparent in - -
16 situation and all others. The very culture of the
17 police department from the top down must be
18 assessed and we as a council have a critical role
19 in that process. Too many of our communities are
20 disproportionately targeted by police practices.
21 We must continue to press for real changes, not
22 only from individual officers, but from the
23 department whose priority it is to make our city
24 safer. As we are dealing with civil rights issues
25 in our own law enforcement system, the U.S.

1
2 Department of Justice has finally begun to take
3 action against Puerto Rico's shameful
4 dysfunctional and out of control police force—the
5 second largest in the nation. As reported today
6 in the New York Times, the Department of Justice
7 has documented in 116 pages extreme corruption
8 including discrimination, the underreporting of
9 sexual and domestic violence and the overuse of
10 brute force. The DOJ report also documents the
11 government's violent and repressive response to
12 mostly peaceful student protests that took place
13 in August 2009 and February of this year, which
14 many of us have denounced. The Puerto Rico police
15 department's complete ineffectiveness under
16 Governor Luis Fortuno has created a greater since
17 of lawlessness on the island than at any point in
18 recent memory. So far this year there have been
19 786 homicides in Puerto Rico. At this rate, we
20 are sure to see the figure rise well above 1,000.
21 In New York City, which has a population twice as
22 large as Puerto Rico, we had a total of 532
23 murders in all of 2010. Just very quickly, we
24 unfortunately don't see these issues discussed in
25 the mainstream media, and it's a very dire

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2 situation in Puerto Rico and I urge the U.S.
3 government to continue to take action so that the
4 people of Puerto Rico have the kind of police
5 force they deserve. Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
7 very much. Council Member Halloran?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Thank
9 you, Mr. Chair. I appreciate the time. I have
10 two introductions—one with Council Member Vallone
11 that I encourage everyone to sign on. Whether or
12 not you're aware of it in New York City police
13 officers who are members of the K-9 division are
14 required to take their police dogs home with them.
15 They're considered police officers those police
16 dogs; however, police officers can be
17 discriminated against in housing situations, in
18 renting apartments and applying for co-ops or
19 condos. They can be turned down because of no pet
20 policies, despite the fact that the dog that's
21 with them is a member of the New York City Police
22 Department. The bill that I am working on with
23 council Member Vallone would correct that and
24 allow out police officers who are serving this
25 city to not be discriminated against in housing.

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2 I think it's completely unreasonable that co-op
3 boards, condos and renters can deny police
4 officers the rights to take their canines home
5 with them.

6 The other bill I'm introducing
7 actually supports a colleague of ours formerly-
8 David Weprin's bill in the Assembly, which would
9 force the mayor's hand on water bills and water
10 bill rate increases and would make modifications
11 to the way the Water Board is structured and
12 appointed. Although it's not a perfect bill, it's
13 a step in the right direction. I urge my
14 colleagues to support it.

15 Finally, on this 10th anniversary, I
16 would like to remember Lieutenant Vincent Halloran
17 who went up into the towers not to come down, who
18 left behind a wife who was pregnant and five other
19 children, and all of the other 411 first
20 responders who bravely gave their lives in service
21 to the city. 10 years later, I am proud to say
22 that many of us still remember-this body still
23 remembers, and our Speaker has done tremendous
24 things to keep that alive, and I thank her for all
25 of her efforts on behalf of the uniformed men and

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2 women in this city. Each member of the fire and
3 police department owes the fact that our
4 departments are running so well to her vigilance
5 at budget time, and I thank her for everything
6 she's done this year to preserve and protect this
7 city.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
9 very much. Council Member James?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Over the
11 next few days as we commemorate the tragic events
12 of September 11th, all of us should pause and
13 reflect on our humanity, our sameness, our
14 likeness, our commonalities, and not our
15 differences. And remember that we are all
16 children of one God, and may we find solace in
17 knowing that those who lost their lives—almost
18 3,000 individuals—abide in a greater place and are
19 now resting in peace. Let us all dedicate our
20 lives to increasing the peace on Earth, and may
21 this strength, the tenacity and the resilience of
22 all New Yorkers and God's grace and love abide in
23 our hearts now and forever. Let us remember
24 September 11th and let us pause. Thank you.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

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2 very much. We'll move now to Council Member
3 Nelson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.
5 Resolution 1003 just simply urges Congress to pass
6 and the President to sign the Hiring of Heroes Act
7 of 2011, which would help service members
8 separating from active duty find employment.
9 Since there's about 20%--21% almost--of veterans
10 that are unemployed, we have to do more, and
11 there's something called - - assistance program,
12 which focuses on providing education, career and
13 job services, information and assistance to all
14 separating and retiring service members. This is
15 an important act to be passed.

16 The second resolution, 1004,
17 basically just says that if people want to receive
18 their checks--their IRS checks and the state and
19 city as well--that they should be able to receive
20 it in a manner that they prefer, which includes
21 perhaps, getting a paper check, and not just
22 mandated to receive a pre-paid debit card or
23 another type of tax refund. They should get a
24 check, if they so choose. It's their money. It's
25 called the Taxpayer Refund Choice Act, and we hope

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that the state does in fact pass that.

Finally, Resolution 1005 addresses the MTA to take the fare hikes and basically try to stop them by having the money that they derive from our taxpayers that it should just go into the MTA and not into any other purpose, but to keep the fares from going up and maintenance to fall down. Thank you very much.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much, Council Member. Next, we move on to Council Member Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you very much. On Monday, I attended the West Indian Day Parade. I had a wonderful time, minus about 40 minutes I could have done without. I just want to thank my colleagues for all the support that they've given me since then, and I know Kirsten would like to do the same. Just as next steps, we're waiting for the results of the investigation, and then we'll be moving forward and hopefully, my colleagues will still continue to support. I just want to make sure that I mention the West Indian Day Parade is a phenomenal cultural event. I am proud to have Grenadian

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2 blood in me, so it's something I look forward to
3 very much, and although there were some spots of
4 violence, which I definitely abhor, there have
5 been calls to cancel the parade or move it. This
6 parade brings almost \$1 billion to the city, and
7 we would lose a lot of money. In addition, the
8 parade itself does not create violence. There was
9 50-something shootings throughout the city on that
10 day. Had we had not had the parade, maybe we
11 would have stopped five of them. There are other
12 reasons that these violences are occurring and I
13 think if we attack those reasons, we would get the
14 shootings down, which brings me to my third point.
15 I think it was last Stated or the Stated before, I
16 gave a speech impassioned about the gun violence
17 in the city and the young people who were dying
18 particularly in my district, but across the city,
19 and I said if this violence was happening in any
20 other community, there would be a taskforce
21 created; there would be an emergency situation. I
22 want to thank the Speaker for hearing that and
23 responding quickly by creating a gun taskforce
24 with myself as co-chair and Council Member
25 Cabrera, and we're looking forward to working

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together to figure out how we can reduce this. So thank you again.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you very much. Next we have Council Member Fidler.

COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: I'm glad that I get the opportunity to speak after my friend Jumaane Williams because that is what I'd like to speak about. I've probably known Jumaane for longer than any of you. In the 12 years that I've known him, I don't think I have ever heard him raise his voice in anger to another person. At the risk of sounding mushy, he's probably got the sweetest disposition of any one of the 51 of us. He is not confrontational by nature, and he's a nice guy. I have to tell you that even though probably this side of Peter Vallone, I am one of the Council's most supportive members that - - with the men and women of the NYPD do. I am extraordinarily troubled by what happened. I think it's fair to say that if Jumaane Williams had the misfortune of looking like me or anyone like me, he would not have wound up on the ground in handcuffs, and I think that is disgusting. I know the Mayor and the Commissioner have promised

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2 a full investigation, and the investigation had
3 better be full, and it better be real and there's
4 no better way to send the message that people are
5 not to be judged by their hairstyle or the color
6 of their skin or whether they have an earring by
7 imposing whatever appropriate discipline there is
8 on those who were involved and found to do
9 something wrong in this incident. I know I'll be
10 watching, and I'm sure that all of you will be as
11 well. We do it with the advantage of knowing
12 Jumaane Williams. So, the Mayor and Police
13 Commissioner have made a promise; they need to
14 keep it.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
16 very much, Council Member. We have Council Member
17 Jackson followed by Council Member Rodriguez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
19 Majority Leader. I also rise to speak about the
20 situation regarding our colleague, Jumaane
21 Williams and Mr. Foy—the government affairs person
22 for Bill de Blasio. And in fact, I read all of
23 the newspapers. I listened to all of the reports.
24 I attended the press conference. I heard what
25 many had to say. Obviously, there were many, many

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2 community leaders, elected public officials, our
3 Speaker spoke in support of Jumaane Williams, and
4 I listened to what Jumaane had to say, and I say
5 to you, Jumaane, that you were very well-spoken
6 obviously and I was very, very proud how they way
7 you handled yourself as an individual. But I go
8 to the point where he had explained that he had
9 gone past two security checkpoints and had been
10 given authority to move past in that area. To be
11 stopped at a third, having his City Council lapel
12 pin on, having to show the police officers his New
13 York City Council badge and still, they were
14 handcuffed, and you watched the video where Mr.
15 Foy--the police officer sort of moves him along
16 with the back of his neck and trips him and knocks
17 him down on the ground and handcuffs him. That's
18 not what I call CPR--what's supposedly on the side
19 of their cars, and what they're taught--courtesy,
20 professionalism and respect. That's discourtesy,
21 unprofessionalism and not respecting, and we need
22 to ensure that as everyone said, the investigation
23 is full, but we stand up and say what happened did
24 not seem right and we want justice to be had.
25 Thank you.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
3 very much. Next, we have Council Member Rodriguez
4 followed by Council Member Dromm.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: First, I
6 would like to express my support to Jumaane.
7 Everyone says it—one of the best Council Members
8 that we have here, someone that has been working
9 so hard, and it is unfortunate that that happened
10 to him - - . What happened to him could happen to
11 me, sometime have the opportunity to get in the
12 media, but unfortunately, that's happening every
13 day city-wide, especially to people of color.
14 They don't get into the New York Times or the TV
15 media. We have to address the issue of violence
16 in our community and especially in the district
17 that I represent. Together with Council Member
18 Jackson this year we've been getting more than one
19 homicide per month—different from 2010, when we
20 only had four in the whole 2010. We've been
21 trying to work with the police department the best
22 we can; however, at least from my end, we are not
23 getting the service - - . After a woman was
24 sexually abused on August 24th, we sent a letter to
25 Commissioner Kelly inviting him to a town hall

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2 meeting in our community. He did not show up. On
3 august 24, we also wrote a letter to Commissioner
4 Kelly asking for a meeting with elected officials
5 in northern Manhattan. Today on September 7th,
6 still we are waiting even for a response from
7 Commissioner Kelly and the Mayor Bloomberg
8 Administration. Unfortunately, three days ago a
9 young person, 43 years old, was killed by a
10 police. - - was a bad operation. This gentleman
11 come from a decent, honest and hard-working family
12 - - . He didn't have to die. He did not confront
13 the police because the police did not identify
14 themselves. Unfortunately, it was hours ago, when
15 the family had the opportunity to see his body. I
16 hope that Commissioner Kelly responds to our
17 community and understands that he should come out
18 and meet with elected officials and present his
19 strategy to reduce violence in northern Manhattan.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
21 very much. Council Member—finally, but not least—
22 Council Member Dromm.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you
24 very much. I, too, want to rise in support of my
25 colleague, Council Member Williams. From the very

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2 beginning, Council Member Williams stated that
3 this was not an issue about him specifically, but
4 about the approach that the police department has
5 taken to communities of color and to our immigrant
6 communities as well. I'm particularly offended by
7 the Mayor's words that this is an issue that can
8 be settled over a beer, as if this was something
9 that he said/she said type of a situation. That's
10 not what this is about at all. I applaud the
11 actions of my colleague and his temperament and
12 his tone that he took because it would have been
13 extremely difficult for me as a white person to
14 have even taken the same tone if something like
15 that had happened, but for somebody who had to
16 grow up knowing that his parents had to tell him
17 how to prepare to respond to acts when a police
18 officer confronts you simply because he is a
19 person of color or a member of an immigrant
20 community is a disgrace and it should not be
21 allowed to continue in our New York City Police
22 Department. I applaud the words and the actions
23 of my colleague and want to also send a message
24 that this must go beyond just having a beer.
25 There's nothing to have a beer over. We need a

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2 policy change in the New York City Police
3 Department. Thank you very much.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
5 very much. We have Council Member Levin.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you
7 very much, Mr. Majority Leader. I just want to
8 add my voice to this chorus in support of our
9 colleague, Jumaane Williams, and just to raise the
10 point that the entire city and beyond knows of
11 this incident now because Jumaane is a member of
12 this body and elected official, Mr. Foy is with
13 the Public Advocate's Office, and they're both
14 notable people. This happens throughout the city
15 on an hourly basis to hundreds of young men and
16 women of color and it does not get noticed and it
17 does not get reported and it does not reach a
18 country-wide audience, and so, I think that it's
19 something that we need to take a deep look in the
20 mirror as a city and really have a reckoning as to
21 what we are doing to ourselves and what the
22 policies of our police department do to our young
23 men and women. I want to just applaud as well
24 Jumaane and Kirsten for their composure and for
25 their taking up the role of leaders effectively

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2 and with their commitment to making positive
3 change out of this very bad incident. Thank you
4 very much.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
6 very much. Council Member Eugene?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you
8 very much. My - - I want to join my colleague to
9 express my support to Council Member Jumaane
10 Williams. I was at the museum also when I was
11 informed that he was arrested, and I went
12 personally with Senator John Sampson and the other
13 colleagues to make sure that he was okay, but what
14 I can say that that could happen to any one of us.
15 It is not acceptable to see that an elected
16 official serve in New York City, doing the best
17 that he can do to better New York and to make sure
18 the West Indian carnival day be a wonderful,
19 wonderful event--we all know that this is one of
20 the most important, most beautiful events that we
21 have where the people from the Caribbean
22 demonstrate their unity and also celebrate their
23 heritage and also their contribution to the good
24 city of New York. That was a peaceful, wonderful
25 event. That shouldn't have happened. I think

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2 that we—our City Council Members and also elected
3 officials in the city of New York and also those
4 from the state and federal government, we have to
5 work together to prevent such things to happen
6 again. Thank you.

7

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you
8 very much. The meeting is adjourned.

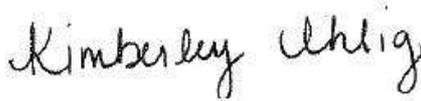
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[gavel]

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Kimberley Uhlig certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature



Date

10/22/11