

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

STATED MEETING

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June 19, 2009
Start: 11:00am
Recess: 6:17pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E: JOEL RIVERA
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- Maria del Carmen Arroyo
- Tony Avella
- Maria Baez
- Charles Barron
- Gale A. Brewer
- Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
- Elizabeth Crowley
- Bill de Blasio
- Inez E. Dickens
- Erik Martin Dilan
- Mathieu Eugene
- Simcha Felder
- Julissa Ferreras
- Lewis A. Fidler
- Helen D. Foster
- Daniel R. Garodnick
- James F. Gennaro
- Vincent J. Gentile
- Alan J. Gerson
- Eric N. Gioia

A P P E A R A N C E S

Sara M. Gonzalez
Vincent Ignizio
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Melinda R. Katz
G. Oliver Koppell
Jessica S. Lappin
John C. Liu
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Miguel Martinez
Darlene Mealy
Rosie Mendez
Kenneth C. Mitchell
Michael C. Nelson
James S. Oddo
Annabel Palma
Christine C. Quinn
Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.
Diana Reyna
James Sanders, Jr.
Larry B. Seabrook
Helen Sears
Kendall Stewart
Eric A. Ulrich
James Vacca
Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
Albert Vann
David I. Weprin
Thomas White, Jr.
David Yassky

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2 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: No, actually,
3 ladies and gentlemen, there's no Pledge of
4 Allegiance today. We're just doing a recessed
5 meeting. So, at this point in time, I would like
6 to reopen the recessed meeting of June 10th, 2009,
7 held on June 19, 2009. At this time, I'll call
8 the meeting to order. Roll call.

9 MALE VOICE: Arroyo.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: [No
11 response]

12 MALE VOICE: Avella.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Here.

14 MALE VOICE: Baez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Here.

16 MALE VOICE: Barron.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Here.

18 MALE VOICE: Brewer.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yeah.

20 MALE VOICE: Comrie.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Yo.

22 MALE VOICE: Crowley.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [No
24 response]

25 MALE VOICE: de Blasio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER de BLASIO: [No

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response]

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MALE VOICE: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: [No

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response]

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MALE VOICE: Dilan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Eugene.

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COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Felder.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Ferreras.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: [No

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response]

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MALE VOICE: Foster.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: [No

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response]

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MALE VOICE: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Here.

23

MALE VOICE: Gennaro.

24

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Here.

25

MALE VOICE: Gentile.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.
3 MALE VOICE: Gerson.
4 COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: [No
5 response]
6 MALE VOICE: Gioia.
7 COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: [No
8 response]
9 MALE VOICE: Gonzalez.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: [No
11 response]
12 MALE VOICE: Ignizio.
13 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.
14 MALE VOICE: Jackson.
15 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: [No
16 response]
17 MALE VOICE: James.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: [No
19 response]
20 MALE VOICE: Katz.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: Here.
22 MALE VOICE: Koppell.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Here.
24 MALE VOICE: Lappin.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Liu.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [No

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response]

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MALE VOICE: Martinez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ: [No

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response]

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MALE VOICE: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [No

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response]

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MALE VOICE: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: [No

15

response]

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MALE VOICE: Mitchell.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Nelson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: [No

20

response]

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MALE VOICE: Palma

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Reyna.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: [No
3 response]
4 MALE VOICE: Sanders.
5 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: [No
6 response]
7 MALE VOICE: Seabrook.
8 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Here.
9 MALE VOICE: Sears.
10 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Here. Here.
11 MALE VOICE: Stewart.
12 COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: Here.
13 MALE VOICE: Ulrich.
14 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.
15 MALE VOICE: Vacca.
16 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Here.
17 MALE VOICE: Vallone.
18 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: [No
19 response]
20 MALE VOICE: Vann.
21 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: [No response]
22 MALE VOICE: Weprin.
23 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.
24 MALE VOICE: White.
25 COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: [No

1

2 response]

3 MALE VOICE: Yassky.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER YASSKY: [No

5 response]

6 MALE VOICE: de Blasio.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER de BLASIO: You're

8 doing present or aye on all? Present, there we

9 go.

10 MALE VOICE: Gonzalez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Here.

12 MALE VOICE: Foster.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Here.

14 MALE VOICE: Mark-Viverito.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: [No

16 response]

17 MALE VOICE: She's here. We got

18 it. She's all the way in the back.

19 MALE VOICE: All right. And, Oddo.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: [No response]

21 MALE VOICE: Arroyo.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

23 MALE VOICE: Vann.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Here.

25 MALE VOICE: Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Rivera.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Here.

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MALE VOICE: Speaker Quinn.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Here.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: The quorum is present. Messages and papers from the Mayor.

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MALE VOICE: M-1462.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Received, ordered, printed and filed.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Supplemental communication from City, County and Borough offices.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M-1463, expense modification, MN5.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M-1464, revenue modification, MN6.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Finance.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Supplemental petitions and communications.

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MALE VOICE: None.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Supplemental Land Use call ups.

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MALE VOICE: None.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: At this point in time, we're going to call on Council Member Baez to vote on all items on today's agenda.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Requesting permission to vote aye on all coupled general orders, please.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Aye.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Council Member

Katz.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: I request permission to vote aye on all general order calendar.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: I vote aye.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Council Member

Seabrook.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: [No response]

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Okay. Council Member Felder.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Oh, Council

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2 Member Seabrook.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Thank you
4 very much. I, with unanimous consent, I'd like to
5 request to vote aye on all coupled general orders.

6 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.
7 Council Member Felder.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: [No
9 response]

10 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Still
11 thinking, okay. Council Member Foster.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: [No
13 response]

14 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Council Member
15 Foster.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: Thank you
17 very much. One moment I run out to take care of
18 things, you call my name. May I be excused to
19 vote now?

20 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yes, you may.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER FOSTER: It gives me
22 great pleasure, at 11 a.m. plus some hours, to
23 vote aye on all. And, I thank the hard work of
24 all the finance staff and especially, or I don't
25 want to say especially, and us for really making

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2 lemonade out of lemons with this budget. Thank
3 you.

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.

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Council Member Felder, have you finished thinking?

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COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: [off mic]

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CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: No? Okay.

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Communication from the Speaker.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Thank you very

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much. Let me just start by letting everyone know

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that this Stated Meeting is going to, again, stand

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in recess because there are still items that we

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need to have the State Legislature take action on.

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So, I just wanted to make sure that everyone knew

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that.

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Let me first make a couple of

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comments about some non-budget items we're voting

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on today. We're passing Intro 992-A, which is

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regarding residency requirements for City

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employees. I want to thank the Chair of our Civil

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Service and Labor Committee, Miguel Martinez, for

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his work on this. I want to thank the sponsor of

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the bill, Council Member Bill de Blasio for his

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work. I want to thank both of them for agreeing

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not to speak. And, I want to thank Tracy Udell

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2 and Lauren Axelrod, the staff who worked for quite
3 some time on this legislation.

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5 We're also voting today on a number
6 of Land Use matters, not the least of which is one
7 related to Grace [phonetic] Asphalt Plant, which
8 is a very important Land Use matter relating to
9 Queens and to our Department of Transportation. I
10 want to thank the Chair of the Committee, Melinda
11 Katz, the Chair of the Subcommittee, Council
12 Member Jessica Lappin and Council Member Julissa
13 Ferreras for their work on this item. It took a
14 while. But, we got to what I think is the right
15 place. And, I want to thank everyone for their
16 work on that.

16

17 Let me just say a few words about,
18 since it is later than we thought it would be, a
19 few words about the budget that we're voting on
20 today. As we all know, and it's been said, you
21 know, countless times, these are what we hope will
22 be the toughest of fiscal times this City has seen
23 since the Great Depression. And, in the face of
24 that, this Council had a series of difficult
25 choices. Choices that related to deciding which
core services we would preserve. Choices about

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2 coming up with a revenue package and
3 recommendations to Albany about how we could
4 structure our revenue short and long term. I
5 think any actions we will take today and the
6 actions we took earlier in this week, we have sent
7 a couple of critical messages.

8 First and foremost, that this City
9 Council believes that, even in tough fiscal times,
10 the main goal of a government is to protect and
11 support its citizens. That's shown in a number of
12 ways in this document. But, not the least of
13 which, in through the valiant effort of so many
14 members of this City Council keeping every fire
15 house in the City of New York open. In making
16 sure that over 100 caseworkers, people who work
17 for our Administration in Children's Services,
18 people who have one of the most important jobs,
19 making sure that children who are in dangerous
20 environments and dangerous homes are taken out of
21 harm's way and that their lives are saved, unlike
22 Nixmary Brown. We learned from the Nixmary Brown
23 tragedy, and among other things, we increased
24 staffing. Our action today helps keep staffing at
25 the level we now know we need to keep children

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2 safe and alive.

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We're also sending that message of support by keeping every library in the City of New York that has been open six days a week open six days a week for the next year. That is a resource that people, particularly New Yorkers who are looking for work and looking for community in this tough times, will desperately need.

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We're also doing it by allocating [off mic] to make sure that over 30 childcare classrooms that would have been lost stay open for New Yorkers and families in need.

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Now, we're also, in the action we're taking as it relates to revenue, sending a message that this Council thinks beyond the action that is right in front of us. Through urging Albany to change our business tax structure to one based on taxing companies based only on sales, to moving away from penalizing companies for having jobs and their headquarters in the City of New York, for recognizing that conforming City and State business taxes was something that was the right thing to do. We're not only generating monies for the next few years, we're sending a

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2 message that New York City is open for business,
3 that we want and need jobs for unemployed New
4 Yorkers and we want and we need them now.

5 So, I want to thank all of my
6 colleagues for their hard work. I, in particular,
7 want to thank the Chair of our Finance Committee,
8 David Weprin, the members of our leadership team,
9 our Majority Leader, Joel Rivera, Deputy Majority
10 Leader, Leroy Comrie of Queens, [off mic], our
11 Assistant Majority Leaders Bill de Blasio [off
12 mic] Fidler of Brooklyn, our Majority Whip of
13 Harlem [off mic] and our Minority Leader Jimmy
14 Oddo. The leadership team played a particularly
15 critical role this year. And, I want to thank
16 them very much. I also want to thank all the
17 members of the budget negotiating team and all of
18 the borough delegation Chairs because we called on
19 borough delegations this year more than ever.

20 I also want to take a couple of
21 minutes to thank a lot of the staff who worked
22 long and hard on this budget. You know, no
23 disrespect to the Office of Management and Budget,
24 but we do just a good a job as they do with a lot
25 less staff and a lot less resources. That effort

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2 is led by Preston Niblack, somebody who when he
3 accepted this job about a year and four months
4 ago, I thought must have been the smartest or
5 craziest person in the City of New York. But, he
6 is certainly one of the most talented people in
7 the City of New York. And, we are incredibly,
8 incredibly lucky to have him leading our Finance
9 Division.

10 We're also very lucky to have, as
11 our First Deputy Director, Jeff Rodus, somebody
12 who, along with Preston, has a true belief in the
13 institutions that we support, like libraries and
14 hospitals and schools and cultural institutions.
15 And, somebody who, along with Preston, fights
16 every day to make sure that the core services in
17 the City of New York continue. But, both Preston
18 and Jeff do it with the deepest of love for their
19 City and the deepest of commitment to their
20 neighbors. And, I think you see that in how hard
21 they work every day.

22 I want to thank Ray Majewski, our
23 Chief Economist and his whole revenue team. Paul
24 Sturm, Emory Adez [phonetic], Szada Sidone
25 [phonetic], I'm sure I just ruined everybody's

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2 names. But, I want to thank them every day. They
3 work hard continuing to monitor what's going on in
4 the economy and pushing the envelope and what
5 powers the Council has and how creative we can be.
6 We couldn't have been in better hands in a tougher
7 time.

8 I want to especially single out
9 Nadine Felton, who we know is really the only
10 person in the City of New York who actually
11 understands the property tax cap structure. So,
12 we can't ever lose her. I want to thank the
13 budget analysts who work so hard not just during
14 the budget, but all throughout the year to help us
15 understand what is happening in agencies, to live
16 up to our Charter mandated role and to make sure
17 we're doing the right thing and the right level of
18 oversight as it relates to the fourth largest
19 budget in the United States.

20 I want to thank the Deputy
21 Directors in Finance, in particular, Andy
22 Grossman, Eisha Williams, John Russell, Lionel
23 Francois. I want to thank Jonathan Rosenberg, the
24 new king of capital. He's going to have to duke
25 it out with Rodus for that. His team, Nathan

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2 Toth, Anthony Brito, Ralph Hernandez, Chima,
3 Walter Pitts, all of them did amazing work
4 overseeing truly glamorous agencies like
5 Sanitation and Transportation and I want to thank
6 them.

7 I want to take a particular moment
8 to thank Latonia McKinney and her team. I have
9 marveled at a lot of staff during this process.
10 But, Latonia is a mom of a little one, just became
11 the First Lady of a congregation in Harlem, has a
12 lot on her plate. And, I never saw her break a
13 sweat. So, I really want to thank her, her
14 terrific team, Regina Ryan, who everybody knows is
15 the only person who really knows where stuff is in
16 the DOE budget. Rocco D'Angelo, who has his
17 handle on all of the Department of [off mic]. I
18 want to thank Pakhi Sengupta, who answered more
19 questions than she ever thought she would have to.
20 Shadawn Smith, who, along with Domenic and his
21 team, has helped us raise cultural arts to an
22 important level. I really want to thank Crystal
23 Coston, who I think just started in her new role
24 this year, moved over from Capital and did an
25 amazing job. And, I really just want to thank the

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2 whole Education, Health and Human Services team
3 under Latonia, as well, as I said before, the
4 Public Safety and the Government Operations team.
5 I want to thank Kenisha Cobin [phonetic], who has
6 been helping us with the stimulus and all of our
7 home rule related matters.

8 Now, all of us know that we have
9 bothered Finance on a regular basis, constantly
10 over the past month. So, we don't see them as
11 much. But, Gloria Garcia, Maria Pagone and
12 Nichole Anderson deserve a big round of applause.
13 Tanisha Edwards, who is the counsel to the Finance
14 Division and the Finance Committee. She reports
15 to Preston, to Weprin and to me. So, she has no
16 easy life and lives up to it on a regular basis.
17 And, I know, in particular, we want to thank her
18 for issues we are going push coming up very, very
19 soon in Albany.

20 Lastly, and never least, we want to
21 thank just three guys who literally this past week
22 have worked around the clock to help make sure
23 funding will get to important community groups,
24 Scott Crowley, Paul Scimone and James Reyes
25 [phonetic]. Jose was recently delivering papers

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2 to the Finance office and opened the door and
3 stepped on Scott Crowley, who had slept one hour
4 that night on the floor of his office. So, I'm
5 not kidding when I say around the clock.

6 I also want to thank Liz Fein
7 [phonetic], Jim Carris [phonetic], Phil Monaco
8 [phonetic] and Josh Anderson [phonetic] and
9 everyone who worked on the vetting process. I
10 also want to thank my Chief of Staff, Chuck Meara
11 for all of his work on the budget. I want to
12 particularly thank Ramon Martinez, who has done
13 an... And, I want to thank Barbara Scafiddi,
14 Margaret McGuinness, Phyllis Henderson, Shaneek
15 and everybody else in the Speaker's Office who
16 everyone has driven crazy. And, I want to thank
17 all of the members who have supported the Finance
18 staff and the Speaker's Office with food over the
19 past couple weeks. I know our nutritionist, Jeff
20 Rodus, appreciates it.

21 Let me just close by just saying,
22 again, I hope I didn't leave anybody out in the
23 Finance Division. But, [pause] oh, Miguel. And,
24 we should thank Miguel Martinez just for being
25 Miguel. Miguel would like a shout out. But, I'm

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2 not sure. But, I want to just close by, again,
3 thanking everybody in Finance. You are a group of
4 folks who work incredibly hard. You provide us
5 with every bit of information we ask for even if
6 you think we don't need it. You guide us. You
7 direct us. You help remind us what are the
8 important things we have to make sure still exist
9 for New Yorkers even during a recession. You do
10 it on little sleep, with not enough money and not
11 enough gratitude.

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13 And, if it wasn't for all of you
14 important New Yorkers who need to be protected,
15 who need to be supported, who need to be educated,
16 who need to have the options laid out in front of
17 them so their lives can move forward, would have
18 none of that. It is really all of you that help
19 us make that happen every year in the budget.
20 This year that is more important than ever. Just
21 think of it. The libraries, the children you're
22 protecting, the homes you're protecting, the
23 childcare centers you're keeping open, the mental
24 health clinics you're helping us keep open. So,
25 thank you all very, very much. And, if we could
get just a standing ovation for our Finance team.

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2 And, that concludes communications
3 from the Speaker.

4 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
5 much.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: I'm sorry. I
7 apologize. Let me call on the Chair. I got it
8 all whipped up in my thank yous. Call on the
9 Chair of our Finance Committee, who I thanked
10 earlier, David Weprin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you,
12 Madam Speaker. First, I'd like to thank, I'm not
13 going to single out all the same--

14 SPEAKER QUINN: If we could get
15 quiet for the Chair.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: I'm not
17 going to single out all the great Finance staff
18 that the Speaker went into. But, I'd just like to
19 single out Preston Niblack and Jeff Rodus and all
20 the staff for their really hard work. And, I'd
21 also like to thank my staff, led by my Chief of
22 Staff, Christina Cozanos [phonetic], for getting
23 through this whole process.

24 In light of the downward pressure
25 on revenues and instability in the economy, we

1
2 could not accomplish every single priority in this
3 budget. Instead, we successfully navigated
4 through tough, and sometimes highly complicated,
5 choices to create the best possible balance
6 between maintaining core spending and guarding
7 against the ongoing financial storm. For this, I
8 am very proud of the City Council.

9 While we were not able to avoid all
10 the cuts or layoffs, I'm especially pleased with
11 the cuts we were able to prevent this year. For
12 example, we restored more than \$40 million in
13 proposed cuts to the library systems; once again,
14 thwarting reductions in library hours and the
15 services children and adults need from the
16 neighborhood libraries. We were also able to
17 restore substantial and meaningful restorations to
18 our great cultural institutions.

19 A personal favorite of mine, that I
20 spearheaded for three years, we restored the
21 Autism Awareness Initiative of 1.5 million, a
22 project I've been deeply involved in providing
23 another year of critical social and educational
24 support to parents and children affected by
25 autism. We restored almost 17 million to maintain

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2 operations of 16 fire companies, preserving the
3 integrity of the City's safety to the public.

4 Overall, this budget shows, once
5 again, that this Council can come together for the
6 benefit of all New Yorkers. We worked together as
7 colleagues and not as adversaries. We push
8 forward rather than carrying down to circumstance.
9 For this, New York City will fare better than many
10 of its sister cities. When we act on this budget,
11 we were not doing it in a vacuum, isolated from
12 the present or blinded by our past. Rather, we
13 looked to the future of this great City and the
14 legacy that we, as a collective body, will leave
15 our children and our children's children.

16 As I mentioned, this past Monday
17 this will be my last budget as the Council's
18 Finance Chair and as a member of this City
19 Council. I'd like to personally thank Speaker
20 Quinn for working with me these past four years.
21 We have not agreed on every issue. But, I've
22 always respected your integrity and leadership of
23 this body. And, I'm very grateful for your
24 support these past four years.

25 I have been privileged to oversee

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2 eight budgets. And, looking back on the budgets,
3 I'm proud to say that we have never faltered in
4 doing what is truly right. I will always look
5 back fondly on what we have been able to
6 accomplish in my case these past eight years.
7 Thank you.

8 SPEAKER QUINN: That concludes
9 communications from the Speaker.

10 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
11 much, Madam Speaker. Council Member Seabrook.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Thank you
13 very much, Mr. Majority Leader. As I voted and
14 was leaving, I realized that I would like to make
15 a disclosure that I'm an assistant professor at
16 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, which is a
17 part of the City University system that we do
18 fund. And, they do fantastic work. And so, I'm
19 voting yes on this budget. And, I wanted that to
20 be disclosed. Thank you very much.

21 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.
22 Council Member Crowley.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you
24 for calling on me. I have to run because I have a
25 family wedding. I want to vote on the budget.

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And, before I do that, I have to disclose that my two sons go to IS 119, which is receiving Reso A dollars, and that they're also play basketball for Sacred Heart School. And, they're also receiving Youth dollars, amongst many of the other youth programs in the district that I represent. And, also, my younger sister, Alice, is a visiting nurse and works for the Visiting Nurse Service of New York. And, that I also have to disclose.

I want to thank the Speaker and everybody the Speaker thanked. And, that's all. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very much. We'll now move on to the discussion of general orders. And, we are going to have everybody on the clock. And, we're going to keep to the clock. First, we start off with Council Member Barron. So, pay attention to that clock, Charles.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes, yes, sir. Thank you very much. First, I'd like to disclose that my son works as an assistant coach for the Junior Tennis League. And, that's going

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2 to be funded by the City. And, I'll be supporting
3 that budget.

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5 But, I want to rise to say that,
6 first of all, you all should thank me for allowing
7 you to stay in this Chambers. They kicked out my
8 program. My June Teen program was supposed to be
9 here. They kicked us out. And, we're across the
10 street. So, thank me.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you,

13 Charles.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.

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So, come across the street and have some fun with
us. But, I also wanted to say that I want to
support Council Member Jackson. We should not
vote for a plan, and it's not enough to just say
he's eloquent and we respect him and love him and
appreciate him. This is about our children. And,
this plan hurts our children. We won't get the
class sizes that we need. And, there's nothing
wrong with us voting for the capital allocation
and voting for the expense, but saying no to a
plan that we all know is flawed. So, I think that
we should go beyond saying you love Jackson, we
should love our children and vote against this

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2 plan because it's flawed. It will not reduce
3 class size. And, I want to encourage us to do
4 that. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.
6 Council Member Nelson first.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I request
8 unanimous consent to vote aye on all items on
9 today's general order calendar.

10 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
13 much. Council Member Jackson.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
15 my colleagues. I've made my statement in Finance.
16 But, let me just say to all of you that were not
17 part of Finance, this Resolution on the proposed
18 five-year capital plan is flawed. The five-year
19 capital plan, it has been put forward by the
20 Mayor, does not take into consideration the things
21 that our children need. And, you think I'm sad
22 today. You better believe I am. I'm sad because
23 this City Council, based on everything I know, is
24 going to vote for a structurally flawed five-year
25 capital plan that doesn't take into effect the

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2 needs of our children.

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And, I have worked damn hard on advancing equity in education. And, I know what the real deal is. So, we need to rethink the way this plan is constructed from the ground up. And, the time to do it is not next year. It's right now. It's time for you to say no to the Department of Education and Mayor Bloomberg and send it back declined and let them revise it and come back with a plan that we can agree on that looks after our children.

And, they can fix the capacity formula. They can align class size standards with State law. They can give us a full statement of needs. And, they can put more money in the budget where our children need. Bear in mind that during the Great Depression, 94 public schools were built. This plan only poses to build 44 schools. State standards, the former Chair of the Education Committee said that if we don't approve it, let the Chancellor take it back and bring to us one that will be approved. He was the former Chair of the State Assembly Education Committee.

ACS, 3,200 children are going into

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2 the kindergarten in DOE. What's going to happen
3 to class size? It's going to go up. And, also,
4 let me just say, I'm against Junior ROTC; \$2.3
5 million are being spent by the Department of
6 Education, when it should be spent in the
7 classroom. Vote no on the proposed five-year
8 capital plan.

9 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
10 much. Now, we'll move on to Council Member White.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: Thank you
12 very much. I would like to vote aye on all
13 general orders. And, with the permission, I'd
14 like to vote aye on the agenda items for June 15th.

15 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WHITE: I vote aye.

17 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.

18 Seeing no others for discussions of general
19 orders, we'll now move on to reports of special
20 committee. No, Council Member Gentile.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Just
22 wanted to indicate that while this budget required
23 some compromises, as the Speaker said, this budget
24 saves jobs and fire houses and Community Boards.
25 And, most of all, near and dear to my heart, it

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2 saves the libraries and the six-day service in
3 every neighborhood, in every community, in all
4 five boroughs. Keeping local branches and six-day
5 service intact says a lot about all of us here, my
6 colleagues in the Council, and especially Chairman
7 Recchia and Speaker Quinn and their priorities,
8 and even the Mayor's priorities in the face of
9 some real financial challenges. It tells our
10 families, individuals, students, seniors, every
11 single one of the millions who have stepped foot
12 or plan to step foot inside a library that we're
13 committed to getting them through this recession
14 one way or the other through their use of the
15 library. We're committed to fighting
16 unemployment, continuing to improve students'
17 education, increasing access to technology and,
18 most importantly, keeping residents engaged in
19 their neighborhoods.

20 A thank you here to Speaker Quinn
21 and to Committee Chair Recchia for their ongoing
22 dedication to libraries and to the thousands upon
23 thousands of residents who made a point of
24 contacting my office or signing petitions in
25 support of library funding. A commitment like

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2 this really puts us on the right track going into
3 the next fiscal year and beyond. And so, even in
4 tough times, it's onward and upward for the jewels
5 of New York City, our three library systems.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.

8 Now, we'll now move on to reports of special
9 committees.

10 MALE VOICE: None.

11 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Okay. Reports
12 of standing committees.

13 MALE VOICE: Report of the
14 Committee on Civil Service and Labor, Intro 992-A,
15 residency requirements for City employees.

16 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled
17 on general orders.

18 MALE VOICE: Report of the
19 Committee on Finance, Intro 1009, fees determined
20 by the Board of Standards and Appeals.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
22 orders.

23 MALE VOICE: Intro 1010-A, fees for
24 Fire Department permits.

25 SPEAKER QUINN: Amended and coupled

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on general orders with message of necessity.

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MALE VOICE: Intro 1011,

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performance of agency administrative functions.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE: Intro 1012, hotel room

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occupancy tax.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE: Intro 1026, senior

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citizen rent increase exemption program.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE: M-1459 and

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accompanying Resolutions 2013 through 2016.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered Reso

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2031, certifying base percentage.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered Reso

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2032, adjusted base proportion class share.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general

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2 orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered Reso
2033, organizations to receive funding.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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MALE VOICE: M-1415 and Resolutions
2034 and 2035, expense budget.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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MALE VOICE: M-1416 and Resolutions
2036 and 2037, capital budget.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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MALE VOICE: M-1417 and Resolutions
2038, CD budget.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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MALE VOICE: M-1429 and
accompanying Resolution 2039, five-year
educational facilities capital plan.

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SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
orders.

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MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M-1465
and Resolution 2040, fixing the tax rate.

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2 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
3 orders.

4 MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M-1463
5 and Reso 2041, expense modification, MN5.

6 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
7 orders.

8 MALE VOICE: Preconsidered M-1464
9 and Reso 2042.

10 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
11 orders.

12 MALE VOICE: M-1291 through M-1297,
13 below budget items.

14 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be
15 filed.

16 MALE VOICE: M-1418 through M-1423,
17 on page 11, budget items.

18 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled to be
19 filed.

20 MALE VOICE: Report of the
21 Committee of Land Use, LU 1085 and Reso 2043,
22 asphalt plant.

23 SPEAKER QUINN: Coupled on general
24 orders. And, at this point, I ask for a roll call
25 on all items that are coupled on the general order

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2 calendar. And, I just want to remind my
3 colleagues that at the end of this meeting, we
4 will stand in recess in the anticipation that we
5 will have to send home rule messages to Albany.
6 Thank you.

7 MALE VOICE: Arroyo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

9 MALE VOICE: Avella.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: I vote aye
11 on all items, except for M-1429 and the
12 accompanying Reso 2039, I vote no on those two.

13 MALE VOICE: Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no
15 on M-1429, accompanying Reso 2039. I also vote no
16 on Intro 1009 and 1010-A, the exemptions for the
17 not-for-profits for the fire inspection and for
18 the Standard Board and Appeals. I think that
19 those fees should not be paid. And, I vote aye on
20 all the rest.

21 MALE VOICE: Brewer.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I'm going
23 to vote aye. I teach at Hunter College, so that
24 needs to be noted. And, my husband is a lecturer
25 at the New York Historical Society.

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2 I want to thank the Manhattan
3 delegation and all my colleagues, certainly Dan
4 Garodnick, Co-Chair. And, the Manhattan
5 delegation has lived up to its reputation and
6 meets longer and more often. And, I'd like to
7 thank Preston Niblack, Jeff Rodus, Andy Grossman,
8 Regina Ryan, Rocco D'Angelo, certainly, certainly,
9 certainly, Jonathan Rosenberg and many others.
10 Nadine was there, Lionel, Anthony, John, Kanal
11 Mahatra [phonetic] from my office with Schula
12 Warren [phonetic] and Justice Alamod [phonetic]
13 from the Office of Garodnick. I want to also
14 thank Chuck and Ramon. I think I'm particularly
15 proud of the work that we've done for the seniors
16 and technology, the students and technology,
17 thinking about the 21st century. Thank you all for
18 your contribution and the Speaker. And, I vote
19 aye.

20 MALE VOICE: Comrie.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I'm going
22 to vote aye on everything on the general order
23 calendar today. I just want to take a minute to
24 thank all of the Finance staff, thank the Queens
25 delegation, thank Speaker Quinn and all the

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2 members of leadership.

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I especially want to thank all of the Finance staff for making sure that this process was a process that was fully transparent by holding all of the preliminary hearings, all of the briefings on every item that had occurred that was up for either a cut or a PEG in the Mayor's Executive Budget so that every member of this body would know exactly what they were looking to retain and to put back into the budget to support our budget determinations for this year. No member here today can say that they were not given every opportunity to get the knowledge and the understanding of everything necessary so that we could do the restorations to the budget to keep the City running.

I want to thank the Finance staff for all of the work that they did to work with us as we put together our borough delegation requests, as we put together the budget negotiation team request and as they did their best to balance all of the needs from all of the advocates that were trying to make sure that their programs were retained in the budget. I think

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2 that our budget process this year was the best of
3 any year that I've been here.

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5 And, I want to thank all of the
6 people that participated in that process, even
7 though we've had a difficult year. As far as
8 within the rest of the country, it is clear that
9 our body is the most transparent body and a
10 democratic body with a small 'd'. And, I want to
11 thank all of those that participated.

12

13 I am going to vote, as I said, aye
14 on all items. I must disclose that even though I
15 am giving-- my wife is an Administrator at York
16 College and I give money to a program at York
17 College that she has nothing to do with. I want
18 to make that disclosure. My children are in
19 public school. And, I'm proud to say that they're
20 in public school. So, they are benefitting from
21 the funds that will be given to public schools.
22 And, I want to thank, again, everyone that was
23 involved in the process this year. Thank you.

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25 MALE VOICE: de Blasio.

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27 COUNCIL MEMBER de BLASIO: I want
28 to thank the Speaker. I want to thank all my
29 colleagues and the entire Finance staff. I think

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2 this has been an extraordinary budget process this
3 year under extremely difficult circumstances. We
4 should be very proud, as a body, for having saved
5 six-day service in libraries, having saved so many
6 childcare centers and their classrooms, having
7 saved services that help stop child abuse, having
8 saved especially fire houses. I think we'd all
9 agree we should not have had to deal with those
10 particular issues. The Executive branch should
11 have handled more.

12 But, here we are. And, people
13 handled the situation I think with great
14 creativity and energy and unity. And, we made
15 important choices that will really protect the
16 lives and the quality of life of everyday New
17 Yorkers. So, I think everyone here should be
18 proud of that fact.

19 In terms of the Department of
20 Education capital plan, I thank Chair Jackson for
21 raising extremely important issues. We must
22 reform this process. We need help from Albany to
23 do it. The capital process is not working. It's
24 not transparent enough. It's not democratic
25 enough. It's not serving communities well enough.

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2 I feel we have to vote for the plan under the
3 circumstances we are in today, especially given
4 what's happening in Albany. But, I think we have
5 a series of reforms that must take place
6 immediately so that the process actually
7 represents the needs of parents going forward and,
8 of course, of students.

9 Finally, I'd like to make some
10 disclosures that my wife is an assistant Vice
11 President at Maimonides Medical Center; that I'm
12 an ex-officio member of the Prospect Park Alliance
13 Board; that my son plays in the 78th Precinct Youth
14 League, which is part of the Prospect Park
15 Baseball Association and that my son goes to MS 51
16 and my daughter goes to Beacon High School.

17 And, with that, I vote aye on all.

18 MALE VOICE: Dickens.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I want to
20 take this opportunity to thank Madam Speaker,
21 Chuck Meara, Ramon, all of the Speaker's staff,
22 Finance staff, Preston, Jeff, Jonathan, Scott,
23 Paul, for the hard work and to help us in making
24 difficult choices to a budget that's been
25 profoundly impacted by an economic downturn. I

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2 thank my colleagues throughout the Council, but in
3 particular, the budget negotiating team and
4 Manhattan delegation and our Chairs at Manhattan
5 delegation.

6 I recognize, and I applaud us for
7 the successes that we do have in this budget; the
8 six-day library, the child welfare personnel
9 that's been restored, keeping the 16 fire houses
10 open, legal services, particularly criminal
11 defense services that have been put back in to the
12 F '08 levels, the school custodians restoration,
13 the restoration to the SIGS, especially Studio
14 Museum in Harlem and El Museo Del Barrio and
15 rescuing core community services, like healthcare
16 programs, HIV/AIDs, diabetes, obesity, asthma
17 prevention programs that significantly impact
18 minority communities.

19 I am grateful that we were able to
20 manage to avoid massive layoffs to our teachers.
21 But, what I am fearful about is that the heart has
22 been cut out of the support system for the
23 teachers. And, I'm asking that, as I vote yes for
24 this in full, that we need to look at, and we need
25 to ask Administration to look at reviewing what

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2 has to be done to restore those support services
3 so that the teachers can stay in the classroom and
4 not be in the lunchroom as attendants, hallway
5 monitors, crossing guards and teachers aides.

6 With that, I say thank you to all
7 of the staff, in particular, to the Speaker. And,
8 I vote yes on all.

9 MALE VOICE: Dilan.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: Yeah, I just
11 would like to particularly thank the Speaker and
12 Council Member Jimmy Vacca for restoring the piece
13 of fire apparatus that will remain open in
14 Bushwick. And, I'd like to vote aye on all,
15 except for 992-A, which I vote no.

16 MALE VOICE: Eugene.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

18 MALE VOICE: Felder.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: I'd like to
20 disclose that I'm voting in favor of the proposed
21 budget, which includes funding for - - Early
22 Education Center, where my sister, Beena
23 [phonetic], is an education director at their
24 Faragot [phonetic] Road Head Start site. I do
25 vote no on Intro 1009 and Intro 1010-A. Thank

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2 you. Oh, I would also like to thank the Sergeant
3 at Arms for all the work they do all year around.

4 MALE VOICE: Ferreras.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: Hi. I
6 wanted to thank Madam Speaker and my colleagues.
7 I've been here for all of 94 days. And, it really
8 is an honor to be sitting with all of you, in
9 particular, our Queens delegation and Council
10 Member Comrie, who has helped me greatly being
11 able to balance a lot of this work. Thank you.
12 And, I vote aye on all. Thank you.

13 MALE VOICE: Fidler.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: First, I'd
15 like to, I will rely on the written signed
16 statement as to my disclosures for any potential
17 conflicts in the budget. I do want to say that in
18 any process, you don't get everything you want.
19 You don't always agree with 100% of a result in a
20 \$59.4 billion budget. It would be impossible for
21 us to all agree. And, that is, in fact, the
22 essence of democracy. And, at a time in this
23 State when one House of the State Legislature
24 can't get it together to decide who's in charge,
25 the process in this body, this year, was

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2 exemplary. And, for that, I want to thank our
3 Speaker, Christine Quinn. I think it was really
4 something that should be noted.

5 On the thank yous, I also certainly
6 want to thank Preston Niblack. You got all the
7 numbers right this year. And, Brooklyn's finest,
8 Jeff Rodus. And, while I want to certainly thank
9 every member of the Finance staff, there are three
10 that I want to single out. And, first, as
11 Chairman of the Youth Committee, I want to say a
12 special thank you to Rocco D'Angelo. Our
13 circumstances this year were extra complicated.
14 To Andy Grossman, who sat through some very, very
15 painful hearings with district attorneys and
16 Regina Ryan, who perhaps knows and understands an
17 absolutely unintelligible Department of Education
18 budget. I also, for reasons that I won't
19 disclose, want to thank my colleague, Simcha
20 Felder, who it's always a privilege to serve with.
21 And, I would be remiss if I didn't also say thank
22 you to Chuck Meara and the man that we all hate to
23 get that last minute phone call from, the man I
24 call the Grim Reaper, Ramon Martinez.

25 And, finally, in a very, very

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2 serious note, I want to thank each and every one
3 of you for not only restoring, but adding money
4 for shelter beds for runaway and homeless youth in
5 this City. They had no lobbyist. They probably
6 don't even vote. But, this Council has done the
7 right thing each and every time. And, I thank you
8 on their behalf. And, with that, I vote aye on
9 all.

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MALE VOICE: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank
12 you. I would like to vote aye on all. I also
13 want to recognize my co-Chair of the Manhattan
14 delegation, Gale Brewer, and all the Manhattan
15 delegation for those many hours of deliberations
16 with great collegiality. Council Member Brewer's
17 staff, Kanal Mahatra and Schula Warren and also,
18 of course, my-- yeah, they deserve a round of
19 applause-- and, of course, my own staff, my Chief
20 of Staff Justine O'Mada [phonetic], and
21 Legislative Aide, Lucy Jaffe [phonetic], who's
22 hard work brought us very far along in this
23 process. We thank them and, of course, the
24 Speaker and her staff.

25

I also want to make a disclosure

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2 that there is an allocation to the Stuyvesant Town
3 Peter Cooper Village Tenant's Association in the
4 budget. I am a tenant of Peter Cooper Village, as
5 is my wife and my parents, who live in another
6 building. So, with that, I vote aye. Thank you.

7 MALE VOICE: Gennaro.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Mr. Acting
9 Public Advocate, I'd like an opportunity to speak
10 on my vote.

11 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yeah. I
13 wish to add my voice to the chorus of those that
14 are thanking the Council Finance staff, Preston
15 and Jeff and Jonathan and Scott. I served here as
16 a staff member for many, many years. I know the
17 hard work that they do. I'm very, very grateful
18 to them. I'd like to thank the Speaker and all of
19 the Council leadership for their hard work in
20 getting us through this process, the Speakers'
21 staff, as been mentioned, Chuck and Ramon, all the
22 great work that they always do. I'd like to thank
23 Chairman Weprin for your dedicated service as
24 Finance Chair for the last 18 years. It's been an
25 honor to serve with you. What's that? Oh, 18,

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2 well, 18's for life. You know, - - . So, I'm
3 warming up.

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5 And, I'd like to thank the members
6 of the Finance Committee, the members of the
7 Queens delegation, particularly our delegation
8 Chair, Leroy Comrie for his leadership and his
9 friendship, the members of the budget negotiating
10 team, Mayor Bloomberg and all of our partners in
11 the Bloomberg Administration that brought us to
12 this good day. And, last, but not least, Janet
13 Davis from my office that was thrown in to the
14 budget process. My other budget person got
15 another opportunity and she's done a great job
16 pinch hitting. I want to thank her publicly for
17 that. And, with that, I vote aye on all.

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MALE VOICE: Gentile.

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19 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Okay. By
20 way of disclosure, I'm voting in favor of the
21 proposed budget, which includes funding for IS
22 259, where my sister's a Parent Coordinator. With
23 congratulations to everyone who worked on this
24 budget. I vote aye.

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MALE VOICE: Gerson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: Mr. Acting

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2 Public Advocate, may I be excused to explain?

3 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yes, you may.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: Thank you.

5 That means I get an extra few minutes, right?

6 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Two minutes,
7 two minutes.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GERSON: Anyway,
9 Madam Speaker, with your leadership and that of
10 the entire team acknowledge and good humor, under
11 the most difficult of circumstances, this Council
12 has succeeded in ensuring critical and important
13 services to all New Yorkers and special services
14 to vulnerable New Yorkers in dire needs. So, with
15 your leadership, I thank you for your leadership
16 and the entire team acknowledge, Chuck Meara,
17 Ramon Martinez, Jeff Rodus, Jonathan Rosenberg,
18 Scott Crowley and everyone else acknowledge.

19 I would just add, we would be
20 remiss as we go forward if we did not acknowledge,
21 as you have said, Madam Speaker, this budget is a
22 work in progress. And, we need to assure New
23 Yorkers and commit ourselves to the unfinished
24 business of this budget, as we pass this. So, on
25 the expense side, between now and the start of the

1
2 school year, we can and must find the revenue to
3 avoid the school-base cuts. If the federal
4 stimulus funding does not come through, we must
5 not allow the uniform police force to go back down
6 to pre-9/11 levels. And, we must avoid the dire
7 danger of the elimination of 30 ambulance tours.

8 On the capital side, it remains
9 unacceptable that City-owned buildings and
10 structures in states of disrepair and posing
11 blights on their communities, and I have the
12 photos with me, are not included in the capital
13 budget to assure New Yorkers that, in fact, they
14 will be repaired. We must make that correction.

15 So, with those commitments to move
16 forward, I vote aye on all, except no on M-1429
17 and accompanying Resolution 2039, as I've
18 concluded within the beep. Thank you.

19 MALE VOICE: Gioia.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: Thank you.
21 I'd like a moment to explain my vote.

22 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yes.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: Thank you.
24 There is no doubt that there are great
25 organizations in this budget that do excellent

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2 work, including those that feed the hungry and
3 clothe the sick. And, I want to congratulate my
4 colleagues who have worked very hard at balancing
5 the needs of New Yorkers in tough economic times.
6 And, I also want to thank the Finance staff that
7 has worked extraordinarily hard.

8 Yet, I have grave reservations that
9 there will be funds in this budget that will be
10 misappropriated. And that, over the coming year,
11 there will be investigations and revelations that
12 embarrass every one of us.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: If you feel
14 so strongly, don't take the money. Why don't you
15 not take the money?

16 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Council
17 Member.

18 MALE VOICE: - -

19 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: I can bang
20 also. If you feel so strongly, don't take the
21 money.

22 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Council Member
23 Felder. Thank you.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: I'm not
25 here.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: It's a
3 serious topic. And, I know I'm going to take
4 shots for it. But, this is the last budget I'm
5 ever going to vote on here. And, I feel like I
6 have to say my piece.

7 Last year, during finance hearings,
8 I asked the Administration's Budget Director if he
9 could assure us that people's money was being
10 wisely and well spent. He looked at me and he
11 told me to look at where the budget comes from,
12 where the list come from. And, he said-- and he
13 pointed to this City Council. One of the ways
14 that we combated the misappropriations and the
15 misuse of the past was by providing transparency.

16 And, last year, the Council
17 instituted a reform to make discretionary items
18 public for at least 24 hours prior to a budget
19 vote to allow members, to allow the press, to
20 allow the public time to examine all allocations.
21 However, the spirit of the reform is not to treat
22 the 24-hour period as a minor speed bump on the
23 way to fast tracking the budget's passage. And,
24 today, despite the fact that the budget is not due
25 for another ten days, we're not even honoring that

1

2 24 hours.

3

4 Last year's reforms were proposed
5 because serious improprieties had come to light.
6 And, if the past couple of weeks have shown us
7 anything, it's that this process still needs to be
8 improved. This is not to cast doubt on my
9 colleagues, who I have deep respect for. But, it
10 shouldn't take a newspaper and it certainly
11 shouldn't take a grand jury to uncover waste,
12 mismanagement and fraud. I think we can do
13 better. And, I think we need to do better to
14 rebuild people's faith in this institution and the
15 government, in general.

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With that, I vote no on M-1415, the
accompanying Resolutions, yes on all others. And,
I do want to disclose that my sister's a school
teacher at P.S. 229 and my brother-in-law's a
corrections officer who works in Rikers Island.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
much.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: I have to
disclose it. And, that both of those, you know,
schools and Rikers Island receive capital funding.

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Next.

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2 MALE VOICE: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank
4 you. I would like to disclose that I am voting in
5 favor of the proposed budget, which includes
6 funding to Maimonides Medical Center, where my
7 husband works for 25 years, my son for nine years
8 and my daughter-in-law for three. I vote aye.
9 Thank you.

10

MALE VOICE: Ignizio.

11

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I just
12 want to commend what a great job the presiding
13 officer is doing today in ably running this body.

14

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Doing a
16 great job.

17

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: And, I
19 commend you for the hard work that you're doing.
20 I vote no on 1009, no on 1010-A and aye on all
21 others. Thank you very much.

22

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Tough job.

23

But, somebody's got to do it.

24

MALE VOICE: Jackson.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON:

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2 Mr. Majority Leader, may I be excused to explain
3 my vote? Thank you. Well, let me just say from
4 the start that part of this budget, 3,200 students
5 from kindergarten kids from ACS is going to go
6 over to DOE. And, DOE said that class size in
7 kindergarten may go up to 25. Major issue. Major
8 concern. Also, in the budget, the Department of
9 Education is going to spend \$2.3 million for
10 Junior ROTC to help our students become "leaders"
11 and which will lead them into the military. They
12 need to spend that money in a classroom and not on
13 Junior ROTC.

14 I also want to say that I am
15 pleased that our Speaker, Christine Quinn, was
16 involved in helping to reduce the Department of
17 Education's deficit cut from 700 million to 388
18 million, which saved a lot of jobs. But, while we
19 know the amount of the cut to education, the
20 programmatic impact as to titles and how many
21 people are going to hit the street, we don't know.
22 And, do we know what the impact is going to be to
23 children? We don't know. We know it's going to
24 be a negative impact. But, we don't really know
25 what it's going to be.

1
2 I must say that in all of this
3 stuff, our Speaker, Christine Quinn, has worked
4 with me and the staff to propose legislation that
5 may lead to corrections in the future for the Blue
6 Book and also the way we look at the five-year
7 capital plan. So, I thank you for that, Madam
8 Speaker.

9 But, today, the Bloomberg
10 Administration has not made any corrections to the
11 five-year capital plan. So, therefore, I vote yes
12 on everything, except M-1429 and accompanying Reso
13 2039, which is the Administration's five-year
14 capital plan. Thank you.

15 MALE VOICE: Yassky.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER YASSKY: Aye on all
17 items.

18 MALE VOICE: James.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all
20 items.

21 MALE VOICE: Koppell.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: I request
23 permission to explain my vote.

24 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: I think it

1
2 is clear that when we looked at the Mayor's
3 budget, I don't think many people believed we'd
4 come out with a day like today, when we all feel
5 very comfortable that we have been able to respond
6 to some of the most serious cuts that affect
7 people's lives in the City and that we can go home
8 feeling that we've really done a major amount to
9 ameliorate the worst cuts in the budget. But, let
10 there be no mistake that the cuts that the Mayor
11 has proposed will cause a certain amount of
12 deprivation of needed services. And, the reason
13 for that is, of course, the fiscal crisis that
14 we're in.

15 But, I think it is a great mark of-
16 - it is something that we can take great
17 satisfaction in. That we've been able to respond
18 to the most serious priorities and that we've been
19 able, also, to supplement the Mayor's budget in
20 ways we did before, in areas like mental health
21 and mental retardation and substance abuse, which
22 happen to be areas that I'm involved in, as the
23 Chair of the Committee that I'm responsible for.
24 So, I think we can all feel extraordinarily good
25 in light of the difficult circumstances that we

1
2 come to today. And, obviously, we're not able to
3 meet all of the needs given the paucity of funding
4 that's available.

5 So, I vote yes with a good deal of
6 joy that we're able to deliver what we are
7 delivering to the people of the City and, in my
8 case, to the people of my district. I also want
9 to disclose, before I vote, that I'm voting in
10 favor of a budget which includes funding for the
11 American Ballet Theater, where my sister is a paid
12 member of the orchestra. I am also a ex-officio
13 member of the Board of the Wave Hill Environmental
14 and Art Center, which is receiving money in the
15 budget. And, I disclose, on behalf of all of us,
16 that we're all ex-officio members of Community
17 Boards, which all are receiving money in the
18 budget at the request of the Council. Thank you.
19 I vote aye.

20 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you.

21 MALE VOICE: Lappin.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I would
23 like to say a big thank you to Speaker Quinn, to
24 Chuck Meara, Preston, Jeff Rodus, Scott Crowley,
25 the entire Finance staff, but particularly, poor,

1
2 poor Jonathan Rosenberg, who drew the short straw
3 and spent days locked up in the red room with the
4 Manhattan delegation. I'd also like to thank John
5 Moore from my staff, who did an incredible amount
6 of work over the last few months on the budget.

7 I would like to vote aye on all and
8 disclose that I'm voting in favor of a budget that
9 does include funding for the Turtle Bay Music
10 School, where my son goes to a toddler music
11 class.

12 MALE VOICE: Liu.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: I vote yes on
14 all items, with the exception of M-1429 and
15 accompanying Resolution 2039. The five-year
16 school capital plan is woefully inadequate when it
17 comes to meeting the needs of school children in
18 the coming years. Thank you.

19 MALE VOICE: Mark-Viverito.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I
21 will be voting aye on all. I really do want to
22 give a special thanks, obviously, to the Finance
23 staff, to our Speaker. I also want to say a
24 special thanks to Maria del Carmen Arroyo, who I
25 have the honor of co-Chairing the Senior Center

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2 Subcommittee. But, I think we've done a really
3 good job as a Council under her leadership and us,
4 as a Council, to really preserve key services to
5 our seniors during a lot of changes that have been
6 going on. That, coupled with legal services and
7 all the other items that have been mentioned, I
8 very much proudly vote aye on this budget. Thank
9 you.

10 MALE VOICE: Martinez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ:

12 Mr. Majority Leader, can I be allowed to vote aye
13 on the June 15th calendar, on all the items on the
14 June 15th calendar, please?

15 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ: And, I
17 will be voting aye on all, with the exception of
18 M-1429 and Reso 2039. I also want to disclose
19 that I am voting in favor of the proposed budget,
20 which includes funding for the Fort Washington
21 Senior Center, where my sister is a program aide.

22 I also want to take the opportunity
23 to congratulate the Speaker and the Finance staff
24 on putting together a process early on in which
25 everyone, from staff to Council Members, were able

1
2 to be educated and informed as to many of the PEGs
3 that were proposed, many of the initiatives that
4 were funded and were no longer in the proposed
5 budget. And, I believe this process made it so
6 much easier, not only for budget negotiations, but
7 also for the entire Council to understand what was
8 at stake and what were the issues that we were
9 fighting for. As a result, we have a budget that
10 represent the true needs of all communities in the
11 City of New York. So, again, congratulations to
12 the Finance staff and congratulations for the
13 Speaker's office in putting together such a
14 process.

15 MALE VOICE: Mealy.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I
17 explain my vote?

18 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yes, you may.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I would like
20 to rise and say thank you to Madam Speaker, and
21 our Chuck and Ramon and the whole Financial staff.
22 And, I want to thank my colleagues for every kind
23 word you have said and every little thing that you
24 have done for me to make me better. And, I know
25 now with this budget passing, my community is much

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2 better and well served and more informed. And, I
3 want to thank you, thank you, thank you, Madam
4 Speaker and my colleagues. And, have a blessed
5 summer.

6

MALE VOICE: Mendez.

7

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: How do you
8 vote? Pardon me, how do you vote, Council Member
9 Mealy? Your vote.

10

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye

11 on all.

12

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
13 much. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

14

MALE VOICE: Mendez.

15

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Permission
16 to explain my vote?

17

CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Yes, you may.

18

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you.
19 I want to vote no on Intro 1009 and Intro 1010-A.
20 I have real concerns that not-for-profits are not
21 included in 1010-A and in 1009 are included for
22 these extra fees, where they were once excluded.

23

In terms of the budget, I'm going
24 to be voting aye. While I'm not completely happy
25 with the budget, this was a very difficult year.

1

2 And, I don't think we could have been happy about
3 everything. I think we tried to do the best that
4 we can and there was a process in place that led
5 to the result in a very democratic fashion of what
6 is now the budget that we're voting on.

7

8 So, I hope next year, we will be in
9 a better financial state where we could do more
10 for our children in the public schools and we can
11 do more for civil legal services that did not get
12 a cut, but got tremendous cuts last year. During
13 these financial times, people are losing their
14 jobs. They're going to lose their homes. They
15 need legal representation. And, this body, I
16 hope, makes that a priority in the coming year.

17

18 Thank you, Madam Speaker, for your
19 leadership. And, thank you to the Finance staff
20 and to all of my colleagues for your wisdom, your
21 friendship and your hard work. Thank you.

22

MALE VOICE: Mitchell.

23

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MITCHELL: Before I
25 vote, I'd like to disclose that my wife is a
teacher at P.S. 30 on Staten Island. That is
receiving funding under this budget. I vote aye
on all, except Intro 1009, Intro 1010-A, M-1429

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2

and accompanying Resolution 2039.

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MALE VOICE: Palma

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye on all.

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MALE VOICE: Recchia.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RECCHIA: May I be

7

excused to explain my vote? Despite the City's

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financial constraints and tough economics climate,

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this was a good year for the cultural institutions

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and the libraries throughout the City and

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especially the expansion of Cossa [phonetic]. I

12

want to thank the Speaker Quinn and her staff,

13

Chuck Meara, Ramon Martinez. I want to thank the

14

Finance Division under the leadership of Preston

15

Niblack. He does a great job. Of course, his

16

Deputy Director and his right hand, Jeff Rodus,

17

Scott Crowley, Latonia McKinney, Paul Scimone,

18

Jonathan Rosenberg, Nathan, James Reyes, Rocco

19

D'Angelo, Walter and the entire Finance Division.

20

But, I want to give a special thank

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you to Shadawn Smith. She was there day and

22

night. She's an analyst who does an outstanding

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work at a superb job. Thank you, Shadawn. And, I

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also want to thank my entire Cultural Affairs

25

Committee, Rachel, Tonia, Danielle, for all their

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2 hard work on working on the DCA panels and my
3 Chief of Staff, Karen Beck, who does a great job
4 every day and Rob Hart [phonetic]. I also want to
5 thank Deputy Mayor Patty Harris and Commissioner
6 Kate Levin and Haida Mahaltas [phonetic] for
7 working with us and seeing that these things get
8 done. All right.

9 Now, I have to make some
10 disclosures. First, I'd like to disclose that I'm
11 voting in favor of this proposed budget, which
12 includes funding for public school 215, where my
13 daughters attend. And, from middle school, Mark
14 Twain, for the middle school, where my daughter
15 will attend next year. There is funding for those
16 learning institutions in the budget. And, I vote
17 aye on everything else.

18 MALE VOICE: Reyna.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I'd like to
20 vote aye on all, except M-1429 and preconsidered
21 Resolution 2039. I'd like to thank the Finance
22 staff, our Speaker and its leadership team and all
23 of my colleagues.

24 MALE VOICE: Sanders.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: Permission

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2 to explain my vote?

3 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: A very
5 difficult year we've had in terms of the budget.
6 New York City, the state, the nation, very
7 difficult year. We have struggled long and hard
8 and I think that, at the end of the day, more
9 often than not, we have come up with something
10 good for the people of New York, something that we
11 can be proud of. We have stopped the worst
12 things. We certainly feel for those who may lose
13 their jobs, even after we've done these things.
14 And, we must work hard in the days to come to see
15 what we can do to bring them back into the City of
16 New York.

17 I'd like to do two things. First,
18 I'd like to disclose that my sister's a principal
19 in a Queens public school, not in my district, and
20 receives no money from me. I'd also like to vote
21 aye on all coupled general orders. And, with
22 permission, I vote aye on all items on the
23 June 15th agenda.

24 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: I vote

1

2 aye.

3 MALE VOICE: Sears.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: I reaffirm
5 my disclosure statement that my signed one and
6 reiterated in the Finance Division, in the Finance
7 Committee. I stand by that and reiterate it.
8 And, I vote aye on all. And, I wish to truly,
9 this is our eighth budget. And, it certainly has
10 been one of the most difficult. But, it has been
11 one of the most pleasant and compatible that I
12 think all of us have had.

13 And, I have to thank our Speaker,
14 all of Finance, for Jeff and Preston. And, I want
15 you all to remember that Rocco D'Angelo started in
16 my office. So, he had wonderful training and why
17 he's all doing such a great job. So, I want to
18 thank you, Rocco, for making us look good. And, I
19 just have to say I want to thank my delegation,
20 members of the Negotiating Committee because we
21 really worked and came in unison. Every time that
22 Ramon called, it was a call I took and I really
23 want to thank him because he made life a lot
24 easier, and to Chuck. And, I really want to thank
25 all my colleagues because, in the last four years,

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2 we certainly have had gone through a lot and I
3 really want to thank you because they were also
4 the most memorable. Thank you all.

5 MALE VOICE: Stewart.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER STEWART: May I be
7 excused to explain my vote? Well, I first want to
8 thank Erik Dilan for being a true leader of the
9 Brooklyn delegation and for bringing us all
10 together. I also want to thank the entire
11 Speaker's staff, especially Chuck and Ramon and
12 Barbara for being so kind and nice to me when I
13 have my problems and my questions. I also want to
14 thank the entire Finance staff, especially Jeff
15 Rodus and Nathan and Scott. They have made things
16 much easier for me when I had my problems. Also,
17 I want to thank the Counsel to my Immigration
18 Committee, Julene Beckford, who has been there and
19 working out all those problems as far as
20 immigration is concerned. And, we have been
21 trying to make sure that immigrants are not left
22 behind.

23 I want to disclose, at this time,
24 that my wife and my daughter are nurses at Kings
25 County Hospital. And, also, I want to disclose

1
2 that I am a friend to the schools, the senior
3 centers, the parks of the 45th District in
4 Brooklyn. I vote aye on all.

5 MALE VOICE: Ulrich.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Permission
7 to explain my vote. As the new kid on the block,
8 I'd just like to thank a few people for helping me
9 get through my first budget. First, I would
10 certainly like to thank the Finance Division, Jeff
11 Rodus, Scott Crowley and Jonathan Rosenberg for
12 their guidance and their patience. Also, my Chief
13 of Staff, Matt Hickey [phonetic]. I'd like to
14 thank Speaker Quinn and her staff for their
15 assistance.

16 And, I would be remiss, of course,
17 if I didn't mention all the help that I get from
18 the leader of the mighty Republican caucus of
19 three, Council Member James Oddo. And, I'd like
20 to thank Jimmy. He's been terrific. Jimmy is the
21 Minority Leader, Vinnie's the Minority Whip and
22 somebody joking around said that makes me the
23 whipping boy because I'm number three, which is
24 still better than being number two. But, anyway,
25 thank you so much. I vote aye on all, except

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2 Intro Number 1009 and Intro 1010-A. Thank you.

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MALE VOICE: Vacca.

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5 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I want to
6 explain my vote. I first want to disclose that my
7 wife is a school teacher in P.S. 304, that's in
8 the budget. And, I am an adjunct professor at
9 Queen's College, that's in the budget.

10

11 And, I also want to disclose that
12 if it was not for the City Council, the fire
13 houses would not have been kept open as they are.
14 I want to disclose that my colleagues, and our
15 Speaker, have prevented, on July 1st, the closing
16 of three engine companies and a ladder company and
17 the closing of 12 more companies during the fiscal
18 year. As Chairman of the Committee on Fire, I
19 want to thank Speaker Quinn, especially, because
20 she took this on as an issue. It resonated with
21 many members, who saw that they could be next.
22 And, I thank the Speaker. I thank the members, in
23 particular.

24

25 Now, I do want you to know that I'm
not doing away, I'm not throwing away my two red
shirts or my red suspenders. I'm keeping them. I
hope I do not need them for another day. But, I

1
2 think we did a good job. And, I vote yes,
3 proudly, on all. Thank you.

4 MALE VOICE: Vallone.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Mr. Chair,
6 I need to disclose that I have two kids in public
7 schools and this budget also includes funding for
8 hundreds of organizations. My father and
9 brother's firm represents many of the groups in
10 the City. I expect that a number of these groups
11 will receive funding in today's budget or they'd
12 be pretty lousy at what they do. So, I have
13 submitted a list of all the clients of the firm to
14 the General Counsel's office and to the Conflict
15 of Interest Board and I'm disclosing that today.

16 Regarding the budget, the Speaker
17 knows of my concerns with the budget, first and
18 foremost, the huge cuts to funding to the District
19 Attorneys. I've received her assurance that she
20 will work hard to rectify this misunderstanding
21 that led to the situation.

22 Regarding 1010-A, I'm going to vote
23 for it with the caveat that I would like to see it
24 amended as soon as possible to include all
25 religious schools, that no new charges are placed

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2 against any religious school. I'm going to vote
3 aye on all and echo the thanks to all involved
4 including anyone left out, the people in the
5 balcony, the press in the corner, the Channel 74
6 camera guy, anybody we missed. Thank you all.
7 Thank you.

8 MALE VOICE: Eugene.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you
10 very much. I just want to disclose that I have
11 two children; one of them attend public school and
12 the other one goes to Brooklyn College. Thank you
13 very much.

14 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: How do you
15 vote?

16 MALE VOICE: Vann.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Yeah, I would
18 like to disclose that I am voting in favor of the
19 proposed budget, with one exception. There is
20 funding in there for the National Black Leadership
21 Commission on AIDs, of which I am a volunteer
22 Board member. There is funding for Medgar Evers
23 College, where a daughter is Director of the
24 Office for Academic Transformation and Success.
25 And, another daughter is the Coordinator of the

1
2 College Now program. And, a son-in-law is a
3 Graphic Designer. Having said all of that, I vote
4 aye on the budget. However, I do vote no on M-
5 1429, with accompanying Reso 2039.

6 MALE VOICE: Weprin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: May I be
8 excused to explain my vote.

9 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: I'd like to
11 disclose that my wife, Ronnie, is a Director of
12 Special Events at Queens Borough Community
13 College. She's not paid by tax levy. But, she is
14 on the Research Foundation of CUNY's payroll.
15 And, although I have not personally earmarked any
16 funds for Queens Borough Community College, there
17 is a Queens delegation capital item in the budget.
18 And, I'd like to disclose that. Other than that,
19 I vote aye on all.

20 MALE VOICE: Oddo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: May I be
22 temporary excused to explain my vote?

23 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: So ordered.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: I'd like to
25 disclose the fact that I'm a little bit depressed

1
2 that I have nothing to disclose. Seems my life is
3 not as fulfilling as all of you all. I am going
4 to be voting no on 1009 and 1010.

5 And, I'd just like to make a couple
6 of comments about the budget. Obviously, the
7 issue that was near and dear to my heart was the
8 Fire Department. And, I think the people spoke
9 and the Council Members heard it. The Council
10 Members spoke and the Speaker heard it. And, the
11 Speaker put a line in the sand. And, I want to
12 thank her and I want to thank the Chairman of the
13 Fire and Criminal Justice Safety Committee, Jimmy
14 Vacca, who right now is the most popular
15 Councilman on Staten Island. And, I think it's a
16 huge victory for this Council that we stood up.
17 It's a victory we could not attain in 2003. And,
18 we did this year.

19 I want to thank the Speaker for, I
20 think, the single best piece of ingenuity in this
21 budget. And, you know, I watch Met games when I
22 can. And, there are 10, 12, 13 commercials on
23 there that talk about out of the box thinking.
24 But, it was this Speaker who really has put in
25 this budget the single piece of outside the box

1
2 thinking. And, the beauty of this is that it
3 bridges us hopefully to better economic times.
4 And then, it cuts taxes and diversifies this
5 economy.

6 I want to thank the staff and I
7 want to say to Preston, as the Speaker noted, 14,
8 15 months ago, people questioned your mental
9 health for taking this job with a lame duck
10 Speaker. That seems to have worked itself out.
11 And now, you're staring at maybe four more years
12 of work. Although, I think you've probably
13 questioned your own mental health in the last 14
14 years, taking the job. But, you have been a
15 breath of fresh air and a huge asset to this
16 institution. To my friends, Chuck and Ramon and
17 Jeff Rodus, thank you to all of the staff, again,
18 I mentioned in the Finance Committee, thank you
19 for going toe-to-toe with OMB being outgunned by
20 lots of bodies, but not lots of talent.

21 And, lastly, I want to say, at this
22 point last year, I thought the budget in 2009
23 would be my last year on the Council. And, I'm
24 probably looking at four more, at the risk of
25 being egotistical. But, you never know. Life is

1
2 real crazy. And, today, right now, we're all
3 here. And, that's a blessing. And, I have been
4 so privileged to call you colleagues, to call you
5 friends. You have enriched my life in many ways.
6 God willing, we will all be here for as long as we
7 want. But, life changes on a dime. And, I think
8 that after a very long process, it makes sense to
9 sort of take a moment, exhale, and to say thank
10 you to each of you for all of your friendship.

11 Again, I vote aye on all, except
12 1009 and 1010-A, I vote no.

13 MALE VOICE: Rivera.

14 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: Thank you very
15 much. At this point in time, I'm going to take a
16 personal privilege and want to thank the Speaker,
17 her staff, the Finance staff, Chuck, Ramon,
18 Preston, of course, and Jeff Rodus. And, like my
19 colleague, Council Member Vallone, stated,
20 everyone who's been a part of this process in any
21 way, shape or form, job well done. This was a
22 tough year. Very difficult economy and yet, we
23 seem to pull through in a responsible manner. We
24 could be proud of the work that we are doing here
25 today.

1
2 On a lighter note, since, in the
3 absence of a Public Advocate, I am the President
4 Pro Tem and I'm still Majority Leader. So, we get
5 two votes. I just wanted to say--

6 MALE VOICE: I move to adjourn.

7 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: -- just wanted
8 to say--

9 SPEAKER QUINN: Turn the lights
10 off.

11 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: -- that since
12 Council Member Ignizio had such great remarks, we
13 will be conferencing in a couple of minutes, later
14 on. I want to use my two votes to vote yes on
15 this budget, 'cause I do believe it's a job well
16 done. And, I'm proud of the work that all of my
17 colleagues have put forward in this budget season.
18 Thank you. And, I vote aye on all.

19 MALE VOICE: You're also getting
20 Gioia's money.

21 SPEAKER QUINN: Keep it moving.
22 Keep it moving people.

23 MALE VOICE: Speaker Quinn.

24 SPEAKER QUINN: Just, again, with a
25 thank you to everyone on the staff, every member

1
2 of the City Council and everyone who helped us do
3 the best possible job we could do today under very
4 trying set of circumstances, I vote aye on all.

5 [Pause]

6 CHAIRPERSON RIVERA: All items on
7 today's general order calendar were adopted by a
8 vote of 51 in the affirmative, zero in the
9 negative and zero abstentions, with the exception
10 of Intro 992-A, which was adopted by a vote of 50
11 in the affirmative and one in the negative with
12 zero abstentions and Intro 1009, which was adopted
13 by a vote of 44 in the affirmative, with seven in
14 the negative and zero abstentions and Intro 1010-
15 A, which was adopted by 44 in the affirmative, and
16 seven in the negative with zero abstentions and M-
17 1415, Reso 2034 and 2035, which was adopted by 50
18 in the affirmative and one in the negative, and M-
19 1429 and Reso 2039, which was adopted by a vote of
20 42 in the affirmative and zero in the negative-- I
21 mean, nine in the negative and zero abstentions.

22 And, I now formally declare the
23 Executive Expense Revenue Contract Budget, the
24 Executive Capital Budget for the fiscal year 2010
25 and the Capital program for the three seceding

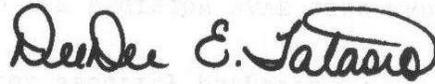
1
2 fiscal years all as modified and all in accordance
3 with the relevant sections of the New York City
4 Charter as hereby adopted on this date of June 19,
5 2009, at 6:17 p.m. The meeting is recessed.

6 Thank you very much.
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, DeeDee E. Tataseo 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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "DeeDee E. Tataseo". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Date

July 30, 2009