

## QUEENS TODAY

APRIL 23, 2024

**POLICE ARE LOOKING FOR TWO** suspects who wore ski masks and stabbed a man multiple times during an attempted carjacking in Kew Gardens on Monday, PIX 11 reports. The two men attacked the 22-year-old victim at around 2:30 a.m. while he was sitting in his car in a parking lot underneath an above-ground subway at 85-11 126th St. The victim was stabbed several times in the right leg, reports said, and he was treated at a nearby hospital. The suspects fled without the car, and no arrests have been made.

**THREE PEOPLE WERE HURT IN A** Woodside blaze on Monday, ABC reports. The fire broke out in an attic on 63rd Street in the Western Queens neighborhood at around 3:15 a.m., officials said. The trio sustained minor injuries, and the cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

**QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY MELINDA** Katz said that 52-year-old Flushing resident Jose Barcia has been indicted on criminal charges for causing the crash that resulted in the death of 8-year-old Bayron Palomino Arroyo. Barcia was allegedly speeding through a crosswalk while making a left turn, killing the 8-year-old and injuring his 10-year-old brother in East Elmhurst on March 13. "Both victims in this case, the boy who died and his brother, were with their mother crossing the street with the light in their favor in broad daylight," said Katz. "This tragedy was completely preventable, if not for the alleged recklessness of the defendant. Obeying road safety regulations is not a choice. It is the law. And more than that, it is a personal obligation to safeguard everyone we encounter on our shared roadways. The grand jury handed up an indictment on serious charges against this defendant. I continue to send my deepest condolences to the young victims' loved ones."

**CONGRESSMEMBER GRACE MENG** announced \$800,000 for LIFE Camp's violence intervention programs this week. Founded in April 2002, LIFE Camp, Inc. is a violence prevention and intervention organization run by Erica Ford. The money will enable the organization to expand its operations from South Queens to the 6th Congressional District. "I am excited to join LIFE Camp to commemorate these critical funds which will go a long way towards helping to make our communities safer," said Meng. "LIFE Camp does important work to combat gun violence and I'm proud to have obtained this money so that its team can do an even better job and serve more residents throughout our borough. We have to do all we can to save lives and protect our neighborhoods and future generations."



## Legal services fund 'raided,' prompting outcry from attys

A proposal from Governor Kathy Hochul to sweep the Interest on Lawyer Account fund of \$55 million received widespread condemnation from the state's legal community over the weekend following the passage of the state's budget.

File photo by Susan Watts/Office of Governor Kathy Hochul

By Jacob Kaye  
Queens Daily Eagle

New York's legal community has responded with outrage after the governor decided to move forward with a sweep of a pot of money meant to fund civil legal services for low-income New Yorkers.

Making its way into the state's budget belatedly passed over the weekend was a \$55 million sweep of the state's Interest on Lawyer Account, or IOLA fund. The money taken from the fund will primarily be used to boost funding for the Homeowner Protection Program, which provides free housing counseling and legal services to New York homeowners at risk of foreclosure.

But few seem to be celebrating the extra funding for the Homeowner Protection Program at the expense of the IOLA fund.

The sweep was introduced into the budget at the eleventh-hour, after Hochul had previously back tracked on a proposal that would have taken \$100 million out of the fund used to support over 80 nonprofit legal organizations that offer civil legal services to indigent New Yorkers.

But as budget negotiations dragged into the third week beyond its original April 1 deadline, the IOLA fund sweep again found its way into the state's fiscal document. The sweep was passed as part of the state's \$237 billion over the weekend.

Several bar associations and legal groups

were quick to decry the cut.

"The [New York City Bar Association] is extremely disappointed with the news that IOLA funds have been swept to the tune of \$55 million in the final budget deal," said New York City Bar President Susan Kohlmann. "This was done despite earlier collective and sustained opposition from the legal profession, which must now direct its efforts toward advocating for measures that will protect IOLA funds from this sort of sweep in the future."

Even those expected to benefit from the boost to the Homeowner Protection Program criticized the funding measure.

Continued on page 16



## NYPD fatally shoots man on Roosevelt Avenue

Incident marks the second deadly police shooting in Queens in a month

Police shot and killed a man who was reportedly holding a woman at knife point on Roosevelt Avenue over the weekend.

Screenshot via NYPD

By Ryan Schwach  
Queens Daily Eagle

Officers from the NYPD shot and killed a man on Roosevelt Avenue over the weekend, marking the second time police have fatally shot a person in Queens in a month.

The man, who according to police was holding a woman at knife point on the busy intersection, is the third person killed in a police-involved shooting in Queens since early March. Police recently shot and killed 19-year-old Win Rozario, who was allegedly undergoing a mental health crisis, and NYPD Office Jonathan Diller died after getting into a gunfight with a suspect in Far Rockaway last month.

Early on Saturday morning, according to the NYPD, two cops saw an argument between a 65-year-old man and a 49-year-old woman just after 4 a.m. on Roosevelt near 103rd Street.

"They walk over to investigate and see a male with a knife, engaged in a dispute with a female," NYPD Chief of Department Jeffrey Maddrey said in a press conference.

The cops reportedly ordered the man to drop the knife, but he didn't listen, according to Maddrey.

See story on page 2

# Police shooting in Queens leaves man dead

Continued from page 1  
to Maddrey.

The police used a Taser, which Maddrey said didn't work, then once again asked the man to drop the knife before firing at him.

The unidentified man was taken to Elmhurst Hospital Center, where he was pronounced dead. The woman was not injured and the two officers were taken to the hospital to be treated for tinnitus.

A small yellow knife was recovered at the scene, cops said.

Police currently do not know how the two individuals may have known each other.

"This investigation will continue," Maddrey said, who said that there is a contingent of officers who work in the heavily trafficked Roosevelt Avenue area at night.

The shooting comes only a few weeks after the NYPD shooting of Rozario, an Ozone Park teen with mental health issues who had himself called emergency responders for help.

On March 27, Rozario was having a mental health crisis and called 911 around 1:40 p.m.

Two officers arrived at the two-family home around 103rd Street and 101st Avenue a few minutes later without the aid of a unit specifically tasked with responding to mental health calls, according to NYPD Chief of Patrol John Chell.

Chell said the situation inside the kitchen of

the second-story home quickly became "hectic, chaotic and dangerous right away."

NYPD officials claim that the teenager reached into a drawer and pulled out a pair of scissors. He then began to move toward the police officers, police claim.

That's when the officers both fired their Tasers at him, knocking him to the ground.

The teenager's mother, who was also in the apartment, then ran over to her son, accidentally knocking the Tasers out of the teen's body, police said.

The 19-year-old then allegedly grabbed the scissors, got up and began to move toward the officers again, according to Chell.

The officers then fired their guns at the teen. He was pronounced dead shortly after at a nearby hospital.

Just a few days before the Rozario shooting, another police-involved shooting in Queens resulted in the death of Officer Diller.

Diller, a 3-year veteran of the department, was carrying out a traffic stop in Far Rockaway with his partner when the suspect pulled out a weapon and shot him underneath his bullet proof vest.

Diller was rushed to Jamaica Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz has brought multiple charges against two suspects involved in the shooting - 41-year-old Lindy Jones, who was allegedly behind the wheel of



The shooting on Saturday is the third police-involved shooting in Queens over the last month, which included the shooting of 19-year-old Win Rozario which prompted local protests.

Eagle file photo by Ryan Schwach

the car, and 34-year-old Guy Rivera, who allegedly fired the fatal shot.

"We remain steadfast in our commitment to achieve that goal and to seek justice for Detective Diller and his loved ones," said

Katz in a statement.

In the Rozario shooting, New York State Attorney General Letitia James has launched an investigation - as she is required to by law - but has declined to give further details.

## Queens electeds look to stop eviction of composting site

By Ryan Schwach  
Queens Daily Eagle

A group of Western Queens elected officials are fighting against a Parks Department plan to evict a popular composting site in their community.

On Friday, councilmembers rallied alongside Big Reuse, a composting site in Queensbridge, that has been told to leave so the space can be used to create a parking lot for Parks Department equipment, the officials say.

But lawmakers say the composting site is a necessity for their constituents - many of whom live in neighborhoods with high rates of pollution - and the city's environmental efforts as a whole.

"Big Reuse deserves a dedicated space in our district to create the compost that sustains our street trees, educate the public, and create opportunities for volunteers as they have for the past decade," said Councilmember Julie Won. "We demand that NYC Parks allow Big Reuse to remain at their Queensbridge Composting Site to put the needs of people over creating a parking lot for city vehicles. Without the vital work Big Reuse has done at their site, we would



Queens pols push against eviction of composting site from Queensbridge Park.

Photo by Emil Cohen/NYC Council Media Unit

not be able to address sustainability, food insecurity, and environmentalism in our city."

According to NYC Parks, capital improvements require them to move a small maintenance parking lot, which currently occupies the future location of Queensbridge Baby Park, to Big Reuse's location. But officials say that Big Reuse's composting site falls outside of the project footprint for Queensbridge Baby Park, and preservation of the site has garnered wide-

spread support from the community.

"Big Reuse's community composting brings neighbors together in the fight for a more sustainable New York City," said Councilmember Shekar Krishnan, the chair of the Committee on Parks and Recreation. "The organization deserves a stable home, as soon as possible so they can continue their service to Queens. NYC Parks, Sanitation - let's do the right thing and figure this out."

Big Reuse recently launched a letter-writing campaign to push against the plan, submitting over 2,500 signatures to Parks Commissioner Sue Donoghue.

Community boards and other environmental groups have joined in supporting Big Reuse.

"With the overwhelming support of residents, elected officials, and community organizations it makes no sense to evict our composting site to create an unnecessary parking lot for 3 storage containers and a couple vehicles," said Justin Green the executive director of Big Reuse. "Big Reuse has composted Parks waste under the Queensboro Bridge for over a decade - making compost to improve the degraded soils in Parks, community gardens, and street gardens. Our composting site should be considered an essential part of Parks and the City's sustainability efforts. Climate change is accelerating - we need to prioritize sustainability over parking."

The composting site has been open since 2014, and composts the Parks Department's leaf and yard waste, as well as residential food scraps. Annually, it produces 700 yards of compost for Queens' parks.

## 'The Cubes' open at Socrates Sculpture Park

By Ryan Schwach  
Queens Daily Eagle

Socrates Sculpture Park in Long Island City opened up a unique administrative space made up of storage containers over the weekend.

The space will be the first NYC Parks Department facility for Socrates, and is designed by the architecture firm LOT-EK. Known as "The Cubes," the infrastructure allows the park to expand programming year-round with new opportunities for visitors, educators, artists and local communities.

The \$5.7 million construction project began with the donation of a shipping container studio from the Whitney Museum of American Art in 2014.

The finished building is more than 2,600 square feet, and is 2-stories tall.

It will be used to provide space for public programming, as well as office space for Socrates staff.

"This is a transformative moment for Socrates Sculpture Park - we've never had a permanent building inside the Park before," said Ivana Mestrovic, the board president of Socrates Sculpture Park. "It really cements our place in New York history from landfill to a sustainable site for art and culture."

Officials and park advocates said it was a big



"The Cubes" opened as a new administrative building at Socrates Sculpture Park.

Photo by Kamila Harris

step for the well known Western Queens park.

"Socrates Sculpture Park is one of Queens' crown jewels, and it's great to see them expand with their new building, The Cubes," said Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, who spoke at the Ribbon Cutting. "With this new building, Socrates Sculpture Park will continue to serve the community with even more artwork and educational programming for our kids and adults to enjoy year-round."

Socrates has become a cultural anchor in Queens, operating both as public open space and a venue for art and culture in Queens.

"Socrates Sculpture Park has evolved over the years but remains rooted in the vision of those who transformed it into a unique public space for all to enjoy," said Community Board 1 Chair Evie Hantzopolous. "The Cubes are a wonderful addition to this treasured cultural asset in our community."

PUBLISHERS:

Michael Nussbaum J.D. Hasty  
Michael@queenspublicmedia.com Jdh@queenspublicmedia.com

MANAGING EDITOR

Jacob Kaye  
Jacobk@queenspublicmedia.com

COURTHOUSE EDITOR

Rob Abruzzese  
Rabruzzo@brooklyneagle.com

REPORTER

Ryan Schwach  
Ryans@queenspublicmedia.com

LEGAL ADVERTISING MANAGER

Gina Osnovich  
Legals@queenspublicmedia.com

SALES ASSOCIATE

Nadia Hack  
Nadia@queenspublicmedia.com

INTERN

Lauren Berardi  
Lauren@queenspublicmedia.com

QUEENS  
Daily Eagle

Is published daily except Saturdays, Sundays and Federal Holidays by Queens Public Media, 8900 Sutphin Blvd., Lower Suite, LL11, Jamaica, Queens, NY 11435. Subscription price is \$130 per year, \$65 for six months. Periodicals Postage paid at Brooklyn, NY. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Daily Eagle, Circulation Office, 195 Montague Street, Suite 1414, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Tel: 718-422-7402 Legal Advertising. 718-422-7409 Editorial.

# Choose the newspaper you want sent to your home – or your computer.

Dear Readers,  
During Pandemic, with limited opportunities to pick up our newspapers, we offered and sent print editions in a digital format to you.

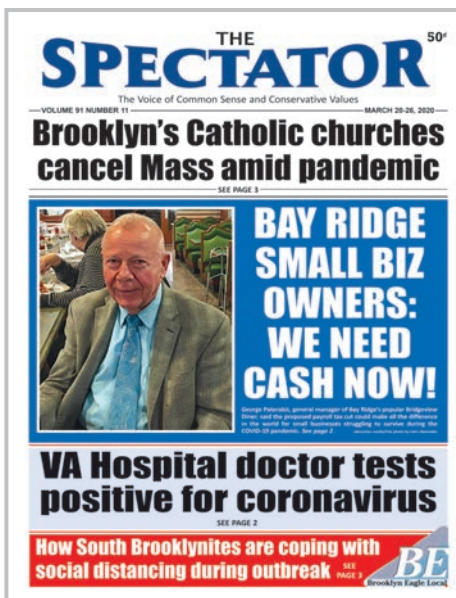
Now we can mail hard copies to your homes and business if you prefer. Please send your request to receive copies to Jen Hopewell ([jdh@brooklyneagle.com](mailto:jdh@brooklyneagle.com)); please specify if you would like digital version of print editions sent to you as well.

Our newspapers, collectively and continuously, have been publishing for more than 600 years when you add up all the local news service. The HEIGHTS PRESS, BROOKLYN RECORD, and the SPECTATOR have been publishing since the 1930s; the HOME REPORTER since the 1950s and the PHOENIX, and the GAZETTE since the 1970s.

BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE, of course, goes back to 1841.

We hope you will support our efforts in local journalism.

Jen Hopewell,  
Assistant to the Publisher  
[jdh@brooklyneagle.com](mailto:jdh@brooklyneagle.com)



# Ten years after historic NYCHA agreement, there's still work to do

By Hasani Gittens and Greg B. Smith  
THE CITY

On a September day in 2021, Blanca Ramos was relaxing in her meticulously decorated living room in Manhattan's Jacob Riis Houses, under a wall plaque that reads "Grateful Hearts Gather Here." Suddenly, something occurred that might test one's ability to remain grateful.

There was a resounding crash in her kitchen. She rushed in to see what happened and beheld that the wall cabinets containing her dishes had crashed to the ground. More specifically, they had simply fallen off a wall that was soaked through by a water leak that she'd been complaining to the New York City Housing Authority about for a year.

The now-barren wall was crawling with black mold.

Frustrated by the lack of action, she called the Ombudsperson Call Center (OCC), which was set up in 2020 as part of a court-monitored consent decree known as the Baez agreement that required NYCHA to confront the plague of toxic mold in so many of its aging apartments. With the ombudsperson on Ramos' case, the housing authority began the process of finally fixing the underlying problem that had caused the kitchen calamity — a chronically leaky pipe.

That December, NYCHA trade workers took out the sink, opened up the wall and patched up the pipe. By mid-January they'd replastered the wall and installed a new sink and cabinets. The leak was gone.

"That's only because I was calling the OCC and OCC was calling them and telling them to come in and do the job," she said, making clear her gratitude for the help. "I've heard of people being out a sink for a year, two years. So that was a quick job because of the ombudsperson."

Last week marked the 10th anniversary of the day a federal judge approved the unprecedented Baez agreement that saw NYCHA committing in writing for the first time to aggressively remedy the pervasive mold scourge that for decades had endangered the lives of thousands of public housing residents.

The Baez litigation is the only case in recent history that imposed court oversight on the nation's biggest public housing authority, an agency that houses 450,000 residents in 176,000 apartments across 2,400 buildings — most of which were built before 1970.

Ten years in, Baez has clearly transformed NYCHA's broken system for responding to mold and water leak repair requests. A once faltering and uncoordinated response to confronting these complaints has vastly improved. NYCHA officials say new water leak and mold repair requests have dropped by 50%, and 6,200 non-functioning roof fans that were supposed to combat moisture buildup that causes mold have been put back in

service.

This did not happen overnight and it didn't come for free. From the start of the consent decree on April 17, 2014 through October 2023, the city housing authority spent more than \$15 million on lawyers and experts in the case, according to records obtained by THE CITY through a Freedom of Information Law request.

That includes \$8.6 million just to hire a tech expert, Stout Risius Ross LLC, \$2.6 million for a mold remediation expert, Microecologies Inc., plus nearly \$2 million for two outside law firms — Herzfeld Rubin and Paul Weiss — hired by NYCHA to represent the authority's interests. NYCHA also paid about \$720,000 to law firms representing the plaintiffs, although most of that work was handled by the firm Proskauer Rose pro bono.

## 'We're Not Going to Stop Climbing'

The group of churches organized by the housing advocates Metro Industrial Areas Foundation filed the lawsuit 10 years ago. They say the agreement forced NYCHA to clean up mold for 30,000 families and fix non-functioning ventilation systems for 64,000 residents.

"Ten years of the Baez consent decree has demonstrated one critical thing: progress is possible in public housing, but only when NYCHA and all the other relevant parties take effective action," said the Rev. Francis Skelly of Immaculate Conception Church in the South Bronx.

Skelly in particular singled out the work of the ombudsperson Ramos relied on to get her apartment repaired.

But he and Metro IAF also note that while there have been many wins, the backlog of unresolved mold and leak requests has more than doubled from 35,000 in late 2019 to nearly 77,000 as of this month. The average number of days to complete a mold work order is now 266, compared to 38 days in October 2019, according to NYCHA records.

Under the terms of the settlement, NYCHA agreed to complete mold and leak work orders that require simple repairs within seven days, while work orders that need more complex repairs would be done within 15 days.

As of Jan. 31, NYCHA has done well with the simple repairs: 97% are now completed within seven days. Complex repairs, however, did not fare as well: Only 31% get completed within the required 15 days.

"We feel like we're about 3,000 feet up the mountain, but the mountain is 20,000 feet tall," Skelly said. "We're not going to stop climbing until we get to the top. Public housing has to be a decent place for all of the residents to call home."

The battle to conquer mold has been difficult in part because it's not a simple problem and it has potentially dire effects on tenants — particularly



Jacob Riis Houses tenant Blanca Ramos shows where a kitchen cabinet fell from her wall after a water leak. April 15, 2024.  
Credit: Greg Smith/THE CITY

tenants with asthma and other respiratory issues who have struggled for years to get NYCHA to properly clean up their homes.

Typically, it would take months and sometimes years for NYCHA to address specific requests, and almost always officials — confronting an overwhelming backlog of repair orders — would perform quick-fix cleanups and call the repair closed. This tactic failed to address underlying issues that triggered the mold (usually leaking water pipes) and gave the problem an element of *déjà vu*: mold would return days after a "fixup" and the process would start all over again.

The authority did not have an organized approach to this problem, the remedy for which usually involved multiple trades workers — plumbers, plasterers, painters — whose efforts had to be carefully coordinated. And thousands of roof fans that were supposed to draw moisture out of bathrooms and kitchens no longer functioned by the early 2000s, while the ducts to which those fans were connected were clogged with years of debris that rendered them useless.

When Metro IAF filed suit, it argued that the Housing Authority's failure to address the scourge of mold amounted to a violation of the federal Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

## More Money and Effort Needed

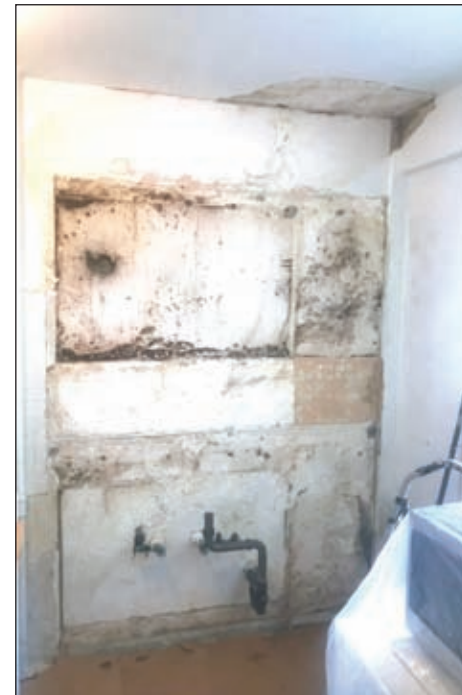
The lawsuit's namesake lead plaintiff was Maribel Baez, a resident of Melrose Houses in The Bronx. She took three medications to deal with asthma and lived in an apartment with a bathroom that had no window. For six years, she says, she complained about a water leak behind the wall that was causing mold to build up in her bathroom. In 2012, she says, NYCHA staff came to her apartment, replaced the bathroom walls with finished wallboard, but did nothing to plug the leak behind the wall. As a result, mold returned in a month. Soon after, Baez began her new role as lead plaintiff in what would become the first court-monitored oversight of NYCHA.

On April 17, 2014, Manhattan Federal Judge William Pauley III approved the decree to settle the suit, committing NYCHA to adopting reforms to ensure mold cleanups that were both efficient and effective. Until all promised fixes were complete, a federal judge would now be watching and enforcing the agreement.

Not surprisingly, NYCHA didn't come close to meeting the goals of this agreement. As the decree neared its expiration date, the average time to complete repairs still exceeded 25 days and the rate of mold recurring in "repaired" apartments remained at nearly 50%.

In 2018 Judge Pauley ordered both sides to "confer and formulate a concrete and realistic plan," and in April 2018 a rewrite emerged. NYCHA was still required to reduce the recurrence rate to zero and meet strict time requirements for repairs set by the original agreement, but now new stakeholders entered the equation.

NYCHA hired Microecologies, a mold remediation expert, and Stout, a tech specialist, to track the effectiveness of the repairs. And for the first time, tenants got their own lobbyist to directly push NYCHA — César de Castro, the ombudsperson appointed by the court.



Jacob Riis Houses tenant Blanca Ramos says her kitchen wall was covered in mold after a water leak.  
Credit: Courtesy of Blanca Ramos

Since taking the role, de Castro has assisted thousands of families seeking help by directly pressuring NYCHA to address specific cases and staying on top of public housing bureaucrats throughout the process until the job was done.

That was what happened with Ramos when her kitchen cabinet crashed in the fall of 2021.

Ramos, 66, had lived in the Riis Houses in the East Village for 42 years. She and her husband raised five children in the three-bedroom overlooking the East River and the FDR Drive. In September 2020, after NYCHA had temporarily suspended all but emergency repairs because of the pandemic, she says she heard what she thought was a water pouring down behind the wall between her bathroom and her kitchen.

A NYCHA worker came, opened up the wall, said he checked and didn't see a leak. He taped a plastic cover over the hole in her wall and left. But Ramos says she could still hear the sound of water, so her husband removed the plastic and shone his phone light inside. Sure enough, there was a hole in a pipe that emitted a steady stream of water, she says.

She put in a second request, but before NYCHA could respond she said the electrical outlet in her bathroom — which is located next to the leaky pipe — began shooting sparks then shorted out. This time she called the fire department.

The FDNY came, shut off the power, removed the outlet and pledged to contact NYCHA about what had happened.

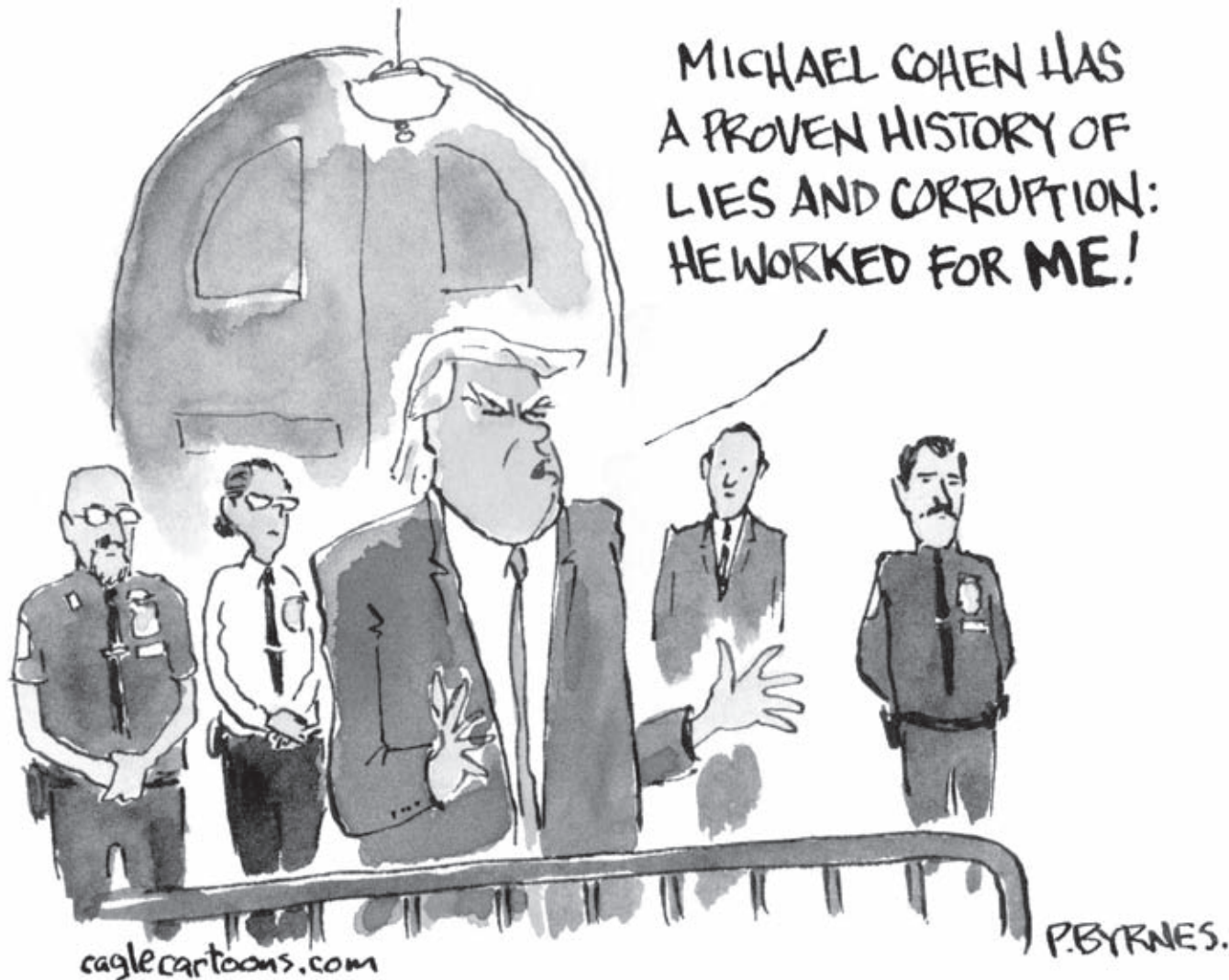
"If you don't call the cops, if you don't call the fire department, you don't call the elected officials, nothing gets done," Ramos said.

THE CITY is an independent, nonprofit news outlet dedicated to hard-hitting reporting that serves the people of New York.



The Jacob Riis Houses in the East Village, Sept. 7, 2020.  
Credit: John Penney/Shutterstock

# What I Teach Harvard Law School Students About Opening Arguments in the Courtroom



By **Ronald L. Sullivan Jr.**  
The Conversation

Though Hollywood movies about courtroom dramas often glamorize the closing arguments given by lawyers, in reality the opening statement is likely the most important single event of a trial.

Lawyers in the hush money case involving former President Donald Trump and alleged payments to porn star Stormy Daniels presented their opening statements on April 22, 2024, in New York.

In this case, Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg charged the former president with 34 felony

counts of falsifying business records as part of an effort to influence voters' knowledge about him before the 2016 presidential election. Trump entered a plea of not guilty.

Academic psychologists tell us that between 65% and 75% of jurors make up their minds about a case after the opening statement. What's even more incredible is that 85% of those jurors maintain the position they formed after the opening statement once all evidence is received and the trial is closed.

More often than not, it is too late by closing arguments to win over the jury.

This phenomenon comes as no surprise to veteran trial lawyers. They are aware of two theories that define how jurors — indeed, people generally — process information: the concepts of primacy and recency.

These ideas suggest that jurors best remember what they hear first and what they hear last. It is vitally important, then, for lawyers on both sides to start their opening arguments with a bang.

### The psychology of jurors

I have taught a course on trial advocacy for the past two decades at the Harvard Law School.

Part of my curriculum is to teach budding lawyers how to deliver effective opening statements.

If the idea is to win over the jury by the end of the lawyer's opening statement, how, in practice, is that done?

Trial lawyers steeped in the research know that juries respond to a well-considered theory of the case, punctuated by a pithy theme.

A theory of the case is a brief, three- to five-sentence statement akin to what is known as an "elevator pitch." The theme is a short, pithy summary of the theory of the case that is easy for a juror to remember. Often the theme is the first sentence out of the lawyer's mouth, followed by a fuller description of the theory.

Indeed, in my class at Harvard, the very first skill I teach is how to develop theories and themes. In order to effectively convey a theory in a case, many lawyers start their opening statements with "This is a case about ..." and then fill in the specific details.

For example, the prosecution in a murder case may start their opening like this:

"Members of the jury, this is a case about the death of an innocent young woman, witnessed by concerned citizens, who all identify the only person with a motive to kill her, the defendant."

In stark contrast, the defense might start with something that is the complete opposite of the prosecution's opening statement:

"Members of the jury, this is a case about a jealous ex-lover who shot a woman in cold blood, fled the country and left my client to take the fall."

In each example, the jury is given enough information to frame the evidence they will hear throughout the trial.

After both sides have finished their openings, data shows that more than two-thirds of the jury will have come to a decision that will persist through the remainder of the trial.

### Why do juries tend to behave this way?

Research also has taught trial lawyers that if you connect the jury with your theory of a case, at the beginning of the trial, jurors will process all the rest of the evidence — whether potentially helpful to the prosecution or to the defense — through the prism of that theory.

The importance of opening statements cannot be overstated. They set the tone and offer the jury a framework to understand the upcoming months of testimony they are about to hear.

Ronald L. Sullivan Jr. is a professor of law at Harvard University.





# QUEENS Daily Eagle

For Legal Advertising in the  
Queens Daily Eagle  
and assistance filing notices

Contact Gina Osnovich, Legal Advertising Manager  
[Legals@queenspublicmedia.com](mailto:Legals@queenspublicmedia.com)



# LET US TELL YOUR STORY

*We can even reach backseat multi-taskers*



**Effective ad campaigns for  
Less than you spend on coffee.**

Contact us about seasonal promotions **online** and in **print**.

Ask for a consultation:

**BROOKLYN:**  
[jdh@eagleurbanmedia.com](mailto:jdh@eagleurbanmedia.com)

**QUEENS:**  
[jdh@queenspublicmedia.com](mailto:jdh@queenspublicmedia.com)

## There's a New Kind Of Love at Brooklyn International High School

By Andy Furman  
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Paul Allen is in love — with Cricket. Surprised? Well, so was he.

"I played football at Ohio State University," the cricket coach at Brooklyn's International High School told the Eagle the other day in a phone conversation. "I walked on that team," he continued, "and was a starting kicker for a month."

The 60-year-old Allen started his career at Brooklyn International in 1998. "I was there for the first graduating class," he said, "The school opened in '94."

And he took over coaching the cricket team in 2010. "I knew absolutely nothing about the sport when I started," he said, "Now, it's my favorite."

Allen says Lorna Austin, Bassett Thompson and Ricky Kissoon were the founders of PSAL cricket back in 2008. "It is because of them, students in New York City have been able to play interscholastic cricket for 16 years," Allen said.

Austin serves as administration executive assistant for the New York City School system, and Thompson and Kissoon are cricket commissioner and assistant cricket commissioner, respectively.

In 2009 Brooklyn International joined the PSAL Cricket program through the efforts of Scott Jackson, recalls Allen. "He (Jackson) was a longtime humanities teacher at the school," Allen said.

Paul Allen, the physical education instructor, took over as coach — and on three different occasions brought the Buckeyes to the PSAL semifinals.

"If we qualify for the playoffs this year, I will consider it a successful season. We have some good players and a lot of enthusiasm, but probably not enough talent to get to another semifinal," the coach noted.

Most of the International squad has been comprised of students from Bangladesh and, to a lesser extent, Pakistan, says Allen.

In fact, Brooklyn International High School at 49 Flatbush Avenue Extension is comprised of immigrants, and English is a second language for the students. "You must be in the country four years or less to qualify for admission to International," Allen said.

The mission of Brooklyn International High School is to help English Language Learners (ELLs) develop their language, intellectual, cultural and collaborative abilities so that they may become active participants in today's independent world.

"We strive to help every student reach his or her potential by fostering academic growth, personal growth and tolerance," are the words on the school's mission/web-site.

Students at BIHS come from over 30 different countries — Mexico, Yemen, Haiti, Iraq, Tibet, Ecuador, Uzbekistan and China. More than 30 different languages are spoken at the school, including French, Urdu, Polish, Fulani, Bengali, Haitian, Creole and Hindi.

"Our current captains are M.D. 'Mahi' Hussan and Zohaib Hassan," the coach said. "They're assisted a great deal by M.D. Khalid, who will likely captain the team next spring."

In cricket, the captain sets the batting order, decides who bowls and when and where to place the fielders.

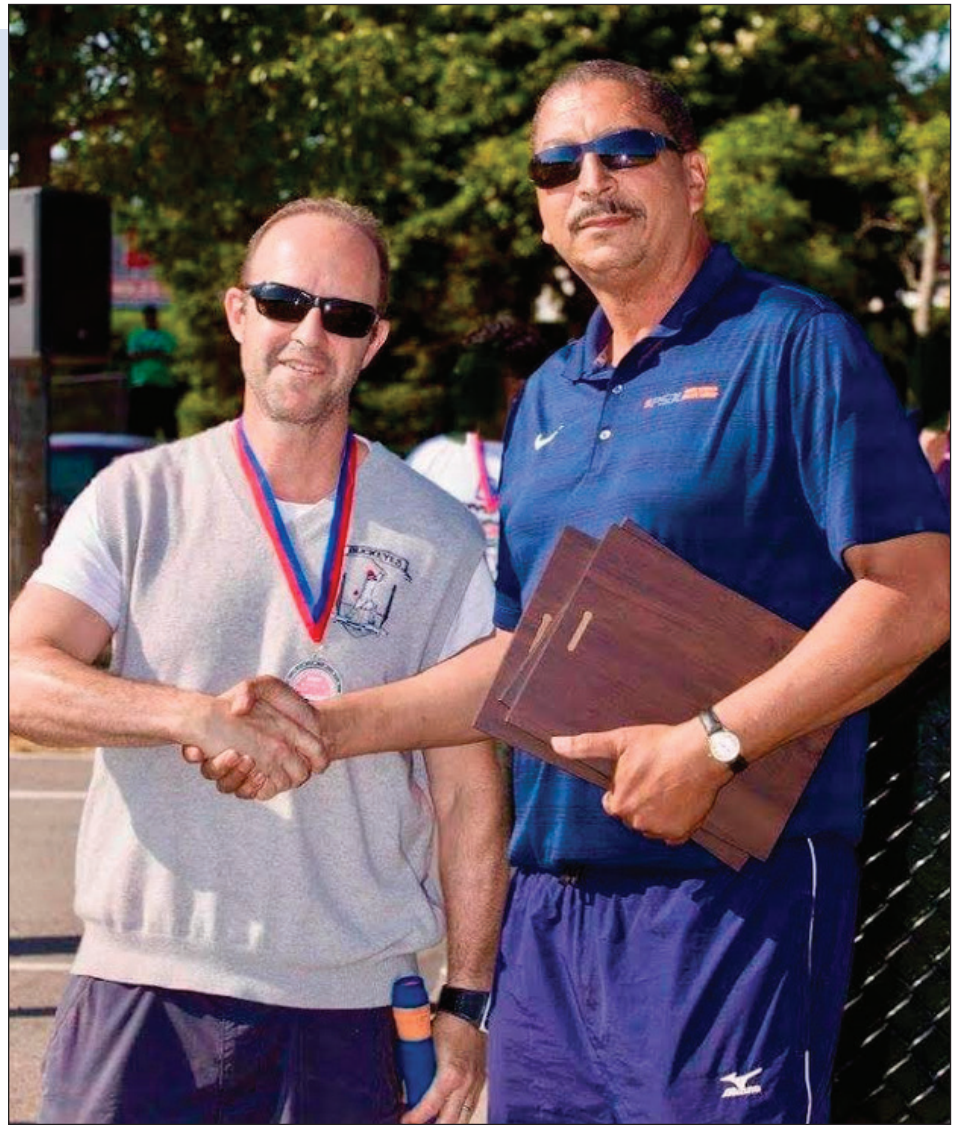
The PSAL cricket season takes place in the spring, with a 10-12 match schedule. Brooklyn International plays its home matches at Marine Park, and the coach says the students usually practice indoors. The team equipment, he noted, is supplied by the school — that would include gloves; bats; protection; leg pads, and ankle, thigh and hip pads. The catcher is the only participant to wear a glove in cricket.

BIHS boasts 11 or 12 members on its roster, and Allen says almost all are Bengali. "We have one Asian and one African on the team," he said.

PSAL cricket is coed — but BIHS has no girls on their roster. "We've never had a girl on the roster," Allen said, "But we've played teams with girls."

Those teams in Brooklyn I-A include Brooklyn Tech, FDR, Franklin K. Lane, and BIHS. Brooklyn A-II include: Transit Tech High School, Medgar Evers College Preparatory School, Midwood and Prospect Heights Campus.

John Adams High School (Queens) has won the most PSAL cricket championships, followed by Long Island City and Richmond Hill. FDR is the only non-



Paul Allen, Brooklyn International High School cricket coach, left, and Bassett Thompson, PSAL cricket commissioner. Photos courtesy of Andy Furman

Queens team to ever win a title.

The PSAL plays a form of cricket known as T20. This means that both teams have 20 overs each to bat their 11 players. Each over consists of six balls. "So," Allen says, "in theory, each team should face 120 balls in a T20 match."

Cricket is a bat-and-ball game — the ball is hard, like a baseball, but with a different seam down the middle. It is played between two teams of 11 players on a field, at the center of which is a 22-yard pitch with a wicket at each end, each comprising two bails balanced on three stumps. Two players from the batting team — the striker and non-striker — stand in front of either wicket, with one player from the fielding team — the bowler — bowling the ball towards the striker's wicket from the opposite end of the pitch.

The striker's goal is to hit the bowled ball and then switch places with the non-striker, with the batting team scoring one run for each exchange. Runs are also scored when the ball reaches or crosses

the boundary of the field or when the ball is bowled illegally. When 10 batters have been dismissed by their fielding team, the innings end and the teams swap roles.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) T20 World Cup will be played in the U.S. and the West Indies, June 3-12. The PSAL has arranged with the ICC to have 124 PSAL-cricket playing athletes participate as flag bearers for the matches taking place in New York City.

This will be the first ICC event taking place in the United States and will occur across three venues — the brand new 34,000-seat Nassau County International Stadium, the renovated Grand Prairie Cricket Stadium in Dallas and the Broward County Stadium in Lauderhill.

And Paul Allen will love every minute. Andy Furman is a Fox Sports Radio national talk show host. Previously, he was a scholastic sports columnist for the Brooklyn Eagle. He may be reached at: andyf@brooklyneagle.com Twitter@AndyFurmanFSR



In front of the Brooklyn approach to the Manhattan Bridge (left to right): M.D. "Mahi" Hussan (vice captain), Zohaib Hassan (captain) and M.D. Khalid.



9th and 10th graders, left-right: Abdullah Mamun, Mahbulul Tonmoy and M.D. Yaqin Lazmin.





# Our World In Pictures

**LAHORE — No age limits on solidarity against airstrikes:** Supporters of the religious party Jamaat-e-Islami take part in a rally against Israeli airstrikes on Gaza and to show solidarity with the Palestinians, in Lahore, Pakistan, Saturday, April 20, 2024. Photo: K.M. Chaudary/AP



**GERMANY — Running and hugging, scoring and hugging, falling and hugging — why can't war be like this?** Leverkusen's Granit Xhaka, left, is embraced by Jonathan Tah as the team celebrates after Josip Staniscic scored in the last minute during the German Bundesliga soccer match between Borussia Dortmund and Bayer Leverkusen in Dortmund, Germany, Sunday, April 21, 2024. The match ended 1-1, Leverkusen is unbeaten since a record of 45 matches. Photo: Martin Meissner/AP



**CHINA — Determined to build a stronger navy, and to tell the world about it:** Chinese sailors sit in rows during a tour arranged for foreign journalists, a day before the opening of the West Pacific Naval Symposium in Qingdao in eastern China's Shandong province, Sunday, April 21, 2024. Established in 1953, the Academy has trained more than 100,000 naval officers and sailors for the Chinese Navy and more than 80 percent of submarine staff graduate or were trained there, according to China's official People's Daily. Photo: Ng Han Guan/AP



**CHATTANOOGA — An emotional issue — growth of a union in the South:** Volkswagen automobile plant employee Vicky Holloway becomes emotional as she celebrates after employees voted to join the UAW union Friday, April 19, 2024, in Chattanooga, TN. Photo: George Walker IV/AP



# Our World In Pictures

**UKRAINE — Life goes on in war-torn homes and villages:** Olga Bezborodova calms her 20-month-old son, Mykola, in her home, which has no electricity, in the village of Rubizhne, Kharkiv region, Ukraine, on Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

Photo: Evgeniy Maloletka/AP



**THE WOODLANDS — Man-made lake and a sport, welcoming women:** Nelly Korda jumps into the lake after winning the Chevron Championship LPGA golf tournament Sunday, April 21, 2024, at The Club at Carlton Woods in The Woodlands, Texas. Photo: David J. Phillip/AP



**MOSCOW — Harking back to Russia's transformative military history:** Two men in Russian Cossack uniforms pose for a selfie after visiting the Mausoleum of the Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin marking the 154th anniversary of his birth in Red Square, with the Historical Museum in the background in Moscow, Russia, Monday, April 22, 2024.

Photo: Alexander Zemlianichenko/AP



**MUMBAI — Earth Day or Trash Day, how can we tell?** A man walks on a railway track littered with plastic and other waste materials on Earth Day in Mumbai, India, Monday, April 22, 2024. This year's Earth Day is focusing on the threat that plastics pose to our environment. Photo: Rafiq Maqbool/AP

LANDSCAPING & TREE SERVICES

## TREE SERVICE

- Tree Removal
- Planting
- Stumps
- Land Clearing
- Fertilization
- Topping

FREE ESTIMATES  
Lic./Ins.

**FRANCISCO'S TREE SERVICE**  
O: (516) 546-4971 | C: (516) 852-5415

## MARIO'S

### PAINTING & PLASTERING

#### INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

SHEETROCK • TILEWORK • TAPING  
WALLPAPER (INSTALL & REMOVE)  
HOME IMPROVEMENT  
BEST PRICES - 30 YEARS EXP.  
FREE ESTIMATES - NEAT & RELIABLE

**347- 423-6252**  
Lic#: 1467349

**QUEENS Daily Eagle**

For Legal Advertising in the Queens Daily Eagle and assistance filing notices  
Contact Gina Ong, Legal Advertising Manager  
Legals@queenspublicmedia.com

718-422-7402  
For name changes, contact Kat Ramus:  
917-597-6232

## Daniel's Roofing

### All Work Guaranteed!

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED 4 GENERATIONS  
FLAT ROOF & SHINGLE ROOF SPECIALISTS




**Special 15% OFF New Roofs**

- All Types of New Roofs
- Roof Repairs
- Roof Sealing
- Firestone Rubber
- GAF Asphalt Shingles
- Brick Sealing
- Leaf Guards/Pest Guards
- Seamless Gutter
- Gutter Cleaning
- Masonry Repairs
- Waterproofing
- Basement Waterproofing

LICENSED / INSURED / BONDED

Senior Discount Find us on: 

FREE ESTIMATES  
1-800-667-7658 • 917-204-2906  
danielroofingnyc.com  
SERVING ALL OF QUEENS



## BEHIND THE BENCH

The Eagle will devote even more coverage to the court officers, law clerks and other workers who make our courts run.

Have someone in mind who deserves a profile? Let us know who we should be covering. Contact managing editor Jacob Kaye at JacobK@queenspublicmedia.com

## WE SPECIALIZE IN STAINLESS STEEL LINING SYSTEMS

### Always Affordable Chimney Inc.

We do more than just sweep chimneys!

- Stainless Steel Chimney Relining Systems
- Stainless Steel Caps
- Tuck Pointing (replacing the mortar between bricks)
- Expert Masonry Repairs
- Cleaning Fireplace and Furnace Flues
- Level I, II and III Chimney Inspections
- Chimney Caps Supplied and Installed
- Violations Corrected
- 24 Hour Emergency Service

Full Camera Inspections

**10% OFF ALL BRICK WORK ON CHIMNEY HOUSING**  
MENTION AD FOR DISCOUNT

MUST MENTION THIS AD WHEN SCHEDULING YOUR APPOINTMENT TO HONOR THIS PRICING

**BOILER FLUE CLEANING**  
Starting at \*\$99 for residential; call for commercial quotes

**FIREPLACE CLEANING**  
Starting at \$299

81 East Cedar Street • Maspeth, NY 11758  
855-244-6880 • 516-830-0166  
www.alwaysaffordablechimney.com  
Fully Licensed & Insured



## Manhattan Roofing

### ALL TYPES OF ROOFS

- Roofing & Waterproofing
- Repair on Flat Roofs
- Brick Pointing & Repair
- Rubber Roof Installation
- Leak Detection & Repair
- Thorocoat Waterproof Coating
- Silicone Roofing Systems Installation
- Installation & Repair of Shingle Roofs
- Repair & Roof Coating of All Types
- Skylight & Hatch Replacement

Our company is a family owned and operated company. We stand by all our work and strive to give you the job your hard-earned money has paid for. All our work backed by warranties and your satisfaction is guaranteed.

A+ Better Business Bureau Rating  
**20% OFF with this ad**  
Call for FREE Estimates Today!

Licensed | Bonded | Insured  
718.489.4044 | 800.590.1309

manhattanroofs.com  
FIND US ON: 

NYC HIC Lic# 2034648

447 Broadway, 2nd FL #264, New York, NY 10013  
67-43 Myrtle Ave, Glendale, NY 11385

## NEW HEIGHTS CONSTRUCTION LLC

### GET READY FOR SPRING!



### SIDING, ROOFING & WINDOWS

Waterproofing, Gutters, Soffit & Fascia Repair, and more!

### FENCES, DECKS & AWNINGS

Wood Cedar, PVC, Stainless Steel, Chain Link, Pressure Treated & Composite Decking

### KITCHEN & BATH

Complete Renovation And Remodeling, Expert Tile, Granite & Quartz

### MASONRY WORK

Concrete Sidewalk Violation, Porches, Brick & Granite, Steps Paver Stones, Brick Pointing, Stucco, etc.

### INTERIOR FLOORING & PAINTING

SOPHIE SAYS GIVE US A CALL AND ASK FOR BIG JOHN FOR PERSONALIZED SERVICE & BEST PRICES  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED (VISA, AMEX, DISCOVER, MASTERCARD)

**CALL 917-642-0195**  
800-525-5102 • 718-767-0044  
NewHeightsConstructionNYC@gmail.com  
NEWHEIGHTSCONSTRUCTIONLLC.com  
NYC Lic# 1191201

## QUEENS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

### ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL DINNER AND INSTALLATION OF THE 2024-2025 OFFICERS & MANAGERS

at  
Terrace on the Park • Flushing, NY

**Wednesday, May 22, 2024**

Installation of Officers and Managers

<b>ZENITH T. TAYLOR</b>	<b>PRESIDENT</b>
<b>KRISTEN J. DUBOWSKI BARBA</b>	<b>PRESIDENT-ELECT</b>
<b>JOSHUA R. KATZ</b>	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>
<b>JOEL SERRANO</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>
<b>HAMID M. SIDDIQUI</b>	<b>SECRETARY</b>

<b>Class of 2025</b> Frank Bruno, Jr. Etan Hakimi Sharifa Milena Nasser Tammi D. Pere A. Camila Popin	<b>Class of 2026</b> Desiree Claudio Ruben Davidoff Mark L. Hankin Adam Moses Orlov Estelle J. Roond	<b>Class of 2027</b> Michael D. Abneri Beverly Benjamin-George Janet L. Brown Sydney A. Spinner Jasmine I. Valle
--	---	---

**INSTALLING OFFICER:**  
**HON. ROWAN D. WILSON**  
CHIEF JUDGE  
NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS

Cocktails: 5:30 pm • Dinner & Program: 7:00 pm  
Business Attire

Reservations: \$190 per person  
Early Reservations: \$165 per person through May 12  
\$135 per person for QCBA members admitted to practice 4 years or less (through May 12)  
Same Day Reservations: \$225 per person (day of dinner or at the door)  
Kosher meals available if registered by May 19 (\$25 additional)

**QUEENS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**  
88-14 Sutphin Blvd, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Jamaica, NY 11435 • 718-291-4500 • WWW.QCBA.ORG • CLE@QCBA.ORG

PRESIDENT: Michael D. Abneri, Esq.  
ACADEMY OF LAW DEAN: Michael D. Abneri, Esq.  
ASSOCIATE DEANS: Kristen J. Dubowski Barba, Esq. • Non. Darrell L. Gavin • Leslie S. Nizin, Esq. • Violet E. Samuels, Esq. • Hamid M. Siddiqui, Esq.


2024 Academy of Law Program, presented by  
**MyLS MYLEGALSOFTWARE**

Professional Ethics Committee presents a ZOOM CLE

## ANNUAL ETHICS UPDATE 2024

A REVIEW OF KEY CASES AND ETHICS OPINIONS

**PART 1 - Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**PART 2 - Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

Sponsored by:  
**DAVIDOFF LAW** 

WE ARE YOUR LAWYERS **PSR PYRROS, SERRES & RUPWANI WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

PROGRAM: This comprehensive four credit program will address recent developments concerning a broad range of ethics-related issues including attorney-client privilege and confidentiality obligations; conflicts of interests; attorney fees and third-party funding agreements; attorney sanctions and misconduct issues; ethics and the criminal law practitioner; and social media implications for attorneys.

 ANDREA E. BONINA, ESQ.	 EUGENE GORMAKH, ESQ.	 CLIFFORD S. ROBERT, ESQ.	 MICHAEL S. ROSS, ESQ.	 Moderator: RICHARD M. GUTIERREZ, ESQ.
---	---	---	--	---

CLE CREDIT: 3.0 Ethics and \*1.0 Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection-Ethics  
\*This 1.0 in Cybersecurity Ethics may count toward your Ethics and Professionalism requirement.  
Transitional Course - Valid for All Attorneys. ACCREDITATION: QCBA has been certified by the NYS CLE Board as an Accredited CLE Provider in NYS 109022 - 109025.

QCBA Member - \$25 (both sessions) Non-Member - \$75 (both sessions)  
Must Register & Pay by May 6<sup>th</sup> to receive access. No Refunds/credits if registration is not canceled by May 6, 2024.  
[qcba.org/event-5551517](http://qcba.org/event-5551517) or EMAIL: [CLE@QCBA.ORG](mailto:CLE@QCBA.ORG)

# Columbia cancels in-person classes as demonstrations sprout on US campuses to protest Israel war

By Nick Perry and David Collins  
Associated Press

Columbia University canceled in-person classes on Monday and new demonstrations broke out on other U.S. college campuses as tensions continue to grow over Israel's war in Gaza.

Police arrested several dozen protesters at Yale University on Monday morning after officials at the New Haven, Connecticut, school said they defied warnings over the weekend to leave.

And following arrests last week at Columbia, pro-Palestinian demonstrators set up encampments on other campuses around the country, including at the University of Michigan, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of North Carolina.

The developments came hours before the Monday evening start of the Jewish holiday of Passover.

Last week, police arrested more than 100 pro-Palestinian demonstrators at Columbia who had set up an encampment on the New York City campus.

On Sunday, a rabbi at Columbia sent a WhatsApp message to more than 200 Jewish students, urging them to leave the New York City campus if they did not feel safe.

Columbia President Minouche Shafik said in a note addressed to the school community Monday that she was "deeply saddened" by what was happening on campus.

"To deescalate the rancor and give us all a chance to consider next steps, I am announcing that all classes will be held virtually on Monday," Shafik said.

She said faculty and staff should work remotely, when possible, and that students who don't live on campus should stay away.

Shafik said the Middle East conflict is terrible



New York City police in riot gear stand guard outside the Columbia University campus after clearing the campus of protesters, April 18, 2024, in New York. Columbia University canceled in-person classes Monday, April 22, 2024 and police arrested several dozen protesters at Yale University as tensions on U.S. college campuses continue to grow over the war in the Middle East.  
AP Photo/Mary Altaffer, file

and that she understands that many are experiencing deep moral distress.

"But we cannot have one group dictate terms and attempt to disrupt important milestones like graduation to advance their point of view," Shafik wrote.

Over the coming days, a working group of deans, school administrators and faculty will try to find a resolution to the university crisis, not-

ed Shafik, who didn't say when in-person classes would resume.

Several students at Columbia and Barnard College said they were suspended for taking part in last week's protests, including Barnard student Isra Hirsi, the daughter of Democratic U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar.

At Yale, police officers arrested about 45 protesters and charged them with misdemeanor

trespassing, said Officer Christian Bruckhart, a New Haven police spokesperson. All were being released on promises to appear in court later, he said.

Protesters set up tents on Beinecke Plaza on Friday and demonstrated over the weekend, calling on Yale to end any investments in defense companies that do business with Israel.

In a statement to the campus community on Sunday, Yale President Peter Salovey said university officials had spoken to the student protesters multiple times about the school's policies and guidelines, including those regarding speech and allowing access to campus spaces.

"Putting up structures, defying the directives of university officials, staying in campus spaces past allowed times, and other acts that violate university policies and guidelines create safety hazards and impede the work of our university," he said.

School officials said they spoke with protesters over several hours and gave them until the end of the weekend to leave Beinecke Plaza. The said they again warned protesters Monday morning and told them that they could face arrest and discipline, including suspension, before police moved in.

A large group of demonstrators regathered after Monday's arrests at Yale and blocked a street near campus, said Bruckhart, the police spokesperson. There were no reports of any violence or injuries.

Last week, the University of Southern California took the unusual step of canceling a planned commencement speech by its 2024 valedictorian, who had publicly supported Palestinians. The university cited security concerns in a decision that was praised by some pro-Israel groups but criticized by free-speech advocates.

## Supreme Court will take up the legal fight over ghost guns, firearms without serial numbers

By Mark Sherman  
Associated Press

The Supreme Court agreed on Monday to take up a Biden administration appeal over the regulation of difficult-to-trace ghost guns that had been struck down by lower courts.

The justices by a 5-4 vote had previously intervened to keep the regulation in effect during the legal fight. Ghost guns, which lack serial numbers, have been turning up at crime scenes with increasing regularity.

The regulation, which took effect in 2022, changed the definition of a firearm under federal law to include unfinished parts, like the frame of a handgun or the receiver of a long gun, so they can be tracked more easily. Those parts must be licensed and include serial numbers. Manufacturers must also run background checks before a sale, as they do with other commercially made firearms.

The requirement applies regardless of how the firearm was made, meaning it includes ghost guns made from individual parts or kits or by 3D printers. The rule does not prohibit people from buying a kit or any type of firearm.

The Justice Department had told the court that local law enforcement agencies seized more than 19,000 ghost guns at crime scenes in 2021, a more than tenfold increase in just five years.

U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor, in Fort Worth, Texas, struck down the rule last year, concluding that it exceeded the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' authority. O'Connor wrote that the definition of a firearm in federal law does not cover all the parts of a gun. Congress could change the law, he wrote.

A panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals made up of three appointees of then-President Donald Trump largely upheld O'Connor's ruling.

The Supreme Court allowed the regulation to remain in effect while the lawsuit continues. Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Amy Coney Barrett joined with the court's three liberal members to form the majority. Justices Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Clarence Thomas would have kept the regulation on hold during the appeals process.

Barrett, Gorsuch and Kavanaugh were appointed by Trump.

Arguments won't take place before the fall.



The Supreme Court of the United States is seen in Washington, March 26, 2024. The Supreme Court is hearing arguments this week with profound legal and political consequences: whether former President Donald Trump is immune from prosecution in a federal case charging him with plotting to overturn the results of the 2020 election.  
AP Photo/Amanda Andrade-Rhoades, File

**THE NETWORK OF BAR LEADERS**

Michael Kohan, Esq. *The Network of Bar Leaders*  
President *Cordially Invites You to Attend its annual*

*Awards Reception & Dinner*

**TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024**  
**6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.**  
*\*please note new start time\**

**The Harvard Club, Harvard Hall**  
**35 West 44th Street, New York, New York 10036**

CO-SPONSORED BY THE NEW ROCHELLE  
BAR ASSOCIATION

◆

Judge Harold Baer, Jr. Award to be presented to  
**Hon. Joseph A. Zayas**  
Chief Administrative Judge for the State of New York

◆

Presidents' Award to be presented to  
**Hon. Hilary Gingold**  
Surrogate, New York County

**Black Tie Optional**

# 2ND DEPARTMENT / PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICES

## NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN HOME MORTGAGE INVESTMENT TRUST 2007-A, -AGAINST- FAZAL M HAFEEZ, ET AL. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURSUANT TO A FINAL JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE ENTERED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNTY OF QUEENS ON OCTOBER 31, 2023, WHEREIN DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN HOME MORTGAGE INVESTMENT TRUST 2007-A IS THE PLAINTIFF AND FAZAL M HAFEEZ, ET AL. ARE THE DEFENDANT(S). I, THE UNDERSIGNED REFEREE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION RAIN OR SHINE ON THE COURTHOUSE STEPS OF THE QUEENS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 88-11 SUTPHIN BLVD., JAMAICA, NY 11435, ON MAY 17, 2024 AT 12:00PM, PREMISES KNOWN AS 103-24 FARMERS BOULEVARD, JAMAICA, NY 11433; AND THE FOLLOWING TAX MAP IDENTIFICATION: 10368-57. ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH AND COUNTY OF QUEENS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK PREMISES WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO PROVISIONS OF FILED JUDGMENT INDEX NO.: 711107/2015. STEPHEN D. HANS, ESQ. - REFEREE. ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC 900 MERCHANTS CONCOURSE, SUITE 310, WESTBURY, NEW YORK 11590, ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF. ALL FORECLOSURE SALES WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COVID-19 GUIDELINES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASK WEARING. \*LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

#216413

## PROBATE CITATION

FILE NO. 2019-3339 SURROGATE'S COURT- QUEENS COUNTY CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD FREE AND INDEPENDENT TO: ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS WHOSE NAMES OR PARTS OF WHOSE NAMES, AND WHOSE PLACE OR PLACES OF RESIDENCE ARE UNKNOWN, AND CANNOT, AFTER DILIGENT INQUIRY BE ASCERTAINED, DISTRIBUTEES, HEIRS AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN OF SAID DECEASED, AND IF ANY OF SAID DISTRIBUTEES, HEIRS AT LAW OR NEXT OF KIN OF DECEASED, BE DEAD, THEIR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES, THEIR HUSBANDS OR WIVES, IF ANY, DISTRIBUTEES AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST WHOSE NAMES AND/OR PLACES OF RESIDENCE AND POST OFFICE ADDRESSES ARE UNKNOWN A PETITION HAVING BE DULY FILED BY SAMUDRA NARAIWAR, WHO IS DO-

MICILED AT 187 BEACH 61ST STREET, ARVERNE, NEW YORK 11692 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE BEFORE THE SURROGATE'S COURT, QUEENS COUNTY, AT 88-11 SUTPHIN BLVD., JAMAICA, NEW YORK, ON APRIL 25, 2024, AT 9:30 O'CLOCK IN THE FORENOON OF THAT DAY, WHY A DECREE SHOULD NOT BE MADE IN THE ESTATE OF HAROLD HASSELBUSCH A/K/A HAROLD E. HASSELBUSCH, JR., LATELY DOMICILED AT 144-21 68TH DRIVE, FLUSHING, NEW YORK 11367, ADMITTING TO PROBATE A WILL DATED JULY 6, 2016, A COPY OF WHICH IS ATTACHED AS THE WILL OF HAROLD HASSELBUSCH, DECEASED, RELATING TO REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY, AND DIRECTING THAT LETTERS TESTAMENTARY ISSUE TO: SAMUDRA NARAIWAR DATED, ATTESTED AND SEALED MARCH 4, 2024 HON. PETER J. KELLY SURROGATE JANET EDWARDS TUCKER, CHIEF CLERK ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER: JOHN NAPOLITANO, ESQ. 94-09 101 AVENUE, OZONE PARK, NY 11416 (718) 845-3070 MELJOHN922@AOL.COM [NOTE: THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPEAR. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IT WILL BE ASSUMED YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY APPEAR FOR YOU.]

#216346

## SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF QUEENS NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND CUSTODIAN, PLAINTIFFS, -AGAINST- DAVID SINGH, IF LIVING, AND IF HE/SHE BE DEAD, HIS/HER REPRESENTATIVE HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST, AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS HAVING OR CLAIMING UNDER, BY OR THROUGH SAID DEFENDANTS WHO MAY BE DECEASED, BY PURCHASE, INHERITANCE, LIEN OR OTHERWISE, ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE AMENDED COMPLAINT HEREIN, DAVID PERSAUD, QUEENS SUPREME COURT, CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, CITY OF NEW YORK PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU, CITY OF NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD, NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION & FINANCE, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, "JOHN DOE NO. 1" THROUGH "JOHN DOE NO. 100" INCLUSIVE, THE NAMES OF THE LAST 100 DEFENDANTS BEING UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, IT BEING INTENDED TO DESIGNATE FEE OWNERS, TENANTS OR OCCUPANTS OF THE TAX LIEN PREMISES AND/OR PERSONS OR PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING AN INTER-

EST IN OR A LIEN UPON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, IF THE AFORESAID INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS ARE LIVING, AND IF ANY OR ALL OF SAID INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS BE DEAD, THEIR HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, AND THE ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST OF THEM, AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS HAVING OR CLAIMING UNDER, BY, THROUGH, OR AGAINST THE SAID DEFENDANTS NAMED AS A CLASS, OF ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN, DEFENDANTS.

INDEX NO. 716000/2019 DATE OF FILING: 3/27/2024 PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS COUNTY AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL. VENUE IS BASED UPON COUNTY IN WHICH PREMISES ARE SITUATED. SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS TAX LIEN FORECLOSURE BLOCK: 11859; LOT: 47 A/K/A 135-24 126 STREET TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ANSWER THE COMPLAINT IN THIS ACTION AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER, OR, IF THE COMPLAINT IS NOT SERVED WITH THIS SUMMONS, TO SERVE A NOTICE OF APPEARANCE, ON THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY(S) WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS AFTER THE SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE (OR WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE SERVICE IS COMPLETE IF THIS SUMMONS IS NOT PERSONALLY DELIVERED TO YOU WITHIN THE STATE OF NEW YORK); AND IN CASE OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR ANSWER, JUDGMENT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT OF THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION IS TO FORECLOSE THE FOLLOWING TAX LIENS: A TAX LIEN IN THE ORIGINAL TAX LIEN PRINCIPAL BALANCE OF \$29,548.09 WITH INTEREST AS DESCRIBED IN A CERTAIN TAX LIEN CERTIFICATE DATED AUGUST 15, 2013 AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS, COUNTY OF QUEENS, ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 IN CITY REGISTER FILE NUMBER ("CRFN") 2013000371680, WHICH WAS ASSIGNED BY TAX LIEN CERTIFICATE ASSIGNMENT DATED MAY 31, 2015 AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS, COUNTY OF QUEENS, ON JUNE 17, 2015 IN CRFN 2015000207551 (THE "2013 TAX LIEN"); A TAX LIEN IN THE ORIGINAL TAX LIEN PRINCIPAL BALANCE OF \$2,509.58 WITH INTEREST AS DESCRIBED IN A CERTAIN TAX LIEN CERTIFICATE DATED AUGUST 13, 2014 AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS, COUNTY OF QUEENS, ON AUGUST 20, 2014 IN CRFN 2014000278035,

WHICH WAS ASSIGNED BY TAX LIEN CERTIFICATE ASSIGNMENT DATED APRIL 30, 2016 AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS, COUNTY OF QUEENS, ON MAY 11, 2016 IN CRFN 2016000162669 (THE "2014 TAX LIEN"); AND A TAX LIEN IN THE ORIGINAL TAX LIEN PRINCIPAL BALANCE OF \$22,321.89 WITH INTEREST AS DESCRIBED IN A CERTAIN TAX LIEN CERTIFICATE DATED AUGUST 12, 2015 AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS, COUNTY OF QUEENS, ON AUGUST 25, 2015 IN CRFN 2015000295054, WHICH WAS ASSIGNED BY TAX LIEN CERTIFICATE ASSIGNMENT DATED DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY REGISTER FOR THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS, COUNTY OF QUEENS, ON JANUARY 23, 2018 IN CRFN 2018000025608 (THE "2015 TAX LIEN") UPON THE PREMISES DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ADDRESS: 135-24 126 STREET BLOCK: 11859 LOT: 47 COUNTY: QUEENS THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE WITHIN ACTION IS A FINAL JUDGMENT DIRECTING THE SALE OF THE PREMISES DESCRIBED ABOVE TO SATISFY THE DEBT SECURED BY THE TAX LIENS DESCRIBED ABOVE. PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS COUNTY AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL. VENUE IS BASED UPON THE COUNTY WHERE THE PROPERTY BEING FORECLOSED UPON IS LOCATED. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU MAY LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO THE PLAINTIFF WILL NOT STOP THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: NEW YORK, NEW YORK MARCH 27, 2024 THE LAW OFFICE OF THOMAS P. MALONE, PLLC BY: THOMAS P. MALONE, ESQ. ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS 60 EAST 42ND STREET, SUITE 553 NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10165 PH: (212) 867-0500 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: THE FOREGOING SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS IS SERVED UPON YOU BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE COURT DATED MARCH 12, 2024 AND FILED ALONG WITH THE SUPPORTING PAPERS IN THE QUEENS COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.

#217078

# Wall Street climbs to kick off a big week for earnings reports

By Stan Choe  
Associated Press

U.S. stocks climbed Monday and clawed back a chunk of their losses from last week, which was the worst for the S&P 500 in more than a year.

The S&P 500 rose 0.9% to recover more than a quarter of last week's rout. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 253 points, or 0.7%, and the Nasdaq composite jumped 1.1%.

The rally was widespread, and most stocks across Wall Street rose. In the S&P 500, technology stocks led the way to bounce back from their worst week since the COVID crash of 2020.

Nvidia leaped 4.4%, and Alphabet climbed 1.4% as Treasury yields stabilized in the bond market. Last week, a jump in yields cranked up the pressure on stocks, particularly those seen as the most expensive and making their investors wait the longest for big growth.

Bank stocks were also strong following some encouraging profit reports. Truist Financial rallied 3.4% after its profit for the start of the year topped analysts' expectations.

They helped offset a 3.4% drop for Tesla, which announced more cuts to prices over the weekend. Elon Musk's electric-vehicle company has seen its stock drop more than 40% already this year, and it will report its first-quarter results on Tuesday.

It's a big week for earnings reports generally, with roughly 30% of the companies in the S&P 500 scheduled to say how much they made during the year's first three months. That includes companies that have come to be known as part of the "Magnificent Seven," beyond Tesla and Alphabet. This handful of companies was responsible for the majority of the S&P 500's big gain last year, raising the bar of expectations for them to justify their stock prices.

Analysts believe those seven stocks saw growth in their earnings per share slow to 39% as a group from 63% at the end of last year, according to strategists at Bank of America. This past quarter may also have marked the trough for earnings declines among the other 493 companies in the index.

The difference in growth between the Magnificent Seven and the rest of the S&P 500 should close by the end of the year, strategists Ohsung Kwon and Savita Subramanian said in a BofA Global Research Report.

Verizon Communications helped kick off this week's reports by disclosing a drop in profit that wasn't as bad as analysts expected. It cited price increases and other measures to support its revenue. Verizon's stock swung from

an early gain to a loss of 4.7% after it reported weaker revenue for the first quarter than expected and kept its forecast for full-year profit the same.

All told, the S&P 500 rose 43.37 points to 5,010.60. The Dow gained 253.58 to 38,239.98, and the Nasdaq jumped 169.30 to 15,451.31.

Even more pressure than usual is on companies broadly to deliver fatter profits and revenue. That's because the other big factor that sets stock prices, interest rates, looks unlikely to offer much help in the near term.

Top officials at the Federal Reserve warned last week that they may need to keep interest rates high for a while in order to ensure inflation is heading down to their 2% target. That was a big letdown for financial markets, dousing hopes that had built after the Fed signaled earlier that three interest-rate cuts may come this year.

Lower rates had appeared to be on the horizon after inflation cooled sharply last year. But a string of reports this year showing inflation has remained hotter than expected has raised worries about stalled progress.

Worries about "sticky" inflation are one of the reasons strategists at Stifel are encouraging investors to stay cautious.

Stocks generally look more expensive, in part because of a frenzy on Wall Street around anything related to artificial-intelligence technology. Some analysts are suggesting stock prices could keep steaming ahead as the mania around AI builds even higher, but Stifel's Barry Bannister and Thomas Carroll point to signs that "the speculative fever would break" for tech, including a possible top for the price of bitcoin. They suggest caution well into the year's third quarter, which stretches from July through September.

Bitcoin remains below its peak set a month ago, but it rose Monday.

In the bond market, the yield on the 10-year Treasury eased to 4.61% from 4.63% late Friday. The two-year Treasury yield, which moves more closely with expectations for the Fed, slipped to 4.97% from 4.99%.

In markets abroad, stocks rose 1.8% in Hong Kong but fell 0.7% in Shanghai after the People's Bank of China kept its 1-year and 5-year loan prime rates unchanged. The Chinese central bank is waiting to see if more stimulus is needed after the world's second-largest economy expanded at a faster-than-expected rate in the first three months of the year, according to analysts.

Stock indexes were higher across much of the rest of Asia and Europe.

# 2ND DEPARTMENT / New Business Formations

## WIN 946 7TH AVENUE CAPITAL LLC

WIN 946 7TH AVENUE CAPITAL LLC. FILED 1/31/2024. OFFICE: QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 35-20 LEVERICH STREET, UNIT B522, JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY 11372. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#215879

## LIC TB LLC

LIC TB LLC, ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH THE SSNY ON 03/11/2024. OFFICE LOC: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: THE LLC, 40-09 21ST STREET, UNIT E, LONG ISLAND CITY, NY 11101. REG AGENT: SUHAIL SITAF, 3 WINDSOR DRIVE, OLD WESTBURY, NY 11568. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#216178

## JJ42E LLC

JJ42E LLC ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY ON 3/28/2024. OFF. LOC.: QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGT.

UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: THE LLC, 133-10 39TH AVE, FLUSHING, NY 11354. GENERAL PURPOSES.

#216358

## RENARI AM LLC

RENARI AM LLC, ART. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY 12/26/2017. OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT FOR PROCESS. SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS TO: C/O ROBINSON BROG LEINWAND GREENE GENOVESE & GLUCK, P.C., ATTN: CHARLES MCKEEN, ESQ., 875 3RD AVE., 9TH FL., NY, NY 10022. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACT OR ACTIVITY.

#216582

## RENARI NM LLC

RENARI NM LLC, ART. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY 12/26/2017. OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT FOR PROCESS. SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS TO: C/O ROBINSON BROG LEINWAND GREENE GENOVESE & GLUCK, P.C., ATTN: CHARLES MCKEEN, ESQ., 875 3RD AVE., 9TH FL., NY, NY 10022. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACT

OR ACTIVITY.

#216583

## ROOTED PSYCHOTHERAPY, MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PLLC

ROOTED PSYCHOTHERAPY, MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PLLC FILED ARTS. OF ORG. WITH THE SECT'Y OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 3/18/2024. OFFICE: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED AND SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: C/O THE PLLC, 675 136TH ST, APT A, FLUSHING, NY 11367. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACT.

#216821

## ASF INTERNATIONAL LLC

ASF INTERNATIONAL LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH THE SSNY ON 03/07/24. OFFICE: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO THE LLC, C/O KHANDKER AHNAF ABRAR, 169-24 HILLSIDE AVENUE, FL2 SUITE 3, JAMAICA, NY 11432. PURPOSE: ANY

#217111

LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#217094

## JACKSON AVENUE BAGELS LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF JACKSON AVENUE BAGELS LLC APPL. FOR AUTH. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/08/24. OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN DELAWARE (DE) ON 04/04/24. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO C/O CORPORATION SERVICE CO., 80 STATE ST., ALBANY, NY 12207-2543. DE ADDR. OF LLC: 251 LITTLE FALLS DR., WILMINGTON, DE 19808. CERT. OF FORM. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE, DIV. OF CORPS., JOHN G. TOWNSEND BLDG., 401 FEDERAL ST. - STE. 4, DOVER, DE 19901. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY.

To Place a legal ad contact Gina Osnovich,  
legal advertising manager at [Legals@queenspublicmedia.com](mailto:Legals@queenspublicmedia.com)

# Key takeaways from the opening statements in Donald Trump's hush money trial

By Alanna Durkin Richer, Jennifer Peltz  
and Michael R. Sisak  
Associated Press

Monday's opening statements in the first criminal trial of a former American president provided a clear roadmap of how prosecutors will try to make the case that Donald Trump broke the law, and how the defense plans to fight the charges on multiple fronts.

Lawyers presented dueling narratives as jurors got their first glimpse into the prosecution accusing Trump of falsifying business records as part of a scheme to squelch negative stories about him during his 2016 presidential campaign.

Still to come are weeks of what's likely to be dramatic and embarrassing testimony about the presumptive Republican presidential nominee's personal life as he simultaneously campaigns to return to the White House in November.

Here's a look at some key takeaways from opening statements:

## ELECTION FRAUD VS. 'BOOKKEEPING' CASE

Trump is charged with 34 counts of falsifying internal Trump Organization business records. But prosecutors made clear they do not want jurors to view this as a routine paper case. Prosecutor Matthew Colangelo said the heart of the case is a scheme to "corrupt" the 2016 election by silencing people who were about to come forward with embarrassing stories Trump feared would hurt his campaign.

"No politician wants bad press," Colangelo said. "But the evidence at trial will show that this was not spin or communications strategy. This was a planned, long-running conspiracy to influence the 2016 election, to help Donald Trump get elected through illegal expenditures to silence people who had something bad to say about his behavior." He added: "It was election fraud, pure and simple."

The business records charges stem from things like invoices and checks that were deemed legal expenses in Trump Organization records when prosecutors say they were really reimbursements to former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen for a \$130,000 hush money payment to porn actor Stormy Daniels. Daniels was threatening to go public with claims she had an extramarital sexual encounter with Trump. He says it never happened.

Prosecutors' characterizations appear designed to combat suggestions by some pundits that the case — perhaps the only one that will go to trial before the November election — isn't as serious as the other three prosecutions he's facing. Those cases accuse Trump of trying to overturn the 2020 election he lost to President Joe Biden and illegally retaining classified documents after he left the White House.

Trump, meanwhile, sought to downplay the accusations while leaving the courtroom on Monday, calling it all a "bookkeeping" case and "a very minor thing." But he, too, has said it's all about an election — the one this November. Trump has repeatedly claimed that the case is part of a sweeping Democratic attempt to harm his chances at reclaiming the presidency.

## TRUMP'S DEFENSE COMES INTO VIEW

Trump's attorney used his opening statement to attack the case as baseless, saying the former president did nothing illegal.

The attorney, Todd Blanche, challenged prosecutors' claim that Trump agreed to pay Daniels to aid his campaign, saying Trump was trying to "protect his family, his reputation and his brand."

Blanche indicated the defense will argue that after all the very point of a presidential campaign is to try to influence an election.

"It's called democracy," Blanche told jurors. "They put something sinister on this idea, as if it's a crime. You'll learn it's not."

Blanche also portrayed the ledger entries at issue in the case as pro forma actions performed by a Trump Organization employee. Trump "had nothing to do with" the allegedly false business records, "except that he signed the checks, in the White House, while he was running the country," Blanche said. And he argued that the records' references to legal expenses weren't false, since Cohen was Trump's personal lawyer at the time.

## PROSECUTORS AIM TO PUT TRUMP AT THE CENTER

The 34 counts in the indictment are related to the payment to Daniels. But prosecutors plan to introduce evidence about a payoff to another woman — former Playboy model Karen McDougal — who claimed a sexual encounter with Trump, as well as to a Trump Tower doorman who claimed to have a story about Trump having a child out of wedlock. Trump says they were all lies.

Prosecutors said they will show Trump was at the center of the scheme to silence the women, telling jurors they will hear Trump in his voice talking about the plan to pay McDougal. Cohen arranged for the publisher of the National Enquirer supermarket tabloid to pay McDougal \$150,000 but not print the story in a practice known as "catch-and-kill."

Colangelo told jurors that prosecutors will play for them a recording Cohen secretly made during a meeting with Trump



Republican presidential candidate and former President Donald Trump speaks outside the Manhattan Criminal Court in his trial for allegedly covering up hush money payments linked to extramarital affairs in New York on Monday, April 22, 2024. Angela Weiss/Pool Photo via AP

weeks before the 2016 election. In the recording, which first became public in 2018, Trump is heard saying: "What do we get to pay for this? One-fifty?"

Trump "desperately did not want this information about Karen McDougal to become public because he was worried about its effect on the election," Colangelo said.

## COHEN'S CREDIBILITY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The defense's opening statement previewed what will be a key strategy of the defense: trying to discredit Cohen, a Trump loyalist turned critic and expected star witness for the prosecution. Cohen pleaded guilty to federal charges related to the hush money payments in 2018 and served prison time.

Whether jurors believe Cohen, who says he arranged the payments to the women at Trump's direction, could make or break the case for Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg's office.

Trump's lawyer highlighted Cohen's criminal record, describing him as a serial liar who turned against Trump after he was not given a job in the administration and found himself in legal trouble. Blanche said Cohen's "entire financial livelihood depends on President Trump's destruction," noting he hosts podcasts and has written books bashing his ex-boss.

"He has a goal and an obsession with getting Trump," Blanche said. "I submit to you that he cannot be trusted."

Anticipating the defense attacks on Cohen, the prosecution promised to be upfront about the "mistakes" the former Trump attorney has made. But Colangelo said "you can credit Michael Cohen's testimony" despite his past.

"I suspect the defense will go to great lengths to get you to reject his testimony precisely because it is so damning," the prosecutor said.

## BUT UP FIRST: DAVID PECKER

Former National Enquirer publisher David Pecker is the first witness for prosecutors, who say that Trump's alleged scheme to conceal potentially damaging information from voters began with a 2015 Trump Tower meeting among the then-candidate, Pecker and Cohen. Pecker took the witness stand Monday before court broke for the day and his testimony is expected to continue Tuesday.

At the meeting, Pecker — a longtime Trump friend — agreed to aid Trump's campaign by running favorable pieces about him, smearing his opponents, scouting unflattering stories about him and flagging them to Cohen for "catch-and-kill" deals. Those included the claims made by Daniels, McDougal and the former Trump Tower doorman, Dino Sajudin, prosecutors say. Trump says all were false.

Pecker will likely be asked about all the alleged efforts made by the Enquirer's then-owner, American Media Inc., on Trump's behalf. Federal prosecutors agreed in 2018 not to prosecute American Media in exchange for its cooperation in a campaign finance investigation that led to Cohen's guilty plea, and the Federal Election Commission fined the company \$187,500, calling

the McDougal deal a "prohibited corporate in-kind contribution."

Pecker's brief turn on the stand Monday was mainly just about his background and other basic facts, though he did say the Enquirer practiced "checkbook journalism" — paying for stories — and that he had the final say on any story about a famous person.

## 'THE DEFENDANT' OR 'PRESIDENT TRUMP'

The prosecutor referred to Trump during his opening statement as "the defendant." Trump's lawyer took a different tack, calling him "President Trump."

"We will call him President Trump, out of respect for the office that he held," Blanche said. At the same time, Trump's lawyer sought to portray Trump as an everyman, describing him as a husband, father and fellow New Yorker.

"He's, in some ways, larger than life. But he's also here in this courtroom, doing what any of us would do: defending himself," Blanche said.

Trump sat quietly while listening to opening statements, occasionally passing notes to his lawyers and whispering in their ears. But outside of the courtroom, he continued his pattern of trying to capitalize politically on the case that will require him to spend his days in a courtroom rather than on the campaign trail.

"This is what they're trying to take me off the trail for. Checks being paid to a lawyer," Trump said.

## 2ND DEPARTMENT / NEW BUSINESS FORMATIONS

### 11106

#### METAMARTIAL LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: METAMARTIAL LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 4/5/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS XSAVIER DANIELS 31-62 33RD STREET, ASTORIA, NY, 11106. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#217050

### 12207

#### SHEFFIELDERS LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: SHEFFIELDERS LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 1/26/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS ZENBUSINESS INC. 41 STATE STREET, SUITE 112 ALBANY, NY, 12207. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#215855

# Schools Chancellor David Banks to Testify On U.S. House Hearing on Antisemitism

By Michael Eisen-Rooney  
Chalkbeat

New York City schools Chancellor David Banks will testify at a U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce hearing on antisemitism next month, he told reporters Thursday.

Banks said that he received a letter from the committee, which conducted high-profile hearings last year with the presidents of elite colleges, asking him to testify at a May 8 hearing under the threat of subpoena.

The committee, chaired by North Carolina Republican Virginia Foxx, also invited two other school districts that Banks declined to name. A spokesperson for the committee confirmed Banks was invited but didn't immediately provide other information about the hearing.

"We look forward to joining the committee and sharing how New York City Public Schools continue to deliver an environment of tolerance and respect for the largest and most diverse school district in the nation," Banks said at a Thursday roundtable with reporters.

The nation's largest school system, like districts across the country, has dealt with a surge in tensions following Hamas's Oct.

7 attack on Israel and Israel's subsequent bombardment of the Gaza Strip.

The city's Education Department is currently under investigation by the federal Education Department for its response to incidents of antisemitism and Islamophobia.

Hillcrest High School in Queens, Banks' alma mater, made national news in November after students staged a raucous protest calling for the ouster of a teacher who posted a picture of herself on social media holding a sign that read "I Stand With Israel."

Banks condemned the protest and said several students were disciplined for their part in the affair. But he stressed that many teens at the school, which has a large Muslim population, were seeing images on social media "on a daily basis" of "children and young people in Palestine ... being blown up" and struggling to cope with their grief and anger. He vowed to turn the incident into a "teaching moment" and ultimately replaced the school's principal.

Staff at Origins High School in southern Brooklyn recently alleged that rampant antisemitism from students was going unchecked by administrators — an accusation that city Education Department offi-



New York City schools Chancellor David Banks was summoned to testify at a U.S. House of Representatives hearing on antisemitism. Lev Radin/Pacific Press via Getty Images



Origins High School, at the former Sheepshead Bay High School campus on Avenue X. Google Maps photo

cially strongly disputed.

In January, following complaints from some students and educators about a lack of opportunities to talk productively about the Israel-Hamas war in school, Banks committed to offering new training for school leaders on holding difficult conversations and responding to incidents of bias and discrimination.

On Thursday, as he reflected on the city's response to the tumult in schools around the Israel-Hamas war, Banks said "I wouldn't say that I'm proud of what we've done."

But "I think we've done what we're supposed to do," he said.

The war has stirred up "all kinds of

emotions in kids as well as adults, and we've got to manage all of that. For an entire system, that is not easy to do," he added. "But I believe that our team has demonstrated a level of leadership that I am more than willing to be at the table and to express what we have done."

The House committee that Banks will appear before made headlines in December for a marathon hearing with the presidents of Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, spawning viral clips of representatives grilling the administrators on their definitions of and policies for antisemitism on campus. Two of those presidents subsequently resigned.



Pro-Israel demonstrators sing a song during a protest at Columbia University, Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023, in New York.

AP Photo/Yuki Iwamura, File

# How ‘Good Cause’ could give some tenants new leases and lower rent

By Rachel Holliday Smith  
THE CITY

State legislators have approved a slew of new rules that will give some New York City tenants more rights to stay in their apartments, and limit how much landlords can raise the rent in eligible apartments.

The “good cause” policy is a historic change for the city’s housing market, one that follows in the footsteps of other, similar rent rules recently adopted in California, Oregon and Washington and being seriously considered in Connecticut now.

But in New York’s version, there are a lot of exceptions — and the devil (and your lease’s future) is in the details.

THE CITY spoke to real estate attorneys, tenant advocates and housing experts to tease out what renters should know about New York’s new policies:

## What are the ‘good cause’ rules Albany just passed?

Through the state budget-making process, lawmakers at the capital approved new rules over the weekend that would cap rent increases for some New York apartments and force landlords to offer tenants new leases — unless they have a solid reason not to.

In other words, landlords have to have a good cause for not renewing a tenant’s lease. Some of those causes include non-payment of rent, illegal behavior, if an owner is trying to change the use of an apartment from residential to another purpose (like commercial space), or when an owner wants to demolish a building.

The policy takes effect immediately for the five boroughs. It is also set to expire in just 10 years, in 2034.

These policies cover New York City automatically, but will not take effect in towns and cities elsewhere in the state unless those municipalities opt into them. So, places like Beacon, Newburgh, Albany and Kingston — which all have previously voted for their own local good cause rules — will have to proactively adopt the latest policies from the statehouse.

## How is this going to limit rent increases?

Get your calculator out. If your apartment is eligible, rent increase regulations will work like this: Your landlord can raise the rent up to 5% plus the consumer price index (CPI) ... or a flat 10% depending on which number is lower.

Let’s break that down further: The CPI is a measure of the weighted, average prices for goods and services in the U.S., set by the federal Bureau of Labor statistics.

So, if the CPI is 3.5%, your landlord could raise your rent by 3.5%, plus 5%, which equals 8.5%.

That would be the percentage increase for your next lease because it equals less than 10%, the other rent increase option laid out in the new law.

However, if there’s a future year where the CPI rises to 5% or higher, that’s when the 10% would become the option landlords must take.

Big exceptions: buildings that won’t have to follow ‘good cause.’

The new law applies only to certain apartment buildings, with lots of carve-outs. All of these are exempt: Any newly constructed building since 2009. Newly built rentals are exempt for 30 years. Any luxury apartments for rent above \$5,846 for a studio, \$6,005 for a one-bedroom, \$6,742 for a two-bedroom and \$8,413 for a three-bedroom. Any apartments in buildings with 10 or fewer units where the landlord lives there. All rentals in condos and coop buildings. All rentals that are income-restricted affordable housing, for example, all units marketed and rented through the NYC Housing Connect lottery. All rent-stabilized and rent-controlled units, which have their own rules limiting rent increases and guaranteeing lease renewals. Any apartments in building portfolios that have 10 units or fewer. That means that if your landlord owns three buildings with three units in each building, the portfolio has nine units total, making all nine apartments exempt from the new law. But if they buy one more building with three units, that will put their total at 12 and make all their apartments eligible for good cause.



Affordable housing advocates marched through Lower Manhattan, demanding an end to corporate tax breaks and the passage of good cause eviction laws, April 21, 2022.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY



Manhattan apartment buildings along East 110th Street, July 31, 2023.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY

## How many apartments will be covered under the new rules?

No one knows for sure, and it’s really hard to estimate. According to an analysis by City Limits, hundreds of thousands of units will be exempt under the 10-apartment-or-fewer portfolio rule alone.

Oksana Mironova, a housing analyst at the nonprofit Community Service Society, estimates between 321,000 and 473,000 apartments will be eligible under the new good cause rules. That’s compared to 2,324,000 renter-occupied homes in New York City overall, 1,020,000 of which are already rent-stabilized or rent-controlled, according to the Rent Guidelines Board’s every-three-year Housing and Vacancy Survey.

To her, the critical piece of this is how the Albany law defines “landlord,” which will shape how to define a portfolio.

“‘What is a landlord?’ is the key question in this situation. Do they mean a natural person? Do they mean a corporation, an LLC?” Mironova said, referring to limited liability corporations. “Is the LLC the landlord, or is it the actual company that owns 10,000 LLCs across New York City?”

Often, larger real estate companies will create separate LLCs for each of their properties, and since LLCs records are still shielded from public view, finding out the true owner is notoriously challenging.

## How do I know if this will affect my building?

It’s going to be hard to know, especially if your landlord owns multiple buildings. But if you live in a non-coop or condo building that was built before 2009 and has more than 10 units chances are high you’ll be eligible.



Bronx Housing Court on the Grand Concourse.

Credit: Alex Krales/THE CITY

## What happens if my landlord ignores the new rules?

The way the law is created, the responsibility will be on tenants to assert their rights by taking their landlord to court if they don’t follow the new rules.

For example: If you think you’re in a good cause-eligible apartment, but your landlord refuses to give you a new lease, or jacks your rent up 20%, you now have the right to contest that decision in Housing Court.

“All it is is a defense a tenant can use in Housing Court. Only tenants who are brave enough to say ‘No, I will not leave, I will not pay that.’” said longtime tenant advocate Michael McKee of TenantsPAC. “The way it’s structured, the burden is on the tenant to prove the apartment is not exempt. The way they’re drafting it, landlords can just say ‘I’m exempt.’”

That will likely mean more cases in Housing Court, which is already swamped, noted real estate attorney Alexander Lycoyannis, of Holland & Knight, who has written arguments against “good cause” legislation.

“There are going to be more disputes and more requirements for the landlords to follow. And when you have more requirements and more potential flashpoints, you’re going to have more litigation. And we’re going to have that at a point where the Housing Court is already overworked and already slow,” he said.

THE CITY is an independent, nonprofit news outlet dedicated to hard-hitting reporting that serves the people of New York.



# IOLA fund swept of \$55 mil, angering New York's legal community

Continued from page 1

Jacob Inwald, the director of litigation-economic justice at Legal Services NYC, a contractor with the HOPP program, said that while he was grateful for the funding to HOPP, he and his organization were "deeply concerned that [Hochul] only agreed to fund the program at the expense of low-income New Yorkers."

"We cannot rob Peter to pay Paul and celebrate it as a win for all New Yorkers," Inwald said. "Nor should we use IOLA as a slush fund or as a way to avoid spending state funds on HOPP which keeps thousands of struggling homeowners in their homes each year."

The IOLA fund is not composed of taxpayer dollars. Instead, the fund is made up of cash earned through private interest and being held in attorney escrow accounts. The interest is derived from client cash being held by attorneys to pay for court fees, settlements and other legal costs.

Because of its funding source, the money that goes into IOLA fluctuates year to year.

Last year when interest rates were high, the fund brought in \$107 million in interest, according to reporting by New York Focus. However, at the start of the financial crisis in 2008, the fund only took in \$2.6 million.

Because of the fluctuation in incoming cash, the fund's managers previously warned against a sweep of the fund's cash, which they say may be needed in the near future when interest rates aren't as high.

The sweep included in this year's budget marks the first time money has been taken from the IOLA fund and used to pay for a state-funded program.

The proposal first came about in January, when Hochul pitched taking \$100 million out of the fund as part of her executive budget proposal. The initial plan was met with outrage from nearly all corners of the state's legal community.

In February, dozens of leaders of some of New York's most prominent law firms wrote an open letter to the governor demanding she keep the IOLA fund intact.

"We believe this proposal, if enacted, would



Richard Lewis, the president of the New York State Bar Association, "strenuously object[ed] to the state's sweep of the Interest on Lawyer Account Fund in the recently-passed budget." File photo via NYSBA

create an existential threat to a primary funding stream for essential civil legal services while simultaneously robbing the IOLA Fund of a unique opportunity to create a reserve that could permanently protect the Fund's ability to support those services regardless of fluctuations in the interest rate," they wrote.

"It took twelve years after the 2008 economic crisis for IOLA fund revenue to return to its 2007 level," they added. "The prolonged drop in interest rates created a crisis in legal services funding that a reserve fund could prevent from recurring in the future."

A week later, Hochul announced that she had eliminated the sweep from her budget proposal. The announcement was widely celebrated.

"The IOLA Fund is grateful for the support

of the entire legal community in preserving the integrity of the IOLA Fund and ensuring that the revenue from IOLA accounts remains dedicated solely to the provision of civil legal services for low-income New Yorkers," Chris O'Malley, the executive director of IOLA said in a statement in February.

But again, the state's legal community was enraged by the sweep's inclusion in the final budget plan.

"The New York State Bar Association strenuously objects to the transfer of \$55 million from the IOLA Fund to pay for other state programs," Richard Lewis, the president of the state bar association said in a statement.

"When Gov. Kathy Hochul originally proposed in her executive budget to remove \$100 million from the IOLA Fund and place it in the

state's general fund, we and many other legal advocates protested," he added. "When the governor withdrew the proposal, we commended her. We are now distressed that this ill-conceived plan has been resurrected, and strongly urge the governor and legislature to reconsider."

The IOLA fund was formed by the legislature in 1983. It was created "to provide funding for the providers of civil legal services in order to ensure effective access to the judicial system for all citizens of the state to the extent practicable."

However, with the sweep, legal services providers warn that they will have difficulty providing their services to low-income New Yorkers, having already been struggling for several years with high attrition rates and inequitable funding when compared to prosecutors' offices.

"Never, in the IOLA Fund's 40-year history, have the funds been removed like this," said Kristin Brown, the president of the NY Legal Services Coalition. "New York has a civil justice gap of over \$1 billion and providers are struggling to hire and retain staff due to low wages and burnout – now there is \$55 million less available to fill that gap."

Despite the novel nature of the sweep, Kohlmann, the president of the NYCBA, said that she was concerned that its inclusion in the budget could mean more sweeps in the future.

"The governor's last-minute diversion of IOLA funds sets a precedent that could lead lawyers to question whether they should use IOLA accounts at all, creating an existential threat to a primary funding stream for civil legal services in New York," Kohlmann said. "Stakeholders can freely and fairly debate whether the universe of IOLA grantees should be expanded or whether changes to the IOLA structure should be considered, but a last-minute sweep of funds to be diverted to a particular cause or causes outside the grant-making purview and integrity of the IOLA governance structure should raise alarm bells for the legal profession and policymakers alike."

The governor's office did not respond to requests for comment for this story.

# Trump trial transcripts to be posted online

By Jacob Kaye  
Queens Daily Eagle

As an unprecedented criminal trial got underway in Manhattan on Monday, the court system announced it would be taking a similarly unprecedented step in bringing the trial to the press and the public.

The leadership of New York's court system on Monday announced that the trial transcripts of *The People of the State of New York v. Donald J. Trump* will be published online and be made free to view on the court system's website.

Trial transcripts are typically far less easy to obtain and can often cost hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars.

The announcement was made by Chief Administrative Judge Joseph Zayas, who served as a judge for a decade in the same borough the former president on trial for charges related to hush money payments made to adult film actress Stormy Daniels was born in.

In a statement, Zayas said the move to make the transcript public and free was brought on by the intense public interest in the case and the limited availability to view it live or in person.

"With current law restricting the broadcasting of trial proceedings and courtroom space for public spectators very limited, the release of the daily transcripts on the court system's website is the best way to provide the public a direct view of the proceedings in this historic trial," Zayas said.

"This measure is in the interest of the public good and aligns with the court system's commitment to judicial transparency and its ongoing efforts to enhance public access to, and understanding of, the courts and justice system," he added.

The transcripts from each day of the trial will be posted on the court's website at <https://ww2.nycourts.gov/press/index.shtml> before the end of the following business day.

"This historic case, which has generated unparalleled public interest, calls for this historic step by the court system," First Deputy Chief Administrative Judge Norman St. George said in a statement. "I am pleased to join Chief Administrative Judge Zayas in announcing that the trial transcripts – providing a word-for-word account of the proceedings – will be posted daily on our website, giving the public ready access to the full, accurate court record."

"This will serve to enhance public understanding of the trial with minimum disruption to the courtroom proceedings," he added.

Opening statements in the case began on Monday following a week of jury selection which garnered similar public interest.

The case marks the first time criminal charges against a former president have been brought by prosecutors and presented to a jury.

Prosecutors with Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg's office claim that Trump falsified business records when he ordered his former lawyer and personal fixer Michael Co-



Daily transcripts from the criminal trial of former President Donald Trump will be posted online to be viewed by the press and public free of charge, court leadership announced on Monday. AP file photo by Yuki Iwamura/Pool

hen to pay Daniels \$130,000 in the final days of the 2016 presidential race in an effort to prevent her from speaking to the press about her claim that she and the former Jamaica Estates

resident had an affair.

The trial is being overseen by Judge Juan Merchan, who, like Trump, was raised in the World's Borough.