



Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader



COVID-19 Updates

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Photo Credit: Bureau of Charities, via Library of Congress. A classroom on a ferry in NYC circa 1915.

August 25, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Outdoor Learning Coming to NYC Public Schools

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

FDA Approves Use of Convalescent Plasma; COVID-19 Testing Sites Are Coming to NYC Airports; Cuomo Issues Further Election Reforms; and More!

NYS Confirmed: 430,145
NYS Deaths: 25,295
NYC Confirmed: 232,334
Brooklyn Confirmed: 64,422

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FAILED



Photo Credit: Gov. Cuomo Twitter

- Governor Cuomo announced record-low COVID-19 indicators.
 - Hospitalizations are at 472;
 - There are 110 ICU patients;
 - 50 patients are intubated; and
 - This is the 16th straight day with a positivity rate below 1%.
- Although the state continues to make progress in the fight against the virus, cases are still increasing in **Western New York**. Read more [here](#).
- Cuomo said that "Americans died" because of the federal response to COVID-19.
 - Yesterday he outlined how the virus was first identified in December, but the federal government did nothing until March.
- The governor also announced that New York Health and Hospitals will set up COVID-19 testing sites at **JFK and LaGuardia Airports**.
- Yesterday, the governor issued 5 **Executive Orders**, furthering election reforms heading into November. The orders will:

- redesign envelopes to eliminate confusion about where to sign absentee ballots. This initiative was first proposed by **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte**. You can read more [here](#).
- require the BOE to send a mailing to voters with deadlines and instructions for getting absentee ballots;
- require all BOEs to take steps to be ready to start counting votes ASAP;
- require all BOEs to report staffing plans and any staffing needs to ensure a fair, complete and accurate vote; and
- extend the 'temporary illness' option to elections not administered by the BOE.

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: Ed Reed/Mayoral Photography Office

- Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza announced a new "**Outdoor Learning**" initiative that will allow city schools to use their yards, nearby streets and parks for in-person learning sessions. Schools are encouraged to select streets that meet the following criteria:
 - Is a quiet, non-commercial street;
 - Is a one-way street; if two-way, not more than one lane of traffic in each direction;
 - Is not an MTA bus route or truck route;
 - Is not used by a police/fire station, parking garage, or hospital.

- Neighborhoods that are the hardest hit by the pandemic and schools that have no outdoor space will be prioritized. Read more [here](#).
- Outdoor classes have been historically used as a way to combat plagues. Read more [here](#).

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: CNBC. A patient recovering from COVID-19 donates convalescent plasma in Seattle, Washington.

- A Black man, **Jacob Blake**, was *shot in the back* by police officers in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The incident was caught on video. Protests have followed and in response, the The National Guard has been called in. Read more [here](#).
- The **Food and Drug Administration** (FDA) gave emergency authorization for **convalescent plasma** as a treatment for the coronavirus. The decision came on the heels of President Trump's criticism of the agency for impeding the roll-out of vaccines and other treatments for political reasons. Read more [here](#).
- Postmaster General **Louis De Joy** testified yesterday before the House Oversight and Reform Committee. Read more [here](#).
- New COVID-19 cases are at a two-month low in the United States. Read more [here](#).

REINFECTION STUDY



Photo Credit: Miguel Candela/EPA via Shutterstock. Shoppers go through temperature checks before entering a mall in Hong Kong.

- Researchers in Hong Kong reported the first confirmed case of **reinfection** with the coronavirus.
 - According to the researchers, a 33-year old, healthy patient was diagnosed for a second time **4.5 months** after his first infection.
 - The second infection was discovered after the man returned from a trip to Spain, and the strain of the virus closely matched a strain circulating in Europe at the time of his travels.

SPECIAL OPEN ENROLLMENT EXTENDED

NY State of Health
is extending a
SPECIAL OPEN ENROLLMENT
through September 15.

Open enrollment for the NY State of Health is **extended** for another 30-days to **September 30th**. For more information click [here](#).

COMPLETE THE CENSUS

NYC
CENSUS
2020

FILL OUT THE 2020 CENSUS
AND ENTER TO WIN

seamless

\$1000

Meals from Seamless
(6 winners)

MoMA

MoMA
PS1

Membership

Annual Membership to MoMA
(25 winners)

citi bike
provided by lyft

lyft

Membership + Credit

Year-Long Citi Bike Membership
+ \$50 Lyft Credit (100 winners)

Contest Ends **September 21st**

Register now at [NYC.gov/CensusContest](https://nyc.gov/CensusContest)

The deadline to complete the census is **September 30th!** To complete the census, visit [here](#) or call 844-330-2020. NYC Census 2020 is hosting a **Census contest!** To enter to win, register [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND MWBES

Below are two upcoming events that may be beneficial for **small businesses** and **MWBES**:

ACEC Presents: Blind Spots, Biases and the Bottom Line: Leadership Development Evolution

American Council of Engineering Companies of NY
Tuesday, August 25, 2020

1:30pm

For more information, click [here](#).

Marketing to the Government: Get in Front of the Buying Cycle (Webinar)

Office of Information Technology Services

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

2:00pm

For more information, click [here](#).

ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING



Photo Credit: NYC DOT

- NYC Alternate Side Parking (ASP) is in effect from **Monday, August 17 - Saturday, September 5**.
- **Monday, September 7**: ASP is suspended for Labor Day.
- For more information visit [here](#).

THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Thank You Home Health Aides...

*... for diligently
listening to every patient*

During these unprecedented and difficult times, we thank our **essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **home health aides** for keeping our elderly and homebound patients safe.

COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS



As we face unprecedented challenges in the fight against COVID-19, we must remember to complete the **2020 Census**. The census asks just 10 simple questions that can be answered in just a few minutes online by visiting [here](#) or by calling [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020).

AVOID SCAMS

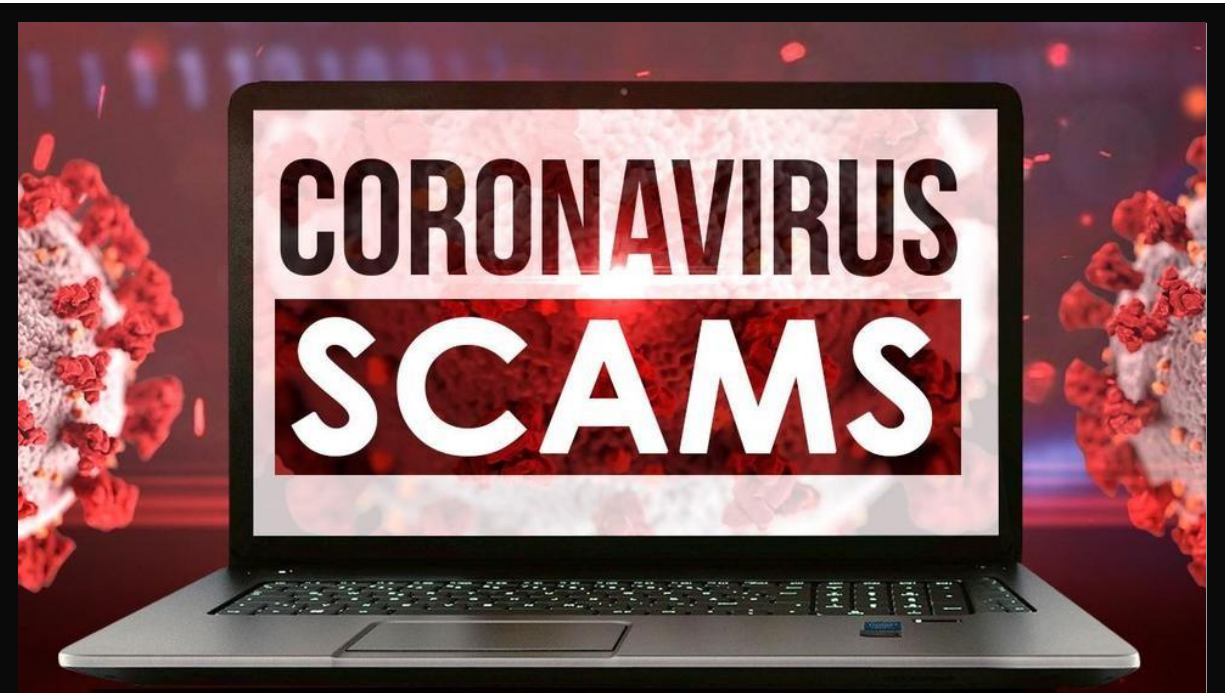


Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office by filling out a [complaint form](#).
- **NYS Price Gouging Hotline: 800-697-1220.**
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

SERVICES AND RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- **Employment Resources**
- **Food Assistance**
- **Health & Medical Assistance**
- **Financial Assistance**
- **Rent Arrears and Public Assistance**
- **Emotional Support & Spiritual Care**
- **Other Assistance**

Visit this [website](#) for resources.

NYS Department of Health Hotline for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test ([888-364-3065](tel:888-364-3065)). NYC residents should call ([844-692-4692](tel:844-692-4692)).

Volunteer to Support

Others: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers.

Free Internet Services:

Charter is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for **60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students** who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, **call [844-488-8395](tel:844-488-8395)**. Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit [here](#).

FreshDirect meals:

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams in partnership with **FreshDirect** is providing free food packages. Each box contains the following:

- Rice, 2 bags, 16oz
- Pasta, 2 boxes, 16oz
- Canned beans, 2 cans, 10-16oz
- Canned Meat/Fish, 2 cans, 3 to 5 oz
- Canned Vegetable, 2 cans, 8 to 15 oz
- Raisins / Dry Fruit, 4 boxes, 2 oz per box
- Cereal/Oatmeal, 1 Box, 10 to 20 oz
- Milk / Milk Substitute, 1 container, 32 oz
- Corn, 2 ears
- 2 Potatoes
- 1 Onion
- 1 Carrot
- Orange / Apple, 2 in total

The packages will arrive by FreshDirect vehicles to locations listed [here](#). If you have any questions, call (718) 802-3700.

In-District Businesses open/closed provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID**: Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue Business directory [here](#). Businesses open/closed list provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation**: Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory [here](#). Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road - Foster Ave.)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Ditmas Park

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBES)**, and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education, Banks, Health, and Higher Education**. She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force**.

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration, education, economic development, unemployment, education reform, health care access, senior citizen centers, affordable housing, school safety, women's and LGBTQ rights**, as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her websites:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>
and www.rodneysebichotte.net

STAY CONNECTED

