CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) SPECIAL REPORT: July 10, 2020



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am proud to introduce a Virtual Communications Crime Accountability legislative package in the Assembly. Modern technology and online platforms like ZOOM have made it easier for all of us to stay in touch during this national crisis. As these platforms are becoming commonplace in households, we must ensure that the users are protected from so-called "ZOOM-bombing" by people with offensive and malicious intent. I look forward to garnering support for these important measures.

Our office joined George Collins, Director of the Monday Night Dinner program at the All Souls Church for their grab and go meals. We contributed New York State hand sanitizer and PPE to their efforts, and volunteered to distribute meals, hand sanitizer and masks.

This week, we hosted another face-covering distribution event. Over 300 face coverings and hand sanitizer were given to the community. This weeks Virtual Town Hall Tuesday was with the New York State Department of Financial Services, New York City Transit, and the IRS Office of the Taxpayer Advocate. On Tuesday, July 14, the Virtual Town Hall will be a Roosevelt Island community forum with Shelton Haynes, Acting President and CEO of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC).

Phone: 212.288.4607 *Email*: <u>SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov</u>

Sincerely,

Rebecca





facebook.com /RebeccaASeawright





instagram.com /seawrightforny NY Assembly Website

ROOSEVELT ISLAND



TUESDAY, JULY 14 7:00PM

ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA SEAWRIGHT



HOSTS A COMMUNITY FORUM WITH

SHELTON J. HAYNES

RIOC ACTING PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE ROOSEVELT ISLAND OPERATING CORPORATION (RIOC)



US Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney Cosponsors:



New York State Senator José M. Serrano



Council Member Ben Kallos

JOIN US! <u>WATCH LIVE ON FACEBOOK:</u> <u>www.facebook.com/RebeccaASeawright/</u>

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:CALL 212.288.4607 EMAIL SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

REGISTER TO THE TOWN HALL HERE!

CLICK HERE TO WATCH ON FACEBOOK LIVE @ 7 PM ON 7/14 In Case You Missed It (ICYMI): This Week's Tuesday Town Hall "Re-Opening Our Neighborhood: Part 2"



Seawright Introduces Virtual Communications Crimes Accountability Package

Bills to Combat ZOOM-bombing, Prevent COVID19 Scams, and Protect All Personal Identifying Information

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright has introduced a bill that would combat disruptions of online public meetings over streaming internet meeting services such as ZOOM and other platforms widely used. In the wake of the COVID19 pandemic, the need to communicate imposed a greater need to connect over virtual platforms such as ZOOM in order to work, attend classes, receive healthcare by tele-health, attend social gatherings, and meetings. *"Modern technology and online platforms like ZOOM have made it easier for all of us to stay in touch during this national crisis. As these platforms are becoming commonplace in households, we must ensure that the users are protected from so-called "ZOOM-bombing" by people with offensive and malicious intent,"* said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright. The proposed amendment to the state penal law would criminalize any disruption of an online public meeting "when, with intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, without lawful authority, and acting through a computer service and opened to the public. Such an offense would become a Class B misdemeanor.

Assembly Member Seawright is also introducing Assembly bill A10725, joining Brad Hoylman, the Senate sponsor, in an expanded effort to fight online and telephone scams. This legislation is necessary to address those who are engaged in widespread efforts to defraud the public. The bill provides for appropriate penalties for large-scale fraudulent activity. *"As we are suffering the fallout of the pandemic, New Yorkers are seeking relief with the unemployment system, medical and social services that they may have never sought out before. Individuals are taking advantage of vulnerable people at this time with the enticement of relief. We have heard of people peddling COVID19 treatment and cures as a way to scam people. It is unacceptable and needs to be penalized to the fullest extent of the law," Seawright continued. Charging a person who is engaged in a scheme to defraud large groups of people out of relatively small amounts of money currently leads to multiple petit larceny counts, which is a class A misdemeanor. This legislation would provide more severe penalties to reflect the total dollars in the aggregate caused by a scheme to defraud.*

Another area in which our laws lag is the protection of personal identifying information. The measure provides additional protection to protect personal identifying information, computer data, or a computer program. In an age when private information is increasingly stored online, and goods and services are often purchased online with credit cards, safeguarding personal identifying information is essential. *"There are so many portals and online platforms to be used in our modern society. Every exchange of personal identifying information, no matter how small, needs to be safeguarded. We have to be one step ahead of the cyber criminal looking for personal identifying information,"* Seawright explained. Personal identifying information includes the traditional date of birth, driver's license number, social security number. It will now expand to protect computer system passwords, electronic signatures, fingerprints, voice prints, and retinal imaging. Charges would be expanded and range up to grand larceny in the first degree.

Seawright Statement on SCOTUS Ruling to Allow Employers to Deny Contraceptive Coverage to Women

"This week's Supreme Court decision is a huge setback for women and reproductive choice, allowing employers to deny women coverage for contraceptives because of their personal objections. Healthcare decisions should be between a patient and provider, not their employer.

I have spent my entire adult life championing women's rights. As the sponsor of an Equal Rights Amendment to our New York State Constitution, I am committed to safeguarding our rights. Last year, we made history in the New York State Assembly when we passed a package of legislation to protect access to women's health care that included the Reproductive Health Act, the Boss Bill as well as the Comprehensive Contraceptive Coverage Act. We know every woman should have full autonomy over her body and reproductive decisions.

While the federal government turns its back on women and their health, we will continue to defend the rights of women in New York State."

Monday Night Dinner At All Souls



Assembly Member Seawright worked with All Souls Unitarian Church Monday Night Hospitality Director George Collins and volunteer Faith Fraser to provide hand sanitizer, masks and meals to the volunteers and guests.





District Office Mask Giveaway





On Thursday, July 9th Assembly Member Seawright handed out face coverings and hand sanitizer at the community office. Next week another giveaway will take place on Thursday with additional information below.



ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA SEAWRIGHT PROTECTIVE FACE MASK GIVEAWAY





THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2020 12:00PM-2:00PM

COMMUNITY OFFICE 1485 YORK AVENUE (78/79 STREET)

RSVP:CUTT.LY/AMRSFACE MASKGIVEAWAY

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA SEAWRIGHT PHONE: 212.288.4607 EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

RESERVE YOUR FACE COVERING

ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!

TUES. JULY 21

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY AT 4:00 PM ATTORNEYS FROM THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE & LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-RELATED MATTERS AT NO-COST FOR CONSTITUENTS OF THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

DUE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS, A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL HOST A ONE -ON-ONE PHONE SESSION WITH ATTENDEES.

RSVP REQUIRED: CALL: 212-288-4607 EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlordtenant law. The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorneyclient relationship. Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.

SIGN UP FOR THE LEGAL CLINIC HERE

Stay informed about the CORONAVIRUS



NYC COVID-19 Self-reporting Portal: Link here or call 311 DOHMH FAQ: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Face Covering Distribution: Face Coverings Face Coverings Face Covering Tips: helpful videos DACA Renewal Assistance: Call ActionNYC at 1-800-354-0365 Ferry Schedules: Staten Island Ferry | NYC Ferry H+H Visitor Policy: Policy to Reduce the Spread of Coronavirus Mental Health Hotline: 1-888-NYC-WELL or text "WELL" to 65173. NYC Well Mental Health Online: Support New Yorkers Can Access While Staving Home OATH: Hearing Online Online English Classes: We Speak NYC, Register Here or for information: click here Online Marriage Licenses: nyc.gov/Cupid or cityclerk.nyc.gov Animal Welfare FAQ: COVID-19 and Animals FAQ COVID-19 Pet Owner Hotline: 1-877-204-8821 Pet Planning: Get Prepared - Pets & Service Animals Map of Essential Construction: Essential Active Construction Sites Map / FAQ Report Price Gouging: DCA - COVID-19 Complaint Resource Guide for Immigrants: Resources for Immigrant Communities Virtual Friendly Visiting Program for Seniors: Call 212-AGING-NYC

For Families

Activity Book for Kids: *Animals of NYC - Physical Distancing Activity Book* Remote Learning: *NYC DOE Info Hub* Fun at Home for Kids: *nyc.gov/funathome* or text "Fun" to 97743 School and Childcare for Essential Workers: *Regional Enrichment Centers*

How to Help:

How to Help: *Help Now NYC* Companies with Supplies on Hand to Donate or Sell: *NYC Suppliers Page* Companies Ready to Begin Producing Supplies: *COVID-19 Emergency Supply Sourcing* & *Manufacturing*. Donate PPE: *NYC Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Donation Portal* Donate Plasma: *New York Blood Center* Food and Non-medical Donations: *DonateNYC*, or call 833-NYC-0040

For Constituents in Need:

Benefits Available for New Yorkers: AccessNYC
Services for Folks in Need: Assistance for Individuals
Domestic Violence: NYCHope
Family Justice Centers: Family Justice Centers, 24-hour DV Hotline: 1-800-621-4673
Financial Empowerment Guidance: DCA - Free Financial Counseling
Food Finder: Food Bank NYC
Grab & Go Meals for All: Location: Free Meal Sites, or text "NYCFOOD" or "COMIDA" to 877-877
Hotel Isolation Referral Program: nyc.gov/covid19hotel
Peer-Peer Wellness Check for Veterans: Mission: VetCheck.
People with Disabilities: @NYCDisabilities, 311 or visit http://nyc.gov/disability or via video phone: 646-396-5830
SNAP: SNAP Benefits
Student Loan Debt Tips During COVID-19: NYC Consumer Affairs
Unemployment Benefits: NYS Department of Labor + NYC FAQ

Businesses & Nonprofits:

Stop the Spread: Stop the Spread of Coronavirus Flyer

Facebook Grants for Small Businesses: *facebook.com/grantsforbusiness* Guidance for Employers & Employees: *Update about Workplace Laws* Non-Profit Providers: *FAQ for Nonprofit Businesses* SBS Webinars for Small Businesses: *Register here* Small Businesses: *Assistance & Guidance for Businesses*

Workers:

Citibike Free Year Membership for First Responders: *Critical Workforce Membership* Freelancers in NYC: *File Workplace Complaint* Hotels for Healthcare Workers: *NYC & Company* Labor Issues: Call 311, or AG's office: (212) 416-8700 or *Labor.Bureau@ag.ny.gov* Paid Sick Leave: DOHMH *Frequently Asked Questions /* or call: 855-491-2667 or 311 State List of Essential Business/Services: *Governor Cuomo Guidance Under 'New York State on PAUSE'* SBS: *Virtual Workforce One Center* or call 718-960-2458 TLC Driver Jobs: *NYC Food Delivery Driver Portal*

TLC Driver Resource Center: legal services, financial counseling, and other referrals

Buildings & Residents:

NYCHA Residents: NYCHA's journal + Hardship Rent Reductions + NYCHA COVID-19 FAQ + City Harvest Mobile Markets + Mayor de Blasio Announces New Plan to Combat COVID-19 at NYCHA

Property Tax issues: *Department of Finance Benefits* Tenants/Landlords: *COVID-19: FAQ for Residential and Commercial Buildings*

ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

Previous Editions of Our COVID-19 Special Report

JUNE 18, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT

JUNE 26, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT

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