

# Assemblyman Michael Blake

## Reports to the People

79<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Email: [blakem@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:blakem@assembly.state.ny.us)



December 2014

### KEEPING YOU INFORMED

*To the people of our beloved 79<sup>th</sup> district,*

*Thank you for giving me the honor to represent our beloved 79th Assembly District. I am here for you. I am here to serve the people.*

*My vision is focused on 3,2,1.*

*3 being the 3 E's of Economic Development, Education and Equality for all.*

*2 being the paths in how we achieve improvement: Strengthening our Minority- and Women-Owned Businesses to have greater access to capital, contracting and opportunities so they hire our community residents and empower our neighborhoods as a whole. Secondly, focusing on creating a career-oriented education vision throughout our district so that we remember the priority of ensuring our children learn and are prepared to excel in society.*

*1 being the overall commitment of improving our socio-economic situation so that while we close the income inequality gap, we improve the livelihoods of all of our residents.*

*Let us join together to help our people. I can't do it alone. It won't be easy, but we will get there.*

*This is our moment. This is our time. This is the new 79<sup>th</sup>!*

*Yours in service,*

*Assemblyman Michael Blake*



*Assemblyman Blake standing with NY elected officials supporting Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's call for a special prosecutor in cases where citizens die in police hands. Among those pictured, Bronx State Sen. Gustavo Rivera, Public Advocate Letitia James, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams.*

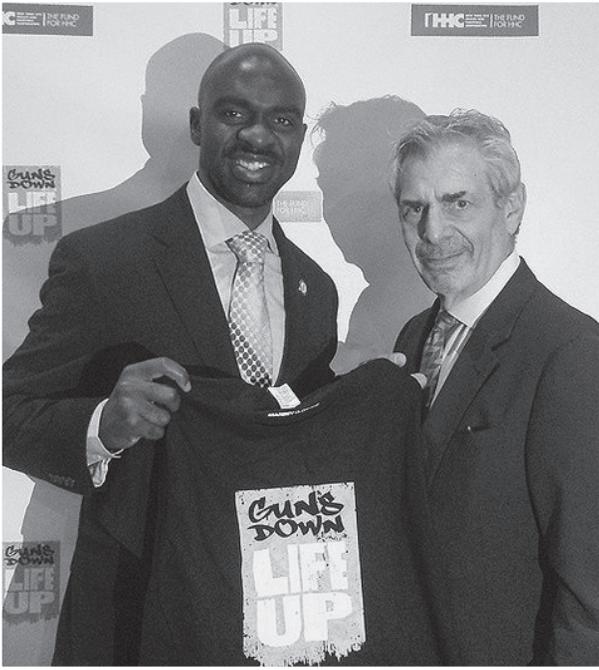
First, and most importantly, my heart goes out to Eric Garner's family. A life filled with great potential was lost. May Eric Garner rest in peace and may our actions moving forward remember him and not disrespect his legacy.

Our criminal justice system is deeply flawed, and it is incumbent upon all of us to fix it. A clear way to right this unconscionable wrong is for the Department of Justice to immediately pursue a

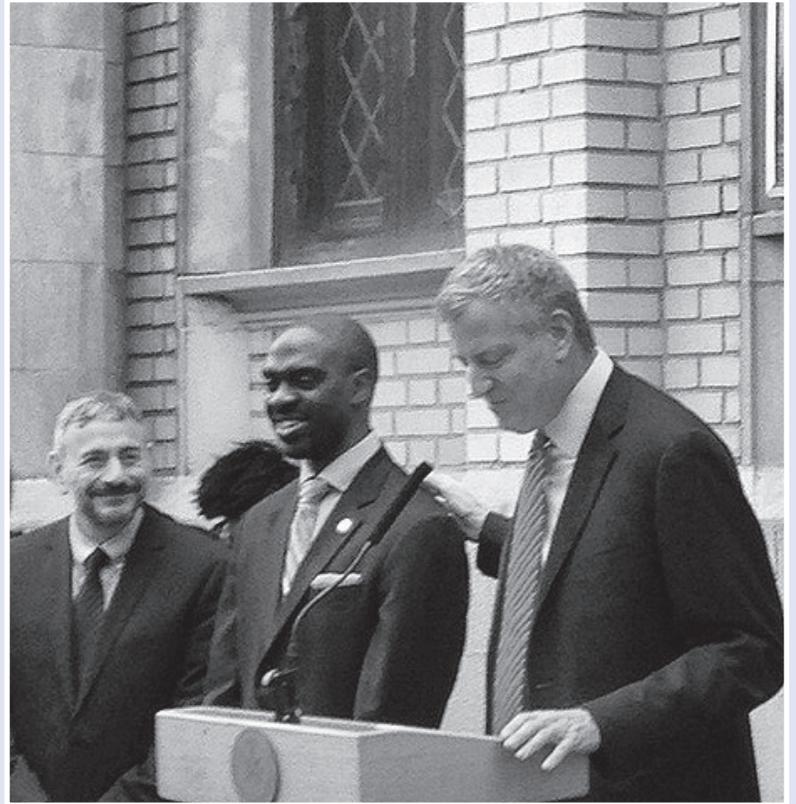
federal civil rights act lawsuit and criminal charges and to determine if any immediate actions can be implemented here in New York on the state level.

I am committed to joining the other catalysts for change to press on towards justice. We must now come together and commit to seeking the ethical, political, legal and civil next steps for justice to be served.

# GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION



More and more, our youth have turned to guns and violence to solve their problems. With Guns Down, Life Up, we shall work together to curb gun violence and make this world a better place. I am committed to helping save lives by creating a safer environment through enforcing stricter gun control. However, equally important is that we also provide our younger generations more opportunities to succeed through job training and education, so they no longer need to turn to gangs and guns. If you help someone pick up a check and pick up a book, they probably don't pick up a gun.



After serving families in need, I accompanied Mayor de Blasio at a press conference on the importance of addressing hunger in NYC. There are thousands that go hungry every day in The Bronx and across our state. My family shared in these struggles years ago. Here I'm standing with Mayor de Blasio as he speaks about the need to ensure that we find every possible way to provide food to families, especially our young people who can't continue to go to school hungry where they then can't focus on their studies.

## SOMOS Conference Advocating for MWBEs



I was honored to stand alongside Mayor Bill de Blasio, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., Rev. Monte Witherspoon-Brown of Caldwell A.M.E. Zion church (to my immediate right), Joel Berg (Executive Director of the New York City Coalition Against Hunger – to my far right) and First Lady Chirlane McCray (not pictured) to serve Thanksgiving food to the community at Caldwell AME Zion Church at 1281 Chisholm Street in our district. Thanksgiving is all about family, and I'm so thankful to be able to give back in any way that we can to our community.



I moderated a panel at the SOMOS el Futuro fall conference on Minority and Women Business Enterprises needing more access to capital, contracting and opportunities. This issue is the focus of my administration because when someone has a quality job they have dignity, opportunity and hope. It's tremendously important that we give women and minorities the ability to compete and thrive in this economic environment.

# SERVING THE COMMUNITY



I had the privilege to serve the families in the community for Thanksgiving at Union Grove Baptist Church at 1488 Hoe Avenue in our district. Special thanks to Rev. Dr. Frederick Crawford for his incredible leadership in serving our people.



Supporting Seniors at Casa Boricua Senior Center at 910 E. 172nd St.

No matter where we are and what condition the economy is in, we have to help our seniors. They've given so much of their time and energy to our communities and our country, and we owe them our service and our gratitude. By supporting our seniors, we honor the past, and inspire the future to appreciate those who came before them.



On Sunday, Dec. 14th, I had the honor to install the seven board members at Concourse Village. I am grateful for all that you do to promote the example of quality affordable housing in The Bronx.



## Winners of Verizon's Innovative App Challenge

*Congratulations to Concourse Village Elementary on winning a \$20,000 grant for designing a mobile application to build a robot. They are just a little excited!*

## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

**Need health insurance?** Unsure of where to go? There are a number of sites in the community to walk you through the process and get you insured before the **Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>** enrollment period ends.

**Morris Heights Health Center, Inc.**  
799 Melrose Avenue, Bronx 10451  
1-718-960-8900

**Single Stop USA – Center for Urban Community Services**  
1510 Southern Boulevard  
Bronx, NY 10460

**NY State of Health:  
The Official Health Plan Marketplace**  
1-855-355-5777  
<https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/>

**Ebola-related questions?  
Call the Department of Health**  
1-212-239-1700  
<http://www1.nyc.gov/nyc-resources/service/4280/ebola-information>

## Even More Resources

**City of New York Jobs**  
<http://www1.nyc.gov/jobs/index.page>

**SoBRO**  
555 Bergen Avenue, Bronx, NY 10455  
1-718-292-3113

**Housing issues? Contact NYCHA**  
478 East Fordham Road (1 Fordham Plaza)  
2nd Fl, Bronx, NY 10458  
1-718-409-8626

Is your child struggling in school? Get tutors from New York City.  
Call 1-212-NEW-YORK (639-9675)

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Inauguration**  
**Weekend of Jan. 16-19, 2015**  
**Ceremony: Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM**  
**Venue TBD**



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