



NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY WEEKLY REPORT

Assistant Speaker

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Working for Our Community in Albany and Brooklyn

November 30, 2018

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN

Recent reports show that there are almost 23,000 children in New York City's homeless shelters -- a staggering statistic. You can help bring holiday magic to these children by donating new, unopened, unwrapped toys and gifts.

In partnership with the Coalition for the Homeless and their annual toy drive, my office will be accepting donations. All toys will be distributed by the Coalition to children in participating shelters throughout New York City. **Donations can be dropped at my office located at 5004 4th Ave, Brooklyn NY 11220 Monday-Friday 9:30am to 5:30pm until December 13th.**

Thank you for any and all donations, and I wish you and your loved ones a cherished holiday season. God bless.



OATH NEIGHBORHOOD POP-UP COURT BRINGS RED HOOK AND SUNSET PARK GREATER ACCESS TO JUSTICE

NYC Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) is the City's independent administrative law court, where nearly every City agency files their summonses for hearings. Two weeks ago, my district office acted as a Neighborhood Pop-Up Court. The OATH pop-up court allowed residents and small businesses who had received a summons to come to my district office to have their hearing with an OATH Hearing Officer. The pop-up court gave Red Hook and Sunset Park areas of Brooklyn a convenient way to have a hearing with an OATH Hearing Officer. The day was very successful and we were glad to see so many of you take advantage of the convenient service. For a video of the event: [click here](#).



ADDRESSING THE ISSUES FACING PUERTO RICO AFTER HURRICANE MARIA

On November 21, I welcomed Puerto Rico's Senator José Luis Dalmau to my office, where we discussed the issues facing the island after Hurricane Maria. Puerto Rico is still recovering from Hurricane Maria and has still not received the aid necessary to heal.

At our meeting, we also talked about the impact Public Charge changes would make on immigrant communities and how the new Congress might enact legislation to help recovery efforts.

ORTIZ ADDRESSES AMAZON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AT RALLY AND PRESS CONFERENCE

I joined Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU) President Stuart Appelbaum questioning the new Amazon HQ coming to our city. Amazon has a history of human rights violations and anti-union activities. We must be sure that this corporate culture of employee mistreatment is addressed and will not continue as it begins to hire members of our communities. Amazon has promised quality jobs and community inclusion; they need to be held accountable.

I set out to address human rights violations and unjust treatment of Sunset Park sweatshop workers during my first term in the Assembly. I even went undercover as a sweatshop worker to expose how egregious the working conditions were. As a result, the Subcommittee on Sweatshops was created with me appointed as chair. With the State Attorney General, I helped recover back wages for unpaid workers that had been denied by factory owners. I will continue to advocate on behalf of our hard working community members and not allow our friends and neighbors to be mistreated by a corporate giant.



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If you have a comment or suggestion regarding the upcoming year and the 2018 session, please send an email, "like" the Facebook page and follow on Twitter.