JULY-DECEMBER 2021



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Labor Elects Eric Adams as Next NYC Mayor City Council Brings in First Female Majority



The newly elected 110th mayor of the City of New York will be the second African American mayor of the City of New York. This isn't the only significant moment stemming from the Nov. 2 election, though. For the first time, the City Council will have its first female majority of the 51 members, having added a historic number of women to its ranks.

With the support of Local 1180 and a majority of labor unions throughout the City, Eric Adams was a virtual shoo-in after winning the June primary. With more than 75% of the precincts reporting on election eve, Adams had captured almost 67% of the vote, with his leading opponent, Republican Curtis Sliwa, trailing far behind with 29%. The only borough to vote in favor of Sliwa was Staten Island, which is also the only borough to elect a Republican Borough President in 2021.

Local 1180 was one of several unions that joined an Aug. 2 rally at City Hall Park for Eric Adams as he kicked off his general election campaign for Mayor of New York City. Adams, who narrowly won the crowded June 22 Democratic primary on a message of tackling crime, reforming the police, and making city government more efficient, reached out to all unions to build a strong base for the November election. Local 1180 again joined Adams and other unions on Nov. 1 at one final, get-outthe-vote rally before the polls opened on Election Day, in which the majority of voters were casting their ballots.

In the nine days of early voting, a reported 169,870 voters cast their ballots with Manhattan taking the lead at 47,928. The other boroughs reported totals of 47,547

in the Brooklyn; 36,546 in Queens; 19,855 in the Bronx; and 18,003 in Staten Island.

Local 1180 Second Vice President Gerald Brown said that overall the Union did well with its endorsements and support of candidates. In addition to the three citywide candidates that Local 1180 supported — Adams for Mayor, Jumaane Williams for Public Advocate, and Brad Lander for Comptroller — all five District Attorneys were elected, as well as four of the five Borough Presidents.

Not including approximately 100,000 absentee ballots, the total number of ballots cast per borough were: Brooklyn, 330,000; Queens, 270,000; Manhattan, 260,000; Bronx, 125,000; and Staten Island, 100,000.

"We were able to seat 12 out of 13 of our major candidates, so I'd say we had a successful election cycle," Brown said. "It's with a lot of support and volunteering from our members that we helped elect labor-friendly candidates we know we'll be able to work with in the upcoming years as we seek to get New York City back on some course of normalcy."

In addition, Local 1180 endorsed candidates in 47 of the 51 City Council elections. Of those, 45 emerged as

victors, with incumbent Justin Brannan from Brooklyn's 43rd district eking out a win with mail-in ballot that came predominantly from registered Democrats.



By Marci Rosenblum, Communications Director

⁶⁶The incoming 51 Council members include many firsttimers and more women than any time in history. The 31 women who won will more than double the current Council's female leaders. Included in the newly elected are the first Muslim, first South Asians, first Korean American, and first LGBTQ Black women.??

The incoming 51 Council members include many first-timers and more women than any time in history. Come Jan. 1, 2022, there will be 31 female City Council members, bypassing the goal of the 21 in '21's movement to elect 21 female legislators this year. The 31 women who won will more than double the current Council's female count and include the first Muslim, first South Asians, first Korean American, and first LGBTQ Black women.

"I guess you can say that for the first time, our City Council accurately represents the real New York City," said Local 1180 President Gloria Middleton. "The white, male vote no longer rules in a city that is a true melting pot of so many different races, religions, genders, cultures, and



backgrounds. The voices of the Council will now truly speak for the people of this great city."

Currently, the City Council has only 14 female members or 27% of the entire body. Yet, women constitute approximately 52% of the city's population. At one point previously, the City Council did have as many as 18 women and as few as 11.

Middleton said the new high, combined with the fact that New York State also has its first female Governor with Kathy Hochul at the helm, Letitia James as Attorney General, and Andrea Stewart-Cousins as Senate Majority Leader, women are really making a name for themselves. The hope is now that more women are in office, issues that predominantly affect women and tend to get less attention in majority male bodies will get elevated and receive more news coverage.

"For centuries, our state and our city were run solely by men. The glass ceiling has definitely been shattered," she said.



Racial diversity also has been an issue on the City Council. Not only has it been run by men, according to Middleton, but white men, at that.

"We have really lagged behind when it comes to racial diversity on the Council. We're supposed to be a progressive city, but we have not exactly been so progressive. Now, however, we can finally say that the barriers to elected office for groups that normally would never have stood a chance have been removed. I think 2022 is going to be an exciting year politically," Middleton said.

Adams, who officially takes office on Jan. 1, 2022, and is thought to bring a more moderate tone to city government, has his work cut out for him in the next couple of years as he inherits a staggering set of challenges. Second Vice President Brown said an uneasy economy, concerns about rising crime, quality-of-life issues, housing, jobs, homelessness, and education are all top concerns that unions are going to be looking for Adams and his new administration to tackle.

"We are going to be looking for more of our members to get involved politically as the new year comes around," he said. "We will need members who can help reach out to legislators at the city level and the state level. There are so many new faces and we need to make sure that all newly elected politicians know that Local 1180 is a major player in the union space."

Adams has already promised that his leadership will better reflect the needs of the working, middle-class and voters of color who were instrumental in getting him elected. In an election with low voter turnout, it was the city's diverse electorate that brought a new face to the City's leadership and Council.

The next battle will be the race for Council Speaker. With so many names in the running, Brown said it will be interesting to see who emerges with that title. The city's second most powerful position has been talked about for months, but it's only decided by the Council's newly elected 51 members. In addition to setting the legislative agenda, the speaker makes appointments to much-coveted committees. Brown said at last check, seven candidates were vying for the influential post: Adrienne Adams, Diana Ayala, Justin Brannan, Gale Brewer, Francisco Moya, Keith Powers, and Carlina Rivera.

Of the five propositions on the ballot, only two passed: Proposal 2 that establishes the right to clean air, water and a healthful environment, and Proposal 5 that allows the Legislature to raise NYC Civil Court limit claims up to \$50,000.

Photos opposite page top: Eric Adams at the August rally working the crowd and giving a thumbs-up to Local 1180 members and supporters; bottom photo: Second Vice President Gerald Brown spearheaded the contingent that turned out to show support: Retiree Beverline Parks, First Vice President Gina Strickland, Organizing Coordinator Deborah Valentin, Mobilization Coordinator Helen S. Jarrett, Shop Steward Kristie-Anna Hernandez, Retiree Elvia Prescott, Activist Otissa Dillard, and Shop Steward Judith Felder.

Photos this page, at left: Adams at his Nov. 1 rally with 1180 members, including Debra Busacco and Earlene Powell; and above with President Gloria Middleton.

By Marci Rosenblum, Communications Director

DATA RELEASED BY CITY COUNCIL SHOWS Pay Disparities STILL EXIST IN GENDER & RACE

In the year 2021, in one of the most progressive cities in America, pay disparities within the municipal workforce still abound despite attempts to level the paying field.

When the New York City Council released its findings on pay disparity ahead of Black Women's Equal Pay Day, the results were unfortunately not shocking, just disappointing, said Local 1180 First Vice President Gina Strickland.

The data showed that not only is the median salary for men \$21,600 higher than for women, but there are also significant racial gaps. The median salary for a white employee is \$27,800 higher than for a Black employee, and \$22,200 higher than for a Hispanic/Latino employee. The findings show these inequities persist primarily in the form of occupational segregation, the over- or under-representation of certain demographic groups in certain occupations and contributes to pay gaps across the city's workforce.

"We were the first union to bring to light the fact that 'pay equity' in New York City is an oxymoron," Strickland said in addressing the crowd at the rally attended by City Council members and labor. "Our EEO case against the city was to make whole our female, Black, and other minority Administrative Managers who were earning significantly less than their white, male counterparts for performing substantially similar work."

As a result of Local 1180's successful lawsuit against New York City, the Council passed Local Law 18 in 2018 that requires the Mayor's Office of Data Analytics to report pay data from City agencies. The City Council was to have direct access to the data so it could conduct statistical analysis and determine whether any disparities exist across gender, race, age, and other protected categories.

"This report reinforces what we at Local 1180 have known for years: that there is a very large pay gap between Black and Hispanic employees and their white counterparts in New York City, and that same pay gap exists between men and women, as well," Strickland said.



In response to the findings, the City Council recommended ways to improve pay equity and help end occupational segregation in City agencies:

- Update Local Law 18 to require additional data that will improve the Council's ability to analyze the data in future reports;
- Require agencies to collect and report on the gender and race of civil service exam applicants and acceptance and graduation statistics from agency training programs;
- Require analysis of job postings and recruitment material for biases;
- Expand the existing law that requires the DOE and DCAS to make high school students aware of civil service opportunities;
- Require agencies to perform outreach to local communities regarding civil service opportunities;
- Require agencies to perform internal pay equity analyses and adjust salaries as necessary to achieve pay equity;
- Conduct comparable worth analyses of jobs primarily held by women/non-white workers; and
- Conduct interagency analyses for majority women/non-white agencies.

"New York City is not a fair city when it comes to pay equity. It is not a progressive city when it comes to pay equity. It is not a leader in setting standards for other states to follow," Strickland said. "It's more than time for New York City's leadership to take charge and make change. Hopefully with a new mayor, a new administration, and a new Council that, for the first time in the history of the Council will be predominantly female, we will start to see some of the change that has been so badly needed for years."

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GLORIA MIDDLETON President

The Vaccine Mandate Controversy

It is well known since I have spoken out at various venues many times, that CWA Local 1180 is in favor of COVID vaccinations. I myself am vaccinated and have requested that all staff at 6 Harrison St. working for Local 1180 be vaccinated as well. I have even done the same for the entire Executive Board.

For me and other labor leaders, the whole situation is not about whether this is a political choice, or whether COVID 19 is a hoax, or if the government is taking away our rights. For me and others it is all a matter of COVID being a worldwide health crisis, a pandemic, and that it is our contractual obligation to keep our members safe and healthy as they return to work.

Having said all that, we as labor leaders recognize that we must protect the rights of **all** our members, the vaccinated as well as the unvaccinated. We also recognize that under a worldwide health crisis, there are actions we can take and there are actions we cannot take. As I document the process that CWA Local 1180 and most other unions in the Municipal Labor Committee (MLC) have been through, keep in mind that our boss, Mayor de Blasio, who repeatedly called us heroes and sheroes during the height of the pandemic, has now for the most part, disrespected, undermined, and ignored labor's request to slow down the

Our boss, Mayor de Blasio, who repeatedly called us heroes and sheroes during the height of the pandemic, has now for the most part, disrespected, undermined, and ignored labor's request to slow down the process of mandating COVID vaccinations.

> process of mandating COVID vaccinations. Instead of sitting with labor at the table to discuss and negotiate the terms, conditions, and impact of his vaccination mandates ahead of his deadlines, he went full throttle without even an inkling of advance notice, and he just mandated!

> The City, along with the Commissioner of DOHMH, initially announced a vaccinationor-test mandate for public sector health care workers on July 21, 2021. Less than a week later, the Mayor proclaimed via a press conference that "every City employee will be expected to be either vaccinated or tested weekly". The MLC quickly responded as the Mayor was changing the conditions of employment for the entire City workforce.

After much discussion back and forth between the MLC and the Mayor's Office of Labor Relations (OLR), the City agreed to bargain implementation of these plans. That's where time was given for employees to get vaccinated and testing sites were made readily available.

Shortly after, on Aug. 23, 2021, de Blasio and NYC Health Commissioner Dr. David Chokshi announced a vaccination mandate for all employees in the City School District. Once again, this was announced via a press conference and no discussions with the unions. DOE employees were told they had to have at least one dose of the vaccination by Sept. 27, 2021.

Just one week later, on Aug. 31, the Mayor ordered vax or test for **all** City employees and many City contractors — again, with no union discussions and no notice to labor. The City finally did acknowledge, however, that vaccine mandates violate conditions of bargaining and engaged in negotiations with the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) on the impact and implementation of the Aug. 23 DOE vaccine mandate.

The UFT filed for an impasse that the City did not challenge. The Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) found the matter appropriate for negotiation and appointed attorney Martin F. Scheinman as the mediator. He became the subsequent arbitrator and issued an award concerning the impact and implementation of the Aug. 23 DOE vaccine mandate. That arbitration award then became the blueprint for all subsequent vaccine-only mandates that the Mayor imposed on City workers.

In the midst of all of this, the MLC filed petitions of Improper Labor Practice (ILP) at the Office of Collective Bargaining trying to postpone the mandates until we could sit at the table with OLR. Local 1180 filed ILPs with H+H as they also had refused to bargain on the impact of the mandates' implementation.

There were continued negotiations with DOE for our members after the arbitration award and continued negotiations with H+H after we filed the ILP. Subsequently, on Oct. 20, the mayor unilaterally imposed a mandatory vaccination requirement for all City employees just nine days before it took effect.

All City employees had to get their first shot by Oct. 29. To make it more disconcerting, the mayor offered \$500 to those who received their first dose during those nine days, ignoring those employees who voluntarily received their vaccinations before his mandate announcement.

Once again, de Blasio never discussed his plans with labor until 12 hours before his announcement. He never gave labor a chance to sit at the table and discuss the impact of all this. So, the MLC went back to court to file another Improper Labor Practice.

When he made his announcement, 46,000 workers were eligible for the \$500 incentive. If they all received the vaccine, the City would have to come up with \$23 million! Where exactly is that money coming from?

On Sept. 30, we signed an MOA with the City for DOE; on Oct. 6, we signed an agreement with H+H that is slightly different as they are a public health organization; and on Nov. 4, we signed an agreement with the City of New York replicating the arbitration agreement with DOE. You can view or download all of these agreements on our website's home page at www.cwa1180.org. For members who chose not to be vaccinated and/or who have medical or religious exemptions, the guidelines for your involuntary separation are included in the agreement. If you have questions, please call your Staff Rep at 212.226.6565 or email them at staffrepservices@cwa1180.org.

It definitely has been a battle with this administration to protect the rights of our members. This mayor, who we as a labor movement have bailed out time and time again, has once again betrayed the hardworking "essential workers" that he could not stop praising during the height of the pandemic.

Many city workers passed away from COVID, many more were infected, and more than that brought the infection home to their families and lost loved ones. We were told we were entitled to hazard pay from the Cares Act. Where is it?

We all want this deadly virus to disappear so we can return to some form of normalcy. We all want as many people as possible to get vaccinated so we can work side by side feeling safe and comfortable.

However, this Mayor went about it the wrong way. While he took away our dignity and our respect, he certainly did not take away our memory. We will never forget!

YEARS LATER

It was a day like any other in New York City. Commuters scrambling to get to their offices, coffee cups in hand, headphones in ears, not paying attention to much around them as they ran to catch the next subway or bus.

A typical morning — until it wasn't.

The city that moves at the speed of light came to a screeching halt within seconds. New Yorkers, accustomed to seeing and hearing almost everything, were shocked into initial silence by an event that made September 11, 2001, a turning point in American history.

On a clear Tuesday morning, at 8:45 a.m. as tens of thousands of New Yorkers were either finding their way to work or already there, an American Airlines Boeing 767 loaded with 20,000 gallons of jet fuel crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center.

The impact left an enormous, burning hole near the 80th floor of the 110-story skyscraper, immediately killing hundreds of people and trapping just as many in higher floors. However, no one knew that at the time.

As the evacuation of the towers began, most New Yorkers and Americans for that matter, thought it was a freak accident. Thousands in the building began racing down the stairs in an attempt to make their way to safety, not sure of exactly what was happening. Tens of thousands more outside on the streets stared up in disbelief, wondering what exactly was happening.

With confusion and concern abounding, office buildings close to the towers started to evacuate. Those working near the towers were told to go home, as police and firefighters, ambulances and other EMTs, made their way to the scene, not realizing what was to come. New Yorkers' initial shock of silence turned into deafening screams just 18 minutes later when a second Boeing 767, flying unbelievably low, turned sharply toward the World Trade Center and sliced into the south tower near the 60th floor.

New York City wasn't the only place to be sabotaged by terrorists on 9/11. Another plane plowed into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and a fourth was brought down in a crash on a Pennsylvania field by heroic passengers who fought back against terrorists.

On that horrific day, 20 years ago this year, almost 3,000 families' lives were changed forever. Their loved ones stolen away from them in mere minutes. In these 20 years, thousands of additional lives have been lost due to illnesses related to 9/11 - a day so senseless, so devastating, so unconscionable that it left a mark on the hearts of everyone old enough to have lived through it. Twenty years later, we can never forget

that day, the heroes lost, or the toxic fallout that continues to take lives daily.

Steve Henriquez (Computer Associate Technical Support 3) remembers the day like it was yesterday.

"I just dropped off my wife at 66 John St. (Department of Finance) and the first plane hit when I was on the Brooklyn Bridge going toward Brooklyn. I was able to see the World Trade Center from the roof of my building in Red Hook, Brooklyn, and saw the second plane hit. Then the towers fell soon after," Henriquez said.

At the time, he had just left a job with a hedge fund company and was not yet working for the City Department of Finance. He was, however, a member of the Army National Guard, and was activated that night. He drove to Ground Zero with 11 other members of his command in one of four Humvees with supplies, including blankets, cases of water, MREs (meals ready to eat), and other canned food.

Steve did not know exactly what he would be doing down at Ground Zero; all he knew is that he was told to go and coordinate with the NYPD to assist in whatever capacity was needed. What he saw upon arriving at Ground Zero is forever etched in his memory.

"There was that billow of smoke hovering over the site. The sun was setting and the billow of smoke was just sitting there. We didn't know what to think. When we got down there, we weren't even allowed through at first. We were the military and we weren't even allowed through, and then we saw everything," Steve said.

"We arrived at 6:00 at night. It looked like a war zone. Firetrucks were turned upside down. Buildings were smashed. We were taking firefighters back and forth, not just from FDNY, but from all over the place. Doctors, too. They were coming in from everywhere to help," Steve said. "We gave out cases of water and then we started doing traffic control. That night was just a wreck. It was ghost town. It was just the NYPD and the military. It was a scene out of a horrible movie."

He originally thought that movie was going to last for at least 10 years, based on the amount of destruction he saw on the streets in the three and a half weeks he spent on duty at Ground Zero. Dozens of sanitation dump trucks were coming in and out of the area 24/7, leading him and many others to believe it would take at least a decade for the iconic area to return to normal.





By Marci Rosenblum, Communications Director

"South of Canal is where I saw the iconic piece of the World Trade Center sticking out. It was still on fire and firefighters were hosing it down. I cried. I literally cried, and I don't cry. I said 'I can't believe they did this to us'. The billowing smoke hovered over downtown Manhattan for weeks," Steve said.

He and his Army National Guard soldiers were working seven days a week, 12 hours a day. Although he lives in Brooklyn, going home was not an option. He was stationed at the Jacob Javits Center, sleeping on cots, calling home on a pay phone to speak with his then 10-year-old daughter.

"She was scared for me then, but she always had confidence in me," Steve said. "We didn't tell her too much at the time about what was happening. She would say, 'he's my daddy, he's military, nothing bothers him'."

His daughter was wrong.

"9/11 was bad. The worst part was down by the rubble," Steve recalled. "Although everything was closed, a couple restaurants did everyone a favor and even though they weren't open, they were there making food for us for free. Everyone went there to get something to eat.

"Not far from there, I was talking to another soldier. At one point, I started backing up and I felt like I was stepping on something. I looked down and there was a hand sticking out of a body bag. There were body bags lined up all along the sidewalk across from the rubble because they were taking out all the body parts they found and they had to put them somewhere.

"They should have cordoned off the area, but they didn't. You smelled death everywhere. The PATH train was under there, and you could smell the stink everywhere. It was horrible. We were wearing masks like we're wearing now for COVID, but it didn't help. We had a lot of them, but there was just something in the air down there. You could tell it wasn't normal air you were breathing."

After three and a half weeks, Steve had had enough. When given the option of staying on as Military Police in the subways, or at Grand Central or Penn Station, he decided it was time to return to civilian life and look for a job.

"No one knew the extent of the terrorist attack. I didn't stay. I was worn out. I was tired, and I had to look for work. I had to find a job. Most of the guys who were activated had come from full-time jobs, but I was between jobs," he said. "I had a family and it was time to go home to them."

So much was going through his mind, like most Americans, during the attacks. But unlike most Americans, Steve was right there at Ground Zero in the aftermath. He now lives with chronic respiratory issues, and is enrolled in the World Trade Center Health Program so he can monitor his health. His daughter was 18 years old before he first told her about his experiences on 9/11 and the weeks that followed.

"I was thinking about the people who died. It was insane. There was so much going through my mind, like it's going to take them forever to clean this up. This is impossible. I was wondering if the terrorists were going to try and attack anywhere else," Steve said.

Twenty years ago this year, selfless heroes made the ultimate sacrifice. And selfless heroes like Steve Henriquez and thousands of others spent days, and weeks, and months devoting their lives to helping others.

The shock and horror of September 11 lives on. The attacks cast a long and dark shadow over American lives from which this country might never fully emerge. September 11, 2001, has become an inflection point—there was life before the terrorist attacks and there is life after them.

"Not too long after 9/11, I was sent to Iraq for a year and everyone asked me how I felt about being there. I felt like I was protecting American citizens because the terrorists were targeting us over there, so Americans here were safe," Steve said. "You could see the hate in their faces when you drove by them in the streets over there. Life does go on after 9/11, but this is not over."

The War on Terror Began

When American troops invaded Afghanistan less than a month after September 11th, they were launching what became the longest sustained military campaign in U.S. history.

Air Travel Was Transformed

Before 9/11, people didn't need a ticket to wander around the airport or wait at the gate; passenger IDs were not checked before boarding a plane; and the only item passengers had to remove before security was loose change from their pockets. Most airports didn't run background checks on their employees, and checked baggage was never scanned. That all changed with the creation of the TSA, a new federal agency created by Congress in Nov. 2001, that introduced U.S. travelers to new security protocols; tickets and photo IDs became required to get through screening; laptop computers and electronics had to be removed from carry-on bags; and shoes taken off. Liquids were restricted to threeounce containers, and conventional X-ray machines replaced with full-body scanners.



Anti-Muslim Violence Grew

Despite Islam being a peaceful religion whose true teachings had been twisted by terrorist extremists, many people around the world still equated the 9/11 attacks with Islam and sought vengeance on anyone that even looked Muslim.

Surveillance Increased

The Patriot Act was passed six weeks after 9/11 and authorized sweeping changes in how intelligence agencies like the FBI conduct surveillance. Rules meant to protect Americans from "unreasonable search and seizure" were loosened or thrown out in the name of national security. Agents could search a home without notifying the owner, and wiretap a phone line without establishing probable cause. In 2008, the FISA Amendments Act passed, giving the NSA nearly unchecked authorities to eavesdrop on American phone calls, text messages, and emails under the premise of targeting foreign nationals suspected of terrorism.

America Became Safer, But Altered

The security measures put in place after 9/11 have changed the way Americans live. The country has faced an "endless" War on Terror that has indelibly altered the fabric of American life.

9.11.2001 — 8:46 я.т.

Local 1180 members tell their stories of where they were when the first plane hit the Twin Towers 20 years ago and how that one singular day forever changed not only their lives, but New York City, and our country as well.



YEARS LATER

Laziness saved my life that day. I found out on the Saturday before that I was pregnant with my now 19-year-old daughter. That Tuesday was a particularly clear and beautiful late summer day and I was still adjusting to the fact that I was almost 16 weeks pregnant! The morning of 9/11, I was craving some Mrs. Fields chocolate chip cookies, but I was in the front of the A train and Mrs. Fields was at the end of the E train at the World Trade Center station. The A and E trains are approximately two city blocks long, which meant a four-block walk, plus the walk to 2 Washington St. That was way too long of a walk for me, so I decided I would go over there on my way home instead. I had made plans to leave work early that day anyway, so it wasn't going to be problem.

I was on the elevator at my job right across the street from Battery Park when the first plane hit at 8:46 a.m. I clocked in at 8:47 a.m., completely unaware of the plane crashing into the first tower. When I got to my desk, I noticed smoke wafting past my window and got up to go investigate. That's when a coworker came running down the floor screaming that a plane had flown into the World Trade Center. In complete shock and utter disbelief, I told her she had to be mistaken. There is no way a plane flew into a building; it had to be a helicopter, because that made more sense to me. No planes fly this low and this close to buildings. I'm saying this all while watching the smoke billow outside.

My boyfriend, my younger two children's father, and I worked on the same floor. He had only come in that day to get something he needed for an appointment that day and put in his time for the day. After I gave him the keys to my car, we parted ways, and he left the building. Just a few minutes later, he called me from outside and told me a plane had flown into the World Trade Center and he strongly suggested I leave immediately. As I am talking to him, my building shook, literally, from the second plane hitting the south tower.

I felt the shake! He and I both said 'oh shit' at the same time. He started yelling that he saw a plane hit the building and told me to leave NOW! I did just that.

I took the stairs down from the 14th floor of 2 Washington Street. Me, almost four months pregnant, jumping down landings! I made it out of the building, but could not locate my boyfriend. I was in such shock and utter disbelief that I walked right past him! I did not see him again until about 4 that afternoon!

I'm standing on Washington Street watching two gaping holes in what was an iconic New York City symbol burn! I am standing here watching people throw clothes out of the windows. I am wondering why people are throwing clothes out the windows until I realize it's people in the clothes coming out of the windows. People were jumping out the windows in an effort to escape the raging, jet fuel-fed fires! That was it for me. I ran to the train station and took the first thing moving out of the area.

I made it to Chambers Street and caught the J train to Queens. As the first tower was collapsing, I was sitting on the Williamsburg Bridge. I had a portable TV and was watching the events on the TV, as well as live through the window of the train. I had a birds-eye view of the building falling. Minutes later, the second tower fell.

It was a surreal day. It was one of those days you cannot actually believe is happening even though you see it! It felt like I was watching from above my body. I can't remember how far into Brooklyn I got before the trains were stopped, but I know it was before Myrtle Avenue. I caught the bus from there, which needless to say was jam packed!

As I sit here typing this, I am reliving this horrific day! I was never happier to finally leave lower Manhattan when I was promoted to PAA-I. As fate would have it, I was promoted right back down here to lower Manhattan to 180 Water St. In an effort to revitalize lower Manhattan, former Mayor Mike Bloomberg sold us out and put some HRA offices in 4 WTC, which included all of 180 Water St. and 2 Washington St. So here I am located in 4 WTC. I hate it here. It is a constant reminder of that tragically awful day.

Carolyn Gibson

Administrative Manager NM Department of Social Services



I was a Business Administration Major student at Kingsborough Community College.

The majority of students were in the auditorium panicking, hoping and waiting to see if counselors could help us get the classes we needed for the semester. The CBS news was on which we were watching to pass time. That is when I saw a plane crash into one of the Twin Towers.

At first I wasn't sure if what I was seeing was real.

Moments after we saw the second plane hit then it was reality. We were all stunned and after a moment we were silent. We were in shock. I was in shock! Then anger, then sadness. I was crying thinking of the lives lost.

Thoughts of fear racing through the minds of the people in the building and the families not knowing.

I was emotionally devastated for the people that morning, day, and years after. When we saw that it was a terrorist attack on the tower building and other buildings in the U.S., we were petrified at the act by those extremists.

Being Indian, my mom wanted to leave the country because of hate we would face because of our skin color and physical features. My family and I were crying as though it was our family in the tower buildings. I will never forget how shaken I was that day.

Natasha Mahabir Coordinating Manager L-A Coney Island Hospital

On 9/11 I was working on Water Street in the Central Office. I saw the first plane hit and thought the radar must have went off. It never occurred to me that we were being attacked by another country.

I was on my way, with my breakfast in my hand, to my job on the 24th floor and my good friend, Barbara Linthicum, stopped me and told me we were going back to Brooklyn. NOW... IMMEDIATELY... I still wasn't aware of the significance until we saw the second plane hit. We were then walking across the Brooklyn Bridge and Barbara lost it and started screaming and crying.

I had to talk her down, saying we were on the bridge, didn't know what was coming next, and we had to get off this bridge.

We saw people coming on the bridge covered in dust. People had radios blaring so we knew when the other plane went down near the Pentagon. We started seeing the people jumping from the windows of the towers. All we could see was people screaming and crying on the bridge.

When we got across the bridge, we saw hundreds of servicemen all up and down the street with rifles. We had no cell phone or regular phone service.

Needless to say, our first stop was Juniors' bar where the TV was on and was our first time getting the information we all wanted to know.

Juanita Russell Retiree

I was not a NYC employee, but was working for Federated Department stores for 12 years from 1989. However, A&S Manhattan was losing business quickly after making a lot of money in the 90s. I was displaced at the time and had injured my lower back.

Ironically, no one was in a union, only the electricians and security. But I filed for Workers' Compensation and received it in 1999.

In fact, I remember the maintenance workers had a demonstration outside on 33rd Street; Federated did not allow and did not want them to form a Union. That was my first real brush with what being in a Union really means. I thought Federated was wrong in taking that position against I think 32 BJ, whose headquarters I have visited a few times on West 18th Street. No, I was not a CWA member, I am one now, but I do remember what it was like NOT to be in Union from working at Federated and seeing the Maintenance workers marching and protesting outside the store on West 33rd St. It made an impact upon me. Unionism that is. For one Maintenance worker was so worked up he was almost arrested.

I was laid off from March 2001 from A&S Sterns and until I went to a Job Fair at City College, in mid September 2001, I do remember that FEMA had a table, at the CCNY job fair. I was attending as a CWE student. They accepted my resume and hired me on the spot for 3 years. I worked for FEMA, at 26 Federal, 80 Centre street, but mostly at Piers 90 and 92 on West 50th 12 Avenue. I worked sometimes, 7 days a week, but with not benefits. I was driven by a desire to help others and my Country. Although, I did not vote for Mr. Bush and it was after the intense 2000 Presidential election of Bush vs Gore, and the alleged voter fraud that occurred in Florida in November where Mr. Gore came up the loser of that Presidential election.

That in itself was an experience. I worked in mail, and in October 2001, the Anthrax attacks occurred in Florida. Yet people at FEMA did not want to handle the mail. Many thought there was a connection and were afraid. It turned out to no connection at all. NYC was in quite a mess, as the photographers from all across the Nation descended on Manhattan, and saw the reality of the attacks. I worked in the aftermath. I did not want to go down to Ground Zero, at that time. Heroes or not, the conditions were far too dangerous. It took awhile for the Bush Administration to admit that. And we see another aftermath of the many who died or became very ill at Ground Zero while helping in the excavation of bodies and the general cleanup. There was also an incident that a fist fight occurred between NYPD and FDNY at Ground Zero that was documented in news papers. That was pathetic, funny and sad. And at the time Mayor Giuliani, a former liberal, showed some compassion. But all of that led to Mr. Bloomberg's ascent for more than 10 years as Mayor. And we all know, in the Unions, what the end result was

Eric L. Henry

Supervisor, Office Machines OPS Department of Social Services I was working at 2 Broadway when I was coming

from the Staten Island Ferry. I worked for the NYC Transit Authority. That was the worst day of my life when I saw the buildings go down. I walked and I was breathing all the smoke, debris, etc. My daughter worked across from 2 Broadway at Broad Street. I went looking for her, but she was at her office at Goldman Sachs.

I finally went up to her office and stood with her.

While I was outdoors, all I can say is I was breathing all that dust, soot, etc. I felt it going down to my lungs. I'm also enrolled with the 9/11 World Trade compensation. I was compensated with a good amount, but all the money in the world is not important.

Sixteen years later on March 17, 2017, I was diagnosed with stage 3a lung cancer. I am getting chemo and Keytruda at Weill Cornell Hospital. The care from the doctors are excellent. It is 4 years and 4 months. I pray that I will survive this. I get CT scans every 3 month. Thank God, so far so good thanks to a lot of praying to our Lord and Saint Peregrine, the patron saint for cancer.

Kaye M. Cerri Retiree

"This has to be a bad dream."

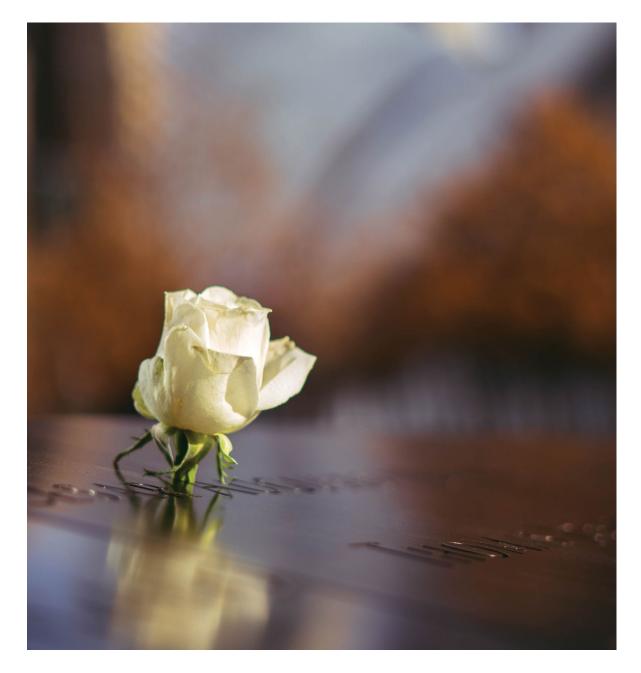
I was on the Staten Island Ferry heading to a meeting at DOF sitting with another DOF employee when we noticed the smoke of the first tower only to see the second tower fire ball when it was hit.

The captain shut the engine off and began making announcements that NYPD advised not to sail to Manhattan. There were screams, but then the boat was completely quiet as everyone sat in shock watching what no one could believe was happening. The boat sat idle for awhile until the captain announced that we were cleared to return to St. George, but that upon docking, everyone needed to calmly disembark and leave the ferry terminal immediately. No one would be permitted to loiter.

I left the ferry and hurried back to my office, which was just up the hill from the ferry to find all of my coworkers out on the street watching the horror unfold across the bay. We watched the towers fall with tears and prayers.

Kathleen McAloon Retired, June 2021

(On 9/11, Kathleen was a PAA II working at the Department of Finance.)



I was home when my wife called from our daughter's school to tell me what had happened. I turned on the TV and saw the pictures.

I got dressed and my wife came home. I drove my car in Brooklyn to 11 Metrotech Center where I worked as a platoon commander for the NYPD communications 911 call center. I drove against traffic and made my way through Prospect Park to Flatbush Ave. I had to stop several blocks from my job and walk the rest of the way, which was several blocks. When I got there, I reported in.

There was supposed to be an award ceremony that day so my counterparts from other tours and others were there already. I then organized my roll call for the tour while my inspector dismissed everyone there for the ceremony, which was of course a bad idea. I don't think he realized the gravity of not having additional staff present, not knowing who would show up for my tour. That left me a skeleton crew in charge until I found out who would appear or show up.

Joseph Marenfeld

Retiree

I was a PPCT who woke up early for a 4X12 shift in the 9/11 Metrotech Center, Brooklyn. I had bills to pay and wanted to stop at the bank before I left for work. My radio was on CBS news radio 880 when I heard the news. Recalling that CBS had its antenna on the Empire State building instead of the World Trade Center, I turned on the TV and watched with horror as the second plane crashed into the Trade Center, and nearly lost my breakfast as I saw the south tower collapse and decided it was time to show up. I got there a little after noon, and assisted as radio coordinator with the day shift P.C.T.s and P.P.C.T.s who calmly and professionally dispatched NYPD resources everywhere they were needed. I'm so grateful for the inspiration support and the hope in humanity they gave me as I walked into the radio as a cohort of evil people attacked us.

Ira Shimshi

Principal Police Communication Technician Police Dept.

I was working that day. On my way in from the

Rockaways, I saw the scarred tower. We were told on the train that a small plane had crashed into the Trade Center. I came above ground into chaos at Broadway/Nassau. I thought I might see my sister who was supposed to be in one of towers now among those evacuated. Told to get off Broadway, I got trapped on John Street.

James Brown

Assistant Coordinating Manager H+H Elmhurst Hospital Center



I was knee deep in tears! I was working in roll call. My co-workers and I were watching TV, looking at the towers falling. We then had to get on the phone and call every available person to come into work. It was the worst day period!! We worked 10-hour days. After a month, we had to work seven days a week. I never ever want to experience anything like that again. Of course, we have a hurricane, then a black out, and a pandemic. I think we have been through it all.

Janelle Brown PAA II, Police Dept. I will never forget that day. My family and I just got back from vacation. I dropped my daughter off at school. I looked up at the sky and said to myself 'what a beautiful, sunny day'.

I got back home and eventually put on the TV. I thought I was watching a movie. I was in a state of shock. The first plane struck the towers and the rest was history. My cell phone rang. I had to pick up my daughter. The school staff stated that the school was closing. We stayed home and prayed.

We must count our blessings that we survived that horrible tragedy.

Damita Williams PAA III, ACS On September 11, 2001, I began my Medicaid position as a PAA1 in Coney Island. The day was supposed to be quiet, as most took a three-day weekend because of the mayor primary day after Labor Day weekend. We got the word about 11:30 by custodial staff to vacate the building because of possible terrorists attacking the World Trade Center. I was the supervisor responsible for making sure everyone in the office left the building, and telling the custodian after everyone had left the building so he could account for everyone being out of the building. When I arrived home, CBS News had said of terrible instances of planes crashing into Twin Towers and Pentagon in D.C. Will NEVER forget that terrifying day.

Marc Baron Retiree



As most people say, the first thing you noticed was the absolutely gorgeous, clear blue sky when you left the house that morning.

It was primary day, so I decided to vote before I went into work at Coney Island Hospital's Engineering and Design Department. As I walked from the polls up Avenue Y towards

Ocean Avenue to get the bus (it had to have been somewhere between 8:46 and 9:00 AM), I ran into someone from my mother's building who told me a plane flew into the World Trade Center. Again, like most people, I figured it was a small plane that had a terrible accident because it was flying too low.

I decided, as I walked to the bus, to stop into the bagel store to pick up breakfast. When I walked in, everyone was talking at once. I told someone that I heard a plane had flown into the World Trade Center and what a terrible accident it was. Didn't understand how

it could happen. Then someone said another plane just flew into the trade center. I was completely confused. Thinking that people were getting the story wrong, I decided to call my friend Mark at work for clarification. That's when he told me that, yes, a second plane flew into the other tower and it's believed that we are under attack. I just shook my head in disbelief, not comprehending the gravity of the situation.

When I got to work, everyone was in front of a television. I was in my boss's office surrounded by a group of engineers. Once again, I was confused. You see, I had worked in the north tower on the 86th floor in the 80s and it didn't make sense to me how single pieces of the building were flying out of the building. I kept watching. I kept questioning. Suddenly, one of the men I was sitting with put his hand on my shoulder and said, "Tina. That's not the building........." Just as he said it, there he was. The man in the suit with his arms and legs stretched out. He came out of the building. The last thing I remember is screaming, "NO!!!! WHAT IS HE DOING??? DOESN'T HE KNOW HOW HIGH UP HE IS???" I could never look down from my office. I could only look out at the Statue of Liberty. It was just too high. How could they do it?

In the days that followed, all I could do was have my little television on at work and watch the news reports because it was on all day. And I just cried and cried. I remembered working there. I remembered the newsstand as you came down the



On that day I was living in Parkchester attending college and in the Army Guard. Just like any other day, my mom woke me up and told me what happened. We were in the living room and I watched the plane fly into the second tower.

I had a friend that did work in the tower at the time. Thank god he survived. As I am watching this unfold, I knew we were under attack and we were going to war.

As a member of the 145th Maintenance Company, my unit and I were mobilized in the heart of what was known at the time as Ground Zero. I was posted on Church Street in front of BMCC, which was a morgue at the time. As time went on, I was there working with NYPD guarding the perimeter.

I honestly do not like going down there. Lives were lost needlessly.

Wallace Jean Retiree <image>

I was in MLK High School ready to start work in the CSE for Manhattan High Schools. A co-worker said someone told her on the phone that a plane hit the tower. We listened to 1010WINS throughout the morning. I didn't know anyone who worked in the towers. I felt a sense of horror for the souls who died in the towers and as I walked home, I could see the smoke rising where the towers used to be. I never worked in lower Manhattan nor do I work there now. I'm retired.

Vincent DiPietro Retiree

escalator, and to the left was a Hallmark store and a Fanny Farmer chocolate store. There was a natural food store, Cornucopia, where I learned about health food dog food for my dogs. I don't even have to close my eyes to see it all — even almost 20 years later.

Traumatized did not describe how I reacted when I saw that man, and it never left me. About three weeks later, I went down to my trade center. As I stood on Broadway and (was it Fulton or John Street?) I looked at that one piece stuck in the rubble and just completely lost it. I was hysterical. A young man from the National Guard came over to me. He was dressed in full military gear with a big, scary gun. He asked me if I was alright, if I needed help. I suddenly stopped crying. I took a breath and I said, "No. I'm OK. I'm not going to cry anymore. Because if I cry, then those bastards win." He just looked at me for another moment, nodded and walked away. I think, since that day, I have only cried maybe five times. I. Just. Can't. Cry. Those bastards will not win.

Around that time, someone in my neighborhood was also struggling with what happened. He was a carpenter by trade and went down to the trade center on that day to dig through the rubble to find survivors. When he realized that it was not to be, he came home, drove into Bill Brown Park and just started painting on the handball court. For days, people came by giving him food and drink and, as the sun set, they shined their car lights on the wall so he could continue painting. People asked if he could put up name after name of a loved one that was lost. We gathered with him on the 11th of every month as he painted. He played music and we all sang to give ourselves and each other comfort. As the months wore on and it finally started to get cold in February, attendance dropped. However, a small group of us decided that this could not end. So a group comprised of families who lost family and people who wanted to support them created the Brooklyn/Bedford Park 9/11 Memorial. We became friends/ family – FR-AMILY. With the blessing of the Parks Department and the NYPD, we have gathered there EVERY September 11 since to remember. And we will be there every year to make sure that the people who are on that wall, the people who were murdered that day and the people who continue to die from 9/11 related diseases today are always remembered. You know. I always say this. As proud as I am for what we do each year, I would give up the amazing friendships I have because of this memorial if Frank could have Gregory back, if Tony could have Louie back, if Regina could have Jimmy back, if Bob could have Alan back and my beloved friend Mary could have Lucy back. I've seen what these last twenty years have done to her.

I WILL NEVER FORGIVE AND I WILL NEVER FORGET.

Tina F. Gray Assistant Coordinating Manager NYC H+H Coney Island



MY NEW YORK MOMENT

After 20 years, it seems like a long time. I wrote this 20 years ago because everyone all over the world was asking me what I did.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2001

At 8 a.m., I arrived at my office building located at 40 Rector St., three short blocks south of the World Trade Center. I went to lunch at noon and walked up West Street past the World Trade Center and the Marriott Hotel and made a deposit at a cash machine one block north of the Trade Center. I then returned by walking through the underground mall of the Trade Center and stopped by a magazine store. I also stopped by the Hallmark store that had several items on sale for Halloween and Christmas. When I walked out of the Trade Center mall, I didn't know it would be my last time. At 4 p.m., I said good night to my supervisor, Sandra Williams, and reminded her that I was taking the next day off because I was working in the primary election for a candidate running for the New York City Council. Ms. Williams wished me good night and said she would see me on Wednesday. I didn't know it, but it would be the last time I would see Mr. Salas, a co-worker. He was an elderly man in his 70s who had a heart condition. He would die the next day from a heart attack when he got caught in a dust cloud in front of our building after Tower 2 collapsed.

TUESDRY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

At 4:30 a.m., I got out of bed, had a quick shower and breakfast, and reported to my candidate's headquarters. I was then sent to a school on Staten Island as a poll watcher at 6:00 a.m. When I arrived, I was met by a NYC police officer in uniform who informed me that it was his first time assigned to work at a polling place during an election. A short while later a friend of mine, who I knew from my hiking club, came by and voted. She informed me that she was on her way to Manhattan to work for another candidate for City Council. I told her I would call her later that night.

At about 8:55 a.m., the police officer told me that an airplane had just flown into the north tower of the World Trade Center. I asked him if it had been a small plane, but he said it had apparently been an airliner. On the officer's radio, I heard a

"It should be noted that several hundred Staten Island and New York City residents went to their local hospitals on this day to give blood. So much blood was given that by the end of the week, the blood banks were full." radio operator request that all radio channels be cleared for the Boro Command and for emergency response units only. I heard several emergency units responding by radio to the Trade Center. About a half-hour later, the officer reported that a second plane had just flown into the south tower. At that point, the officer, the other poll workers, and I concluded that it had to be some type of terrorist attack. A few minutes later, an unmarked police car pulled

up in front of the school. A plain-clothes officer ran out of the car and rushed into the school. This officer said that he had to say good night to his wife, a school employee, because he knew he wouldn't be coming home that night. He told me that I should go see the Trade Center Towers on fire for it's something to see. Based on what the officer told me, I had to go see for myself.

I got into my car and drove about 10 minutes to Bay Street on Staten Island. When I arrived, I noticed several individuals were standing on the sidewalks next to a promenade overlooking Manhattan. Some of them had binoculars and others had telescopes, but all of them where looking at the Twin Towers. I also looked in sudden disbelief. They looked like two factory chimneys belching smoke now rising high into the sky. All I could think about was the poor persons who had either died, or were still in the Twin Towers. I watched this sight for approximately three minutes, and then I couldn't look anymore. I then turned my car around and returned to the school.

I didn't have a very good feeling inside. In a short while, we were informed that another plane had just flown into the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. It was also reported that another plane, which was apparently on its way to Washington, had just crashed in Pennsylvania. Later, the officer informed us that he had just heard over his radio that the south tower of the Trade Center had collapsed. I listened in on the officer's radio and heard another police officer screaming that he had just been buried alive in the rubble. I heard the same officer say that he and his partner had just dug themselves out and that he had a broken wrist, and to please call his wife to say that he was OK. There were other reports coming over the radio of other police officers and fire fighters being buried in the rubble of the Trade Center.

I also heard a report from a Staten Island Ferryboat, which was in New York Harbor and heading toward Manhattan. The boat was apparently taking additional police officers, fire fighters, and medical personnel to the Trade Center site. The boat reported that a dust cloud from the collapsed towers had just covered the ferry dock at the tip of Manhattan and the boat couldn't dock. A radio operator told the boat to try and dock at 34th Street.

By this time, all school employees seemed to stop working. Several of them found television sets or radios and brought them into the polling area. A short while later, the officer informed us that the north tower had just collapsed as well. Parents began showing up at the school and removing their children.

At about 11 a.m., it was announced over the radio that the primary election had been canceled by New York's governor and would be rescheduled for another day. Several poll workers wondered if they should take a vote count before they closed. I recalled saying that because all that was going on, it was foolish to take a vote count. No count was taken, and the voting machines were closed. (It should be noted that one of our campaign workers had voted at 6 a.m. and then reported to work in the Trade Center. She was never heard from again and her vote never counted).

I reported back to my candidate's headquarters, and everyone was watching a television; several had tears in their eyes. I also managed to make a phone call to my parents in New Jersey to tell them I was OK. My candidate asked a group of us if we wanted to join him in giving blood at St. Vincent's Hospital, which was across the street from the campaign headquarters. About 12 volunteers and I went to donate.

After about an hour, I was able to give blood. I have to admit, I don't like needles and don't give blood that often. But all I could think about was if my blood was going to keep a firefighter or someone's parent alive, then I wanted to give. My nurse told me in a very quiet voice that the husband of the nurse who was working behind her had responded to the Trade Center with an Emergency Service Unit, and so far, no one had heard anything about him. She then said despite the fact that they had no word about her husband, her co-worker was working away like nothing had happened. I sat up and looked at her co-worker who appeared to be very busy. After I had given blood, I gave my nurse a hug. I then wished her good luck because she was going to have a busy night and walked away. As I walked out of the hospital, there were about five to six hundred people now waiting to give blood. The hospital at this time was taking names only and telling the people that arrangements would be made for them to come another day to give.

It should be noted that several hundred Staten Island and New York City residents went to their local hospitals on this day to give blood. So much blood was given that by the end of the week, the blood banks were full.

I returned to my neighborhood late in the afternoon. My apartment is only a five-minute walk to a park with a beautiful view of lower New York harbor and the New York skyline. A crowd had gathered in the park and everyone was looking to where the Twin Towers once stood. I looked but nothing but smoke was now coming from the ground.

In my apartment, I turned on the television and watched the local news, but I couldn't watch it for long. (The scene of a person jumping from one of towers just sickened me.) As I was listening to the news, I heard the mayor request that all retired police officers and firemen contact the city because they were now apparently again needed. I was neither, but I called Boro police command for Staten Island anyway. I explained to the female detective who answered the phone that I worked for another city agency, plus I had wilderness first aid training from my hiking

club. She instructed me to come on down; that they could use all the help they could get at this time.

I drove to the Borough command where I was instructed by a police officer to report to a field at South Beach Park. It was the staging area for all the retired cops and civilians who were coming to volunteer. When I arrived, I met a retired police captain named Ruff, who had just set up a command post on one of the park's picnic tables. I identified myself to him and told him that I had first aid training. He told me that he was glad to have me. He told me that several of the retired officers were at a nearby hospital to help to set up a helicopter landing area, (it was thought at the time that there would be thousand of persons with injuries). But no helicopter ever came, and all injured persons that were still alive were treated in Manhattan. Only about thirty were treated in Staten Island Hospitals. I went to the hospital and stood around for a while with some of the retired officers. After an hour I was told I wasn't needed but to report back the staging area the next morning.

"I met a woman on the bus the other day who had gotten out of the 90th floor of the south tower. When the first plane hit the north tower, she got up and left her office with several co-workers and started to walk down the emergency stairs to the ground floor. After they had gone down three flights of stairs, two of her co-workers said they had two of her co-workers said they had forgotten something. They went back to their offices and she never saw them again."

That night I didn't sleep that well. I just want to get up and do something.

WEDNESDRY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2001

I'm not sure what time I had gotten up in the morning, but below Canal Street in Manhattan, all the buildings were closed. Since my building was below Canal Street, I knew I would not be going into work. Also, the magnitude of the tragedy was starting to become clear: about 350 firefighters, 78 police officers, and several thousand civilians were missing and presumed dead.

EPILOGUE

I returned to work on Oct. 25 and was finally able to hear my co-workers' stories. One had just walked into our office when she heard an explosion. She went to the lobby window and saw a tire from the plane that hit the north tower roll down the street and come to a stop at the bottom of a street sign. Three of our office managers went to the south tower to see what they could do. All of them witnessed people jumping from the buildings. Also, when the south tower collapsed, one of them witnessed a woman yelling hysterically. He ran over, tackled this woman to the ground, and rolled on top of her. He probably saved that woman's life, but cracked a rib while getting her to the ground. He and the woman were caught in a dust cloud. When the air cleared, there were several inches of white dust around them. The woman took this manager to her friend's apartment nearby and he was able to clean himself up. Several other co-workers got caught in the dust clouds as well.

I met a woman on the bus the other day who had gotten out of the 90th floor of the south tower. When the first plane hit the north tower, she got up and left her office with several co-workers and started to walk down the emergency stairs to the ground floor. After they had gone down three flights of stairs, two of her co-workers said they had forgotten something. They went back to their offices and she never saw them again. She and the other co-workers kept going. At the third floor from the ground, when the second plane hit the south tower, the building swayed, but they kept going. At the

ground floor she was met by a police officer who told her to run. She told the officer she couldn't because she had just come down from the 90th floor and was exhausted. The officer picked her up on his shoulder took her across the street and put her inside the lobby of another building. The officer then went back to the trade center and she never saw the officer again. When the towers collapsed, she was safe inside the building that officer had put her in.

I met a police officer several days later who arrived on the scene a few hours after the towers collapsed. He said it was something to see, for there were about 500 injured persons on the ground being treated around the site. He also had the job of collecting the bodies of the people who had jumped. He told me most of these people were badly burned. They made a choice of either burning to death or ending their lives by jumping. A choice he hoped (and I hope) he would never have to make. He also told me that he was wearing a surgical mask, the kind they wear in hospitals, which didn't do much good. He told me that the air he and the other rescue workers were

breathing contained PCBs and asbestos. He told me that later they found the body of a stewardess on top of one of the buildings. She had been bound and gagged. They found body parts of one of the terrorists. He had apparently been catapulted from the plane when it hit the building, and his body was apparently pulled apart by the force.

My borough, Staten Island, lost about 200 people in the Trade Center attack. Also, 330 children lost parents. A firehouse not far from my apartment had 14 firemen respond to the scene, but only one came back. The firehouse has become Staten Island's shrine to September 11th.

At the present time, many people can't stop talking about September 11th. Others, like my office building security guard, can't talk about it. They saw too much of the body parts near our office building and the people jumping out of the towers.

I have to say that the Twin Towers were never my favorite buildings, and I had never been to the observation deck or to the restaurant Windows of the World. When I had visitors come to New York, I always took them to the Empire State Building. However, I enjoyed the mall at the ground floor, which I found a great place to shop during my lunch breaks.

The other day, one of my co-workers was telling me how lucky I was that I was not at work on September 11th; that I was immune to the horror that everyone else saw. He might have been right. However, if I had been there, I would have done whatever I could.

On September 11th and the days after, like most people, I wanted to do more than I did. I also realize that I did more than most people. Most of the people like myself who volunteered wanted to do something. Like myself, they weren't able to do as much as they wanted.

Mason Logie, Jr.

PAA, Civilian Complaint Review Board



THE LAST TRAIN OVER THE WILLIAMSBURG BRIDGE ON 9/11/01

On the morning of 9/11/01, I left my home for work around 7:50 a.m. It was a beautiful, clear, sunny morning. I live in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. I boarded the "M" train from Lorimer Street Station to Chambers Street, Brooklyn Bridge Station.

As I exited the station about 8:35 a.m., I noticed several fire trucks racing down Park Row by City Hall Park. I turned to watch the direction in which they were going. At that time, I noticed smoke coming from the World Trade building. Thinking maybe something minor happening (anonymous to what was really going on), I proceeded on to my work location at 220 Church St. I worked on the sixth floor of that building for Child Support Litigation, Office of Legal Affairs, for the City of NY, in the title as Principle Administrative Associate (Supervisor of the Support staff assisting 28 Attorneys for the Dept. Of Social Services).

As I arrived at work, my co-workers that had already arrived were all gathered in our manager's office, which had a clear view of the World Trade buildings. I asked what was going on and they responded a plane had crashed accidentally into the building. I responded with an, "oh no!"

As we proceeded to watch, just a minute or two later, another plane hit the other building, and a ball of fire emerged from the building as if it was coming our way. Our building shook. We all were in a panic and decided to leave the office, but our manager asked us not to leave, and to try to stay calm until we could find out what was happening because he was afraid if we went down into the streets, it probably would be worst panicking.

I told him, "I'm sorry, but two planes crashing is no accident! I'm getting out of this city while I can!" Everyone else agreed and followed. He was right. It was so many people down in the streets looking up at the site of the Twin Towers, cars could hardly pass. As I proceeded on my route back to the train station, I heard all kinds of conversations regarding what was happening. At one instance, I heard this man that was looking up at the Twin Towers with his binoculars, saying, "Those buildings are gonna fall! There's no way they can stand now!" I remember walking and running faster after I heard this.

As I entered the train station, an "M" train was just pulling in. My thoughts were, "Should I get on or not? Would I get stuck on there? Would they cut the service?" I prayed and boarded the train. Everyone on there looked nervous, uneasy, and very quiet. As we were crossing midway over the Williamsburg Bridge, someone yelled out, "The towers are falling!" We all raced to look out the windows, and the buildings were crumbling just like the man with the binoculars said. It was just shock and disbelief what was happening before our eyes. People weren't quiet anymore. Everyone was giving their opinions of what was happening. Most thoughts were terrorism.

As I exited the train at Lorimer Street Station, there were police officers in the station with their walkie-talkies. One said the train service in and out of Manhattan had been shut down, and that a plane had just crashed into the Pentagon. People in the station were panicking, saying we are being attacked by terrorists. I left the station, headed toward my son's HS to pick him up, and we went home. Worrying more, because my already retired husband was not home. There was no communication at all. The phones were down. All I did was worry and wait. My husband made it home later that evening. He had gone downtown Brooklyn to the DMV to renew his license, which he wasn't able to do because everything shut down and he had to walk home.

I felt guilty thinking about everyone else who hadn't made it out. The majority of them had to walk across the bridges, stories told later.

In conclusion of my story, what I was feeling resulted into anxiety disorder, which included phobias and fear every time an airplane would fly over my building. Something I never noticed before: afraid to ride the train, returning back to work, and hearing of all those horrific deaths.

This date, 9/11, carries a heavy burden of memory. It also carries a day of blessings for me because my oldest son was born on that date.

And it is right that it should not pass from our memory. But that day, 9/11 in my prayer, along with our remembrance of profound loss, it also seems right that we give voice to our deep longing for peace like we did after that tragic day when we all, united in love for one another and with this prayer, commit ourselves to those actions that will draw us back closer to our most ancient and most holy desires: peace among all God's children.



ALWAYS IN OUR HEARTS.

Deloris Glenn Retired 2004

(During 9/11, Deloris was a PAA in the Office of Legal Affairs, Child Support Litigation, at 220 Church Street)





I was on the #3 train going to the New York City lottery office to cash in a lottery ticket before going to work. The train stopped at Park Place and waited 15 minutes or more in the station before Chambers Street.

That's where I was going to get off, because it's where the lottery office was. The stop at Park Place actually saved my life. My friend and I got off the train there, went upstairs, and stopped in at Burger King. It was crowded, so I walked out before ordering.

The area on Park Place was under construction. The crowd was walking to and fro, and I heard a loud noise. But, being from New York City, I (and many others), thought some construction material hit the ground, until a man who had seen the plane go into the building was running and crying... and he cried, shouting, "Plane went into a building!"

The crowd stepped in the street and saw what looked like clean smoke coming from the World Trade Center building. Thank God my friend and I got confused about the location and we started walking in the opposite direction. We saw mounds of fire trucks heading toward the building that was hit by the plane. The firemen were laughing; smiling without real concern that this day would be their last day.

My friend and I walked until we reached Centre Street. A mass number of people were outside the court building nearest the bridge. Men in various uniforms with rifles in their hands were on the bridge to prevent cars from entering or exiting. Drivers on Centre Street, and those who had left the building and got inside their parked cars, rolled down their car windows so that the mass number of people who were outside could hear the news on the radios. But everyone was looking up because a plane was flying low, and we witnessed that plane go into the second building.

I was so close to the building when the plane hit. Oh! The sound! The noise! It was so loud on the second tower when we were outside. We were looking up. We saw the plane. It was flying so low. I actually saw it going into the building. People were in real shock. Once we heard the Pentagon was hit, then we knew.

People near me were crying; hollering, "What is happening?" I don't know how many minutes passed before we heard from the car radios that the Pentagon was also hit by a plane. And then we heard on the radio that it was a terrorist attack.

After that announcement, people who were disabled, strong, young, and old, started walking or

running in various directions. I started running, and suddenly people ahead of me turned around and started running toward me. I stopped, until I saw a huge ball of smoke rolling like a huge tumble weed towards my direction. I turned and started running. Those who were moving slow were pushed and shoved by other people.

I ran down the Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall train station steps, and made a phone call on the one public telephone not far from the base of the steps. I called my job and spoke to my supervisor who was hearing loud voices of people hollering or crying. She then told me to hang up and get to safety. My friend grabbed me; we went through the turnstile and onto a stopped #6 train. The train started moving.

When the train was approaching the 14th Street stop, the conductor announced 14th Street would be the last stop and no train lines would be moving. On 14th Street, we could see the top of the Twin Tower building that was hit by the plane with dark smoke coming from it. A mass of people were walking and looking up. We heard people saying that's the second plane that was hit and, suddenly, we saw that building crumbling from within... and we saw no more of that building.

The atmosphere was gloomy, but I did not hear any New Yorkers complaining. This included disabled, young and old, strong and weak. All, just quietly moving along, trying to get home.

I don't know what street we were on when we saw a bus stopped to let some people off. We got on with only knowing that this bus was heading uptown. And, while the bus doors (the front & back) were still open, a large crowd of people got on, too. The bus driver refused to stop until he reached 68th Street on the west side. Everyone had to get off.

I live on 147th Street between Lenox and 7th Avenue, and was pleased I was getting closer to home. My friend and I were walking uptown on Central Park with a large crowd of people. A #10 bus stopped where I was standing to let people off. Then we got on and the bus driver announced the bus would not stop until it reached 116th Street. People who lived in Harlem were excited with joy. We walked to 116th Street and 7th Avenue when a #2 bus stopped to let people off and allowed us to come on.

When I got home after four hours (I was truly blessed), I had to close my windows that were open because of the strange air smell from the fallen Twin Towers. I laid on my bed in a fetal position trying to sleep, but I could not because I had experienced a taste of what an outbreak of terrorist attacks on New York City would be like. Then I slept, because I realized that myself and other New Yorkers are resilient people that would not crumble or fall under any fearsome attack, but keep moving to survive. I thank God for New York and its good people.

That's all something I wish I had not experienced, but I did and I survived it. It was such a frightening time, to see a plane go into a building! For years I was scared seeing a plane flying overhead... if it was too low.

Colleen Basheradan Coordinating Manager NYC H+H Morrisania



I worked midnights in the local precinct. The job said: no excuses, we must come into work. At the time, I had an eight year old who liked fire. No way was I leaving him in the house with lit candles. His 80-year-old grandmother would be fine, as she usually slept through the night. So, off to work my son and I went. The drive in was uneventful. The precinct was super busy. I got telephone switch board duty that night. The calls were unbelievable.

Ann Marie Delva PAA, NYPD

I was at my job at the Medicaid Office, 330 W. 34th St., 2nd floor, in the office of my boss, Othello Skeets.

Later on that day, we learned that my boss' secretary Norma Powell had lost her only child, Jason Powell. He was on the 99th floor of the World Trade Center. We all started crying, and I started praying. We could see the smoke from our office at 34th street.

We saw a lot of people with soot and covered with debris from that plane crash. One lady on the train said she had to go and buy some shoes because she lost hers. That was a day that I will never forget. Norma Powell died last year. I pray to God that this will never happen again; that all of those people did not die in vain.

Olivia V. Livingstone Retiree I remember that day like it was yesterday. I was taking my younger daughter to school. She was four years old. While waiting for the elevator in my building, I remember seeing smoke from the Twin Towers. I could see it very clear. I thought that was very strange. I said to myself "that can't be".

After dropping her off, I went to vote in the primary election, which is on a Tuesday. I ran for the bus and kept looking out the window. The smoke was so prevalent. I can't remember if I asked the question or someone just told me, that a plane had crashed into the Twin Towers. The question came to me, "Why would that plane crash into the towers, and why was it flying so low to do so?"

When I arrived to work, everything unfolded. They said that the plan crash was probably a terrorist attack. It not only happened in New York. In Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. It was so frightening. I forget what time, but one of the towers came down. I felt numb. We were then sent home from our job. My colleagues were calling their families. One of my colleagues drove me and my other colleague (friend) home. Schools were dismissing the children. It was a very sad day in America.

My husband when he got off from his job, went to help at Ground Zero that day and did not return until night. I was concerned that he wasn't home yet. But was relieved when he arrived.

Helen Brown

PAA, Department of Education

I knew my friend NYPD ESU-3 PD Police Officer Jerome Mark Patrick Dominguez (Also a Scuba Dive Rescue Diver) who was working on routine patrol overtime in the Wall Street area after working the night shift in the Bronx, and I knew NYPD Det. Jimmie Giery, both who died after entering multiple times making several rescues before dying in the collapse.

I knew NYC FD (FDNY) William M. Feehan, 71, First Deputy Fire Commissioner, FDNY, a 42-year FDNY veteran, who held almost every title within the FDNY and had served as First Deputy Fire Commissioner since 1992 (and briefly held the post of Acting Fire Commissioner in 1993-94), and NYC FD (FDNY) Chief of Department Chief Peter James Ganci, who both were on scene when the building collapsed on top of them.

Also, through/by "work-acquaintance", the American Franciscan friar and Catholic priest who served as chaplain to the New York City Fire Department, Father Mychal Fallon Robert Emmett Judge, O.F.M., who was the first certified fatality of the September 11, 2001, attacks.

I saw the second plane hit the tower. After the collapse, I was working for the NYC FDNY inside Ft. Totten, Queens in the "Special Projects" Office, and the FDNY Ft. Totten Operations Office, which was then "next door."

Thomas C. DeMatas Retiree I worked for the 911 system in New York and Brooklyn. I happened to be off that day, and didn't know anything happened until I went to go in my car and turned the radio on.

I went back into the house and put on the television and couldn't believe what had happened. My family and I were glued to the television. Then we heard that a plane was missing. I got in my car and got my son. He was in middle school at the time. I thought we might die, so I wanted all of us to be together. We watched TV all night and cried.

The next day I had to go to work. I had to show my police ID to get on the bridges and tunnels. I worked for 911 system in Brooklyn and did a double shift. It was a very busy day with many calls.

When I left, I had to go home. I went into downtown New York to go to the Holland Tunnel and it looked like something from a movie. There was white ash everywhere, no people, only officers in gas masks. No one was in the tunnel. It was so eerie.

Officers were at the beginning of each entrance of tunnels and bridges checking IDs. Our freedom was jeopardized.

About a week later, I went to see what was left of the World Trade Center. I couldn't get too close; the streets were blocked, but even the block behind it you could see parts of the building sticking up, but all in a rumble of pieces and how sad it was.

I was very lucky seeing I had the day off when it happened, because many times I worked in Manhattan at Police Plaza and be going in that area during lunch hour.

It is something I will never forget. Every time the anniversary comes, I cry. Years ago, when I was promoted to supervisor, my family went to the towers up high to sight see the area outside. I even have a picture of myself up there. I also went there to shop and eat in those towers.

I haven't been to New York City in many years. Now I live in North Carolina, but if I ever go back, I would like to see the memorial, but I have no desire to go high up in the building.

Susan King Retiree, North Carolina

I was a Clerical Associate working with mayoral candidate Mr. Ferrara. I saw the entire, unfortunate episode of both planes and saved many people. I had a rental and was giving out the mayoral directive that day in power Manhattan on W. Broadway and Houston. My family was worried. I eventually got home at 9 p.m. that evening. Rest In Peace to all departed souls that day.

Michelle Johnson

School Business Manager Department of Education The morning of Sept. 11, 2001, I was working at Job Center #23, which had recently moved from 309 E. 94th St. to its current location at 3rd Avenue and 126th Street. I reported to my job as usual, but was running short on Metro Cards for the clients, so I decided to go and pick up the Metro Cards in Brooklyn.

On the way there, riding either the Number 4 or 5 train to Brooklyn, I noticed the train was slow and crowded. We had no idea what was going on outside, but right before we approached the Fulton Street station in lower Manhattan, the train stopped and went dark. Many people started to panic. When the emergency lights came back on, the train was filling up with smoke or dust. Everyone was trying to get to the rear of the train, but because of the crowding, there was no where to go. People started screaming and tried pushing their way to the rear of the train. I was sitting but had a couple of people on top of me, so I couldn't move anywhere. The public announcements were confusing. No one knew what to do.

All of a sudden, the train operator came and told us to exit the train through the front, so those of us who were in the first cars were able to exit first. After exiting the train at the Broadway and Fulton exit, the first tower had already collapsed. All I saw was dust and debris, cars with broken windows, people running without direction, ambulances, fire trucks, and police cars trying to move, but it was difficult. I had taken off my shirt to cover my face and not breathe the dust. There was a brave police officer telling everyone to run toward the Brooklyn Bridge, which I did. I was still in good health and able to run fast. As I ran toward the bridge as instructed, a restaurant worker was coming out the restaurant with white towels. He gave me one that I used to cover my face instead of my shirt.

I ran fast and when I was near the bridge, the second tower came down. Everything shook. I ran faster, but didn't go toward the bridge. Instead, I walked uptown on Bowery Street. I kept on walking and walking while trying to make a phone call, but there was no connection. When I had a chance to think and realize what had happened, I cried. I thought about my wife and my two young daughters. Are they Ok? Was my wife able to go to their school and pick them up? Are they home? How can I tell them I am OK? I called home again and finally the phone rang, but there was no one to answer. I was able to record a message telling my wife I was OK.

It was horrific. I walked uptown on First Avenue and when I got to 93rd Street, I developed a leg cramp and couldn't walk anymore. I had to stop and rest and massage my calf to continue walking. I was able to reach the Center at 126th Street, my clothes and shoes full of dust as proof that I had been to hell and made it out. My co-workers were shocked when they saw me in that condition.

After I returned the money I had with me to purchase the Metro Cards, I was going to drive home. My car was parked at the church lot in front of the Center, and driving home was no problem because there was very little traffic going uptown.

Ramon Lopez Retiree I was in my dentist chair. After I left the dentist office, I took the F and A trains into Manhattan. I exited the train at Park Place and Church Street.

While I was standing there, I saw people jumping from the burning buildings. Some minutes after, we heard a loud noise like if we were being attacked by fighter jets. Everyone started running, including the cops. That all happened when the first tower fell.

Next thing I knew, I was covered with dust from the towers. I proceeded to walk over the Brooklyn Bridge, but it was too crowded and they had stopped letting people go onto the bridge. I then walked towards the Manhattan Bridge. As I was about to get onto the Manhattan Bridge, that's when I looked back and saw the second tower was falling. It was a horrible experience. I thought to myself, "who could be so evil to do such a thing?"

I knew a family friend who was an electrician there. The funniest thing is that I saw him in the train station heading to Brooklyn as I was getting off the train. He said to me, "don't go out there, go back to Brooklyn".

I also had friends who were there when the first bombing occurred. They said once they heard the planes hit the buildings, they left and went home. My sister-in-law worked there, but her daughter's school was late so she didn't make it to work that morning. Usually she would get to the office by 7:30 a.m.

At first I was thinking it's just a fire, they will put it out. When I heard the rumbling of the towers about to fall, I was thinking that we were being bombed by our enemies fighter planes. When it was all over, I thought that there are some evil people in this world.

At the time, I worked for the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, located at 100 Gold St., which is within walking distance of the towers. They used our building as a triage station.

Deborah Valentin

Local 1180 Membership Outreach Coordinator

I was unemployed at the time from the Rainbow Room & Stars and was offered a position at Windows of the World at the Twin Towers, but gladly I turned it down. It was not my time.

Theresa Garcia Assistant Director H+H Metropolitan Hospital Center

Yes, I remember that morning. I was in my office at Bronx DAs Office. It was reported on radio news that a plane hit the World Trade Center.

Irene Corcoran Retired, 2009



nspiring Kindness

Spotlighting members who Give Back to their communities

Elaine Blair Devotes

Local 1180 Coordinating Manager Elaine Blair knows that it takes more than one person to raise a child — and it takes a whole village to do it successfully.

Just one year after Elaine was born in Jamaica, West Indies, her mother passed away during child birth, leaving behind her and three siblings. Her grandparents immediately stepped in to raise them until Elaine, at the age of 22, moved to the United States.



Pictured above, Elaine Blair walking in the Breast Cancer Walk with members of the NEC Medical Cadet Corps.

Opposite page, Elaine delivering food during the pandemic, and with her triumphant soccer team and their families.

Elaine grew up in a family-oriented community where everyone believed in looking out for one another — and that is how she lives her life today.

"I was taught to help each other in the community while I was growing up. My family was farmers and I would often see how they were always giving to those in need in the community, and how my grandfather and grandmother would have us take things to other people who had less than us," she said.

One specific childhood memory is truly what brings Elaine to give so much back to her community today.

"I went to visit some family members in the city of Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies. One of my cousins took me to a place called Riverton City, one of the poorest neighborhoods, where people would take food from the dump to eat and feed their family. I decided that if I ever get rich, I will help those who are in need," she said.

Emigrating to America was not easy for Elaine. When she arrived, her father arranged for her to live with her half-siblings, who did not treat her well, except for one brother who stood up for her from time to time. One of her father's friends and his wife took her under their wings and helped her assimilate to her new surroundings. They even took her daily to fill out job applications until she finally landed her first job at Alexander's Department Store.

"I was determined to make the best of the challenges I was facing, so I enrolled in a GED program while working and taking all the free certificate classes to get me qualified for the workforce, knowing I left two children behind in Jamaica to care for," she said.

After Elaine got her GED, she then enrolled in BMCC, where she completed her associate's degree in Business Administration before moving on to John Jay College of Criminal Justice for her bachelor's degree in Forensic Psychology.

After getting her children from Jamaica and then tieing the knot, one of the first places she lived in New York City was Detective Keith L. Williams Park, a block from Liberty Park. It was not the best of neighborhoods, and Elaine was constantly worried about not only her own children, but all the other children in the area, too.

"It was not such a lovely place to live. Drugs and killings used to happen in the park at nights, so I would make sure I was with my children when they needed to go there in the evenings," Elaine said. "I prayed that one day this park would be a better place for the new generation." Elaine was predisposed to make the best of her situation and focused on ensuring her children felt confident and safe enough to succeed.

In 1993, Elaine started working for the City of New York and five years later, in 1998, moved her family to St. Albans, a five-minute drive from Detective Keith L. Williams Park.

"All this time, I was still giving back to the community," she said. "Also, some of my family in Jamaica depend on me for support on a monthly basis, especially my older sister who is sick."

She joined a local church to get involved in her community and started volunteering for a variety of CWA Local 1180 events and attending meetings — all of which further fueled her love for community involvement. Her marriage lasted for 17 years before ending with disappointment, leaving her to care for her four children with no family behind her for support. With God's help, her determined spirit, and some of her church family, she continued to forge ahead, all while still helping those around her who were less fortunate.

That wasn't enough, however, for the girl whose life got off to a rough start. With two completed college degrees in hand raising her children as a single parent, Elaine enrolled in the Murphy Institute (now the CUNY School for Labor and Urban Studies) for her master's degree in Labor Studies.

While Elaine certainly would not consider herself part of the 1%, she is definitely one of the richest people in her community when it comes to kindness, passion, authenticity, friendships, and most of all, gratitude.

In exchange for all that life has given her, Elaine has been paying it forward eversince she came to America. She has donated time at a food pantry, volunteered during Hurricane Sandy, 9/11, and H1N1, is currently part of the Northeastern Medical Missionary Corps that works hand in hand with FEMA, the Red Cross, and other organizations during emergencies, and is also a member of NY Communities for Change.

Elaine's upbringing, combined with her love of all things, sports, are what led her to give back to her community in the first place. Growing up, she was passionate about sports, competing in track and field, and playing netball (similar to American basketball) all the way through high school. She also played soccer and volleyball for fun. Upon arriving in this country, she continued to get involved in sports with the Northeastern Conference of Seventh Day Adventists Youth Department. Of course, Elaine's children also played a variety of sports. This is a new Communique feature spotlighting members who are committed to Giving Back to their communities. If you or someone you know would like to be featured, please send an email to <u>mrosenblum@cwa1180.org</u> with your name, contact information, and your "story".

By Marci Rosenblum, Communications Director

Her Life to Helping Others

From an early age, Elaine clearly has been a go-getter and "volunteer" seems to be her middle name.

In 2016, one of Elaine's church sisters asked her to join a soccer team she was forming in Queens. Since the sport was one she had played only for fun as a youngster, she was excited to give it a try. Little did Elaine know that she would end up as the team's acting manager.

The following year, Elaine was asked to coordinate the Queens Players Athletic Clinic (PAC). "I agreed with excitement, not knowing what I was getting myself into," she said.

Elaine started out with one coach and her own fledgling and inexperienced soccer team of just two players, with the expectation of recruiting additional players and preparing her new team to play against other teams in Brooklyn, the Bronx, New Jersey, and Long Island.

"I was on my own with the coach, it was disappointing, but I was willing to take on the challenge to build the team and give back to my community," she said. "I choose this neighborhood because there is a need to get our children involved socially, especially those who are less fortunate can't afford the cost."

She knew her team was playing against other teams that had been playing for years and that "we had a slim chance in winning," she said. "I decided that if we can't win in the match, we will win in the parade. I created the logo, the theme for the banner, and wrote the song. We won that year and continued every year."

Fast forward several years and she now finds herself not only coaching a full team of children ages three to 13 that brought home three medals this year alone, but she is also the Queens Soccer Commissioner for the adult league and Coordinator for the children's soccer league.



When there was not enough money to purchase trophies for her mighty team of winning soccer warriors this year, Elaine reached out to her local State Senator Leroy Comrie for certificates — and reached into her own pocket to purchase trophies.

She currently has 25 children and counting for next season.

"Looking back, I am smiling remembering how I used to load up my seven-seater van with approximately 13-15 children or more at nights dropping them off to their various homes after one of their sporting events," she



recalled when talking about how community and sports have always been integral parts of her life.

Soccer is not the only place Elaine allocates her spare time. She chairs the Local 1180 Queens Borough Community Coordinating Committee and is a chaplain/elder and the treasurer in her church. During the height of the pandemic while teleworking, she and a pastor friend who is wheelchair bound delivered food to health care centers weekly. Elaine said she cooked during the week to bring warm, homemade food for lunch. She also decorates for weddings, baby showers and parties for friends and even people she doesn't know — all at her own expense, of course — with the help of some borrowed items from her niece.

"My friends often call me a road runner and wonder how I do it," Elaine said. "I had a vehicle that I used to fulfill my dreams for the community, but now I am currently in need of one and hoping to get some funds to replace it. Although I do not have a vehicle, it still does not stop me from moving around to help. My daughter helps me to do so in her free time or loans me her car when she is not using it.

"I just love to see people smile, although at times it can be discouraging to know that some people are not grateful and are not willing to help to enhance community development, but I do not let this deter me. I am willing to pass on this legacy to those who are coming behind me. I took time out to always teach others what I know because it's rewarding."

As if all this isn't enough, Elaine has even loftier goals.

"One of my dreams is to have a community center, a big one, where I can help people of all ages, but more so, the youth and elderly, because that's where the lack of help is. I am also planning to extend this service to my birth home in Jamaica once the resources become available," she said. "Over the years, I have used my own resources to help those who are in need and I'm not looking for anything in return. I always let people know that my motto is to pay it forward. Those to whom I help, I ask them to just pay it forward, too."



GERALD BROWN Second Vice President

You Asked and Your Union Provides

At CWA Local 1180, we pride ourselves on the many seminars we conduct throughout the year geared toward connecting our members with professionals in various areas of interest that are of benefit in everyday life.

While this year has been particularly difficult in terms of scheduling in-person events, that has not stopped us from planning the seminars that members continually ask us for. The only difference is the platform we have used for the events. Yes, we would prefer in-person seminars, but we did not want to let a whole year go by without having any at all, so we persevered with RingCentral.

This year we have conducted NYCERS Retirement Seminars, a Financial Pre-Retirement Seminar, and our very popular Home Ownership Seminars all on the virtual platform. We will continue to offer these well-attended seminars in the future, and will be adding even more to the lineup for 2022, including: DCAS Civil Service 101, Overview of

Our seminars are quite popular and registration fills up quickly. Members who have signed up for the Local 1180 Union Strong Mobile App always get advance notice of the events and are able to register early.

> Education Programs, and Financial Wellness. Based on feedback I have received from our members, I am also exploring the possibility of seminars on legal benefits offered to Local 1180 members, the Union Plus Program, Nutrition and Weight Control, Civics, and a special seminar with the Chair of the NYS Senate Committee for Civil Service and Pensions.

> Now that you know what's to come, let me give you a brief overview of each seminar so you can watch for the registration announcement.

NYCERS Retirement Seminar

This seminar is conducted twice yearly, usually in the spring and fall. The last one was on Oct. 25, and provided details on all aspects of both the Tier 4 and Tier 6 retirement plans. There is always a question-and-answer period at the end of the presentation, whereby members' individual questions are addressed. Members gain a better understanding about how to successfully process all requested documents needed during the roadmap to your retirement segment. More than 900 members from our union have collectively attended the last three sessions. Mostly everyone leaves the seminar with a greater awareness of the retirement process, which can be a bit overwhelming.

Financial Management Pre-Retirement Seminar

This seminar is also conducted twice yearly and complements the NYCERS Retirement Seminar. Local 1180 partners with an expert financial adviser to bring members the most knowledgeable presentation on important tips and tools that can be put into play in order to sustain a prosperous financial retirement. Subjects discussed typically include managing your 401K and 457 plans and your tax liability during retirement, determining the best time to apply for Social Security, making your retirement dollars last, the best time to tackle gifting, and how to navigate the laws of required minimum distribution of assets at age 72. The seminar concludes with a O&A during which time members have a chance to ask questions bout some of their own personal situations.

Home Ownership Seminar

Purchasing a home can be one of the most stressful times in life, but Local 1180 is here to help. Whether you are buying your first home or your third, this seminar give members helpful pointers on obtaining a mortgage, refinancing, necessary documentation needed to close, and so much more. The seminar is conducted twice a year, with the last one drawing a crowd of more than 150.

DCAS Civil Service 101

On Dec. 6, we will conduct our first DCAS Civil Service 101 seminar that will provide important details on items you should know about the New York City civil service system. DCAS' presentation will include a Q&A so members have a chance to ask those questions that never seem to have an answer.

Education Programs Seminar

Local 1180 is all about giving members a chance to further their educations and advance their careers. This seminar will provide information on all the education programs we sponsor (and there are a lot!) and let you know the best ways to utilize the financial benefit. Experts in various fields of education will be present to answer your questions.

Financial Awareness Seminar

Building your assets and subsequently your wealth can be a challenge, especially during trying times like the pandemic. This seminar will discuss areas you should know about in order to start assembling that nest egg. This grassroots financial awareness seminar is for everyone, whether you are just starting to save or you want to maximize your existing savings.

Legal Benefits Seminar

Local 1180 has extensive legal benefits available for members who are part of the Security Benefits Fund. Everyone needs a lawyer at some point in their lives. This seminar will provide an overview and greater understanding of how to utilize your legal benefits, which includes the writing of the all-important document no one wants to talk about — your will.

Union Plus Program

Did you know that Local 1180 is a participant in the Union Plus Program that offers many benefits and discounts to members and their families on shopping, home and auto purchases, travel, insurance, and more. This seminar will review the program and how you can apply for and utilize the benefits. Best of all, it's free!

Nutrition and Weight Control Seminar

This seminar is for anyone interested in improving their nutrition habits and working on weight control. I am attempting to have this seminar conducted by a dietitian who will speak about body mass index, reading food labels appropriately for your individual needs, and healthy cooking with good taste.

Civics Seminar

Civics is the study of the rights and obligations of citizens in society. The term derives from the Latin word civicus, meaning "relating to a citizen". Civics education is the study of the theoretical, political, and practical aspects of citizenship as well as rights and duties. In this seminar, we will partner with an expert in the field to discuss how unionism and civics are so closely intertwined.

NYS Civil Service & Pensions Committee Seminar

Upon NYS Sen. Andrew Gounardes taking office in Jan. 2019, he was appointed Chair of the Senate Committee on Civil Service and Pensions. His mission is to meet with union members throughout the state and learn more about what they do, their needs, and how he can help. We look forward to partnering with Sen. Gounardes in presenting this seminar.

Information about all of these seminars, and how to register for them, will be included in the weekly Local 1180 emails so please be sure to check your personal emails for updates. Our seminars are quite popular and registration fills up quickly. **Members who have signed up for the Local 1180 Union Strong Mobile App always get advance notice of the events and are able to register early. (see back page of the newsletter)**

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Retiree Bloomfield Plays Large Role in Opening of New Bronx YMCA

Local 1180 Retiree and former Memberat-Large Hilary Bloomfield was surprised to see her name on the plaque when she attended the Sept. 9 grand opening of the new Northeast Bronx YMCA. The project was 30 years in the making and was a dream come true for many, including Bloomfield who was instrumental in the



naming of the Y and the decision to have a garden on the roof top. "It is an honor to be part of the YMCA Coalition Committee," she said. "I am looking forward to our union members coming to take a tour and signing up. There are various things to help us all get back into shape. We have two swimming pools, a full basketball court, aerobic classes, cycling classes, pumping iron, kitchen for teaching, after school programs, and many others. This is truly state of the art."

CWA Local 1102 Scholarship Fundraiser Honors Local 1180 Members





On July 22, CWA Local 1102 celebrated its 3rd Annual Scholarship Fundraiser and honored three CWA Local 1180 members who live on Staten Island: Gregory Smith, Staff Representative and Member-at-Large; Rosario Roman, Memberat-Large, Chair of the Staten Island Borough Community Coordinating Committee (SI BCCC), and Shop Steward; and Lourdes Acevedo, Recording Secretary. Several Local 1180 members came out to show their support for the honorees, including Marie Dwyer, Joann Olbrich, Mason Logie Jr., Kareem Rolland, all members of the SI BCCC); Mobilization Coordinator Helen S. Jarrett; Staff Rep Anthony Lewis; First Vice President Gina Strickland; Member-at-Large Hazel O. Worley; and Secretary-Treasurer Robin Blair-Batte.

President Middleton Chosen as Top Labor Leader

Local 1180 President Gloria Middleton once again made the list of Top 100 Labor Leaders in the Schneps Media Leaders of Labor, which recognizes the achievements and contributions of outstanding individuals who have created a significant impact in the workers' rights movement in New York. The award singles out those who have made great strides in the last several years in New York, the state with one of the highest rates of unionization in the country, and whose triumphs provided the backdrop for the second-ever Leaders of Labor Awards. Middleton also was part of City & State's 2021 New York City Labor Power 100 honoring union leaders and labor advocates defending the city's workers. "In New York, the labor movement is undergoing a shift, with more women and people of color filling important leadership roles," City & State wrote.





PRIVATE SECTOR SHOPS



NEW PRIVATE SECTOR STAFF REP CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

Christopher (Chris) Thomas joined CWA Local 1180 in Aug. 2021 as a Staff Representative for the private sector organizations. Chris comes with a decade of experience in the non-profit field and has worked with non-profits since he was a teenager.

Chris previously worked at the international grant-making and advocacy organization, the Open Society Foundations, within their General Counsel's office and Public Health Program bringing a legal, data, grant making, and operations background. While there, he also operated as a Shop Steward for their staff union, negotiated their collective bargaining agreement, and managed a range of HR issues. He spent time working on the second Obama campaign for President, interned with New York State Senator Liz Krueger, and worked on local campaigns for Andrew Cuomo and Anthony Cannataro.

Chris has experience in data management, and almost 10 years of legal experience writing and interpreting legal agreements, creating and implementing robust training and onboarding programs. Aside from his work duties, he harbors a strong commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness as evident by his participation in various affinity groups and committee memberships, and his DEI certificate from Cornell University.

Chris holds a Bachelor of Library Arts in Political Science and Sociology from Hampshire College. In his free time, you can find Chris bouldering around various climbing gyms in New York City or engaging with anything geeky.



Members at Edible Schoolyard NYC ratified a new, one-year extension of their contract on Sept. 1, 2021, after a quick bargaining period that started in July and finished in Aug. 2021.

Edible Schoolyard NYC Bargaining team members — Program Manager Dan Feder, Garden Teacher Cecilia Galarraga, and PS/MS 7 Program Manager Rosa Marruffo said the short duration was due to the union and management being on the same page as far as the length of the contract and the priorities.

Local 1180's John O'Malley, who spearheaded the negotiations on behalf of the union, said this trio carried through the interests of the last bargaining by way of member contact and bargaining surveys, and conveyed those at the bargaining table in a clear and precise way. "They were all thoughtful and considerate when deliberations were needed, and fierce when someone needed to show a little canine teeth in order to make a point," he said.

Edible Schoolyard NYC first joined with Local 1180 in Jan. 2020, who now represents their seven members, with two vacancies in union positions currently being filled. Their mission is to support edible education for every child in New York City by partnering with public schools to cultivate healthy students and communities through hands-on cooking and gardening education, transforming children's relationship with food.

The negotiation process began with a goal of bringing up the lowest paid workers to a minimum level and equalizing existing workers into appropriate levels. In the wake of adjustments made during the pandemic, there was a need for long-term improvement in areas of flexible work time, working remotely, and compensatory time.

Galarraga and her bargaining teammates agreed that it made sense to push new contract negotiations to next year since the financial uncertainty that the organization experienced during the pandemic made it seem unlikely that management would be willing or able to commit to any big changes beyond the next fiscal year.

Also, with a new Executive Director starting in Sept. 2020, it made sense for the outgoing Executive Director to not make any long-term commitments without the new ED's input — something that would have postponed an agreement indefinitely.

"The current contract extension allows us to put in place some greater supports for current staff, such as pay increases and more formalized comp time, flex time, and work-from-home policies, while also leaving room for larger conversations with the new ED for the next contract in 2022," Galarraga said.







From left, the Edible Schoolyard NYC bargaining team: Dan Feder, Cecilia Galarraga, and former PS/MS 7 Program Manager who has since left for another position.

"Though the organization was not in the financial position to increase compensation as much as we would have liked, I am really proud that we were able to boost the pay for our lowest paid members by 12.5%. I am also really pleased that we were able to formalize policies like comp time, which had been applied unevenly in the past and were not clearly written out in our employee handbook. I think we made major progress in creating equity in our organization. I look forward to seeing how much farther we can go in our next contract," Galarraga said.

The contract includes raises ranging from 6.8% to 12.5% depending on a workers' prior level; new hires will have a minimum salary; existing employees' salaries will always be higher than new hires; and secured release time for union representatives to attend union trainings. Some of the other issues were achieved by contract while others were negotiated into the manual. O'Malley said a few remaining issues could not be resolved and will be subject to ongoing Labor-Management Committee negotiations.

"I am proud to report that we achieved all of our goals so far," O'Malley said. "Overall, the bargaining was a great success considering the backdrop of the pandemic and lack of funding stability. We were able to keep things going in the short run, and once the economy picks up, we will be able to negotiate a full-length contract in 2022."

New Private Sector Staff Rep Chris Thomas, hired by Local 1180 in the midst of the negotiations, said he was able to hit the ground running just one week after beginning his new position. "Thankfully John had this all under control long before I got here so I could join the bargaining sessions that were in progress and know that Local 1180 and the ESYNYC team had already made significant progress."

THE CENTURY FOUNDATION RATIFIES FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT

Local 1180 members at The Century Foundation (TCF) ratified a four-year contract on Sept. 13, 2021, that runs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.



Bargaining Team Member Jonnea Herman

Bargaining began in June with a three-person committee comprised of Jonnea Herman, Taela Dudley, who has since left to pursue a master's degree, and Dara Rivera, who all joined Local 1180's John O'Malley in spearheading the negotiations. In addition to the regular stress of contract negotiations, the team also had to contend with a new executive director, Lisa Sahulka, who began on Feb. 16 of this year, just four month's prior to negotiations.

"This group knew what they were looking for right from the start," O'Malley said. "We began the process with a goal to bring up the lowest paid workers to a realistic minimum level, and to equalize people who were already here into appropriate pay levels. In the wake of adjustments made during the pandemic, there was a need for long-term improvement in the areas of flexible time, working remotely, and compensatory time. We are proud to report that we achieved all of those goals."

Minimum salaries will be \$58,500, an increase from the previous \$51,500. The minimum salary will be pegged to the percentage raise negotiated for each year. All salaries will go up by 2.5% for each of the four years of the contract. The first increase was retroactive to July 1, 2021. In addition, all eight Local 1180 TCF members who were employed at the time of ratification should have received their annual bonus of \$650 on July 1, 2021. That annual bonus will increase by the same yearly percentage as salaries.

The Century Foundation is a progressive, independent think tank that conducts research, develops solutions, and drives policy change to make people's lives better. They pursue economic, racial, and gender equity in education, health care, and work, and promote U.S. foreign policy that fosters international cooperation, peace, and security. TCF is one of the oldest public policy research institutes in the country.

O'Malley said that in addition to the financial aspects of the negotiations, the team also was able to resolve issues regarding access to personnel files, job descriptions and the ability to confer over any changes, improve workflow systems, clarify hours of work for non-exempt employees and the vacation accrual system, add Juneteenth as a holiday, and grant union reps release time for union training.

OSF RESTRUCTURING IMPACTS STAFF & LEADS TO LOW MORALE

As part of Open Society Foundations major restructuring, the grant maker is offering a voluntary buyout package with wide-ranging benefits to most staff, and plans to follow up with layoffs if necessary, according to an FAQ provided to staff members and two staff sources.

Local 1180, which represents 257 members at OSF, said they have been told that morale is very low amid the changes. With several hundred staff members already having left the nonprofit, remaining staff are concerned for their job security and the potential shifts in workload following the departures.

"Our impression so far is that very few within the organization, including our members, managers, and senior staff, are happy with the process," said Local 1180 President Gloria Middleton. "We are concerned on multiple fronts with the restructuring process, which seems well intentioned, but poorly executed."

OSF staffers shared concerns that the departures could reduce diversity at the Foundation and contribute to longstanding equity issues since the majority of the people leaving are women or people of color. The Open Society Foundations, founded by George Soros, are the world's largest private funder of independent groups working for justice, democratic governance, and human rights. They provide thousands of grants every year through a network of national and regional foundations and offices, funding a vast array of projects.

Local 1180 has represented OSF since 2016 and ratified its first contract in 2018. The union is now working with remaining staffers to protect the jobs of its members, secure packages for those who aren't interested in OSF's new direction, and maintain the integrity of the organization's mission.

OUR TEAM

PRIVATE SECTOR SHOP STEWARDS

ALIGN Jake Streich-Kest

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Daphne Eviatar Philippe Nasif Christina Saenz

BOOKS & RATTLES Cesar Collado

EDIBLE SCHOOLYARD NYC Daniel Feder Cecilia Galarraga

HUMAN RIGHTS FIRST

Katie Czapanskiy Kaitlin Locascio Rebecca Soroka

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

Tess Hill Greg Hughes Ashley Pria Persaud Jessica Story

JAVITS CENTER

Jose Martinez Philip Slattery

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS

Ramzi Babouder-Matta Willamae Malachi Boling Katy Caldwell Michael Camlin Samantha Costello Ian Crooker Jessica Greenspan Nina Ippolito Tenzin Lama Stacey-Leigh Manuel Ashrakat Mohammed Joshua Russell Nia Tyler-Reid

STORYCORPS

Jay Born Zazil-Xa Davis-Velazquez Luigi-Angelo Villanueva

THE CENTURY FOUNDATION Dara Rivera

TYPE MEDIA CENTER Maha Ahmed Nina Zweig

NONPROFIT STAFF REPRESENTATIVE

Christopher Thomas cthomas@cwa1180.org

NONPROFIT ORGANIZER Leslie Fine

lfine@cwa1180.org

PRIVATE SECTOR SHOPS

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY WORKERS VOTE TO JOIN CWA LOCAL 1180

National Audubon Society's headquarters staff voted overwhelmingly in favor of forming a union, the latest milestone for the environmental labor movement, and now 132 workers will become part of the CWA Local 1180 family.

On Sept. 23, workers at Audubon's national headquarters voted in an official National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) election, capping the workers' year-long effort to secure stronger health care, job security, and a voice at the table for all workers regardless of race, gender, or background. Audubon workers in New York, Washington, D.C., and remote offices will join Local 1180, which will represent them in upcoming contract negotiations. Audubon workers add to the growing number of conservationists and climate activists paving the way for a stronger alliance between labor and environmentalism.

Audubon employees began organizing to form a union after facing two rounds of layoffs last year, including one on Earth Day, and having the cost of their health care increased during the pandemic. Workers also pointed out that all major decisions at Audubon have been made behind closed doors by those at the top, and that the direction of the organization has veered toward chasing expedient grant money.

The election follows Audubon workers' previous attempts to have management voluntarily recognize their union. Last May, in a card check led by U.S. Sen. Ed Markey (D-MA), a majority of Audubon's 400-person national staff voted in favor of forming a union. However, Audubon management, led by President and interim CEO Dr. Elizabeth Gray, refused voluntary recognition. Workers again tried to negotiate in good faith by offering to hold an expedited election through a third-party arbiter so long as Audubon committed to a neutrality agreement, but management declined, forcing workers to file for an election with the NLRB.

"This union isn't just a win for workers, it's a win for the birds as well," said Shyamlee Patel, a Finance Associate at Audubon. "The protections provided by a union will give us the peace of mind in our personal and work lives so that we can focus on the original mission of Audubon that we are all passionate about: protecting birds and their ecosystems."

Local 1180 Organizer Leslie Fine and former Open Society Foundations Shop Steward Renata Peralta, along with other CWA staff, worked to help Audubon employees build the power to win their union.

"Despite every obstacle thrown in our path, we prevailed because we knew what we were fighting for was just and critical to advancing Audubon's mission," said Maddox Wolfe, a Campaign Manager at Audubon. "We overcame geographical distance and brought together workers from all corners of the country. When management hired a union-busting law firm, we were undeterred. Today's victory is a clear-cut example of how powerful workers can be when they are united and stand firm in their beliefs."

Further fueling the drive to organize was Audubon's toxic culture that created countless barriers in the workplace, primarily for women and employees of color, and was confirmed by an independent audit. Audubon is one of many environmental organizations grappling with its racist history. Workers there viewed a union as their best opportunity to address those concerns.

"An increasing number of non-for-profit groups are coming to realize the value in organizing and becoming unionized," said Local 1180 President Gloria Middleton. "They see labor as a way to gain a voice, a seat at the table, and gain control and authority over their own work spaces. The values and beliefs of unions are much the same as what employees of nonprofits promote themselves, regardless of what the nonprofit is about.

"We welcome members of the National Audubon Society to our Local 1180 family," Middleton said. "They join the growing number of other nonprofits that are seeing an explosion in popularity and coming to realize that the backing of a union voice is a positive in a movement that is gaining steam."



by Holidays

From the Officers, Executive Board & Staff of CWA Local 1180

SHOP STEWARD RETIREMENTS

Precious Foster



Shop Steward Precious Foster (PAA, Department of Social Services) retired on Aug. 30 after working for the City of New York for 21 years.

Foster started working at HASA as an Eligibility Specialist in May 2000, and 18 months later in Nov. 2011, was elected as the Shop Steward for Local 1549, her union at the time. She later joined Claims and Collection as a Principal Administrative Associate and became a

member of CWA Local 1180. She served in that capacity until June 2020 when she joined the Office of Liens and Trusts.

Foster loves to fight for her coworkers in any civil matters that they may face, which is why, in 2017, she became a Local 1180 Shop Steward. In her spare time, she loves to volunteer and has participated in fundraisers for the many causes she supports, including Breast Cancer awareness, AIDS, and LGBTQ.

Foster has a passion for travel and would be heard at times talking about the many countries she has visited. She also loves arts and crafts and could be seen wearing many of the beautiful necklaces and earrings she made.

"We would like to thank Precious Foster for her service as a Shop Steward and for all the time and effort she put in to going way above and beyond to make sure all the members she represented were well taken care of," said President Gloria Middleton. "We wish her the best in her retirement, but we will definitely miss her."

Staff Rep Anthony Lewis, who worked with her representing members at HASA, said Foster was a real, hands-on Shop Steward who got involved whenever needed to make sure members rights were protected.

"She has a welcoming personality that let members know they could come to her with questions or problems and that she would either address them or reach out to 1180 and make sure they were taken care of," Lewis said. "She was the kind of Shop Steward our members really appreciated."

Leandro (Leo) Monzon

Shop Steward Leo Monzon (Coordinating Manager-Level B, H+H Lincoln Hospital) recently retired after working at Lincoln Hospital for 32 years.

"As I reach the closing of anther cycle on my journey in life, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of you for your support, guidance, learning, and trust. I had such an amazing time serving CWA Local 1180, and I always did my best in helping other members as well," Monzon said. "You taught me that union is not JUST an organization, but also an extended family."

Monzon was first hired as a part-time Nurse's Aide-Phlebotomist, eventually working his way up to a full-time employee and certified Laboratory Associate. Within four years, he was promoted to Assistant Coordinating Manager, Level A, then Level B. During that time, he was one of the instructors of the first training and certification programs at Lincoln Hospital. He spoke six times at, and moderated four times for, the National Association of Medical Technicians. Monzon also served as co-chair of Lincoln's Hospital Hispanic Committee.

Unfortunately, he said, not everything was perfect. In July 2010, he was unjustly let go from Lincoln Hospital.

"My first reaction was to reach out to my union. I remember the support I received from everyone from the moment I entered and explained my case. They immediately started working on my case until it was won and solved," Monzon said. "While the process was going on, and going to the trial sessions, I received so much support from the union office staff. I have so much thanks for Gloria Middleton, Gina Strickland, Gerald Brown, Gwen Richardson, and all of them, who helped me in so many ways."

All of that support and encouragement are what prompted Monzon to run for Shop Steward himself so he could pay it forward and help other members as an official part of Local 1180.

"I became part of the staff and helped assist members of the union who were affected by Hurricane Irene," he said. "I am so honored and proud of the time that I worked there and will be forever grateful for all that I learned. My case was a great incentive to become involved in the union, go to rallies, attend lobby days and conferences, help with phone banking, get involved with the Bronx Borough Coordinating Committee, and many other incredible opportunities."



Adele Rogers

President

Local 1180 Retired Members Chapter

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved **Adele Rogers** on Aug. 26, 2021.

Adele proudly served as President of the Retired Members Chapter for more than 25 years and also represented our retirees at the national's retirement organization.

She was well known for her political work and support of retirees across the country. She will be sorely missed by CWA Local 1180 and the loyal members of the Retired Members Chapter.

January 8, 1925 - August 26, 2021

CWA LOCAL 1180 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 20, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Officers: Gloria Middleton, President; Gina Strickland, First Vice President; Gerald Brown, Second Vice President; Robin Blair-Batte, Secretary-Treasurer; Lourdes Acevedo, Recording Secretary

Members-at-Large: Teesha Foreman, Ranston Foster, Denise Gilliam, Helen S. Jarrett, Debra Paylor, Rosario Roman, Gregory Smith, Venus Colon Williams, Hazel O. Worley

President's Report

President Middleton called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes of the February 25, 2021, and March 25, 2021, meetings were presented. Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept minutes with necessary corrections.

President Middleton discussed the highlights of her schedule since the last Executive Board Meeting held on March 25, 2021.

March 26 — Participated in the MLC discussion with U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer regarding stimulus dollar allocation to NYC. Additionally, held a NYCTA bargaining internal session. That afternoon, participated in the NYC employees returning to office update and in the new CWA Local 1180 ADP payroll system training.

March 29 — Participated in the CWA Local 1180 pension report review.

March 30 — Participated in the return to office plan discussion with HRA Commissioner Banks who thanked CWA Local 1180 for their assistance with getting out backlogged SNAP benefits.

March 31 — Chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting. That afternoon, participated in the member vaccination discussion. That evening, participated in the Black Girl Magic Celebration. Letitia "Tish" James, NYS Attorney General, made a great presentation.

April 1 — Participated in the CWA National Executive Board Diversity Meeting.

April 2 — Participated in the DDC Safety & Health Committee return to office weekly update.

April 6 — Participated in the NYC Transit Authority bargaining meeting. That afternoon, participated in the COVID-19 panelist spotlight series. Lastly, held a discussion with staff regarding benefits for family members of employees who died of exposure linked to the 9/11 World Trade Center attacks.

April 7 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting. That evening, prepared for the NYCCLC's Spotlight Series: Women Leading the Labor Movement.

April 8 — Held a conference call with NYS Attorney General Letitia James. Chaired the H+H Accretion Assistant Director's meeting. An agreement has been finally reached as to which titles will be in the contract.

April 12 — Prepared for the upcoming CWA Local 1180 General Membership meeting. That afternoon, participated in the CWA vaccination program discussion.

April 14 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting, followed by the H+H Accretion Assistant Director's meeting. That evening, she chaired the CWA Local 1180 General Membership meeting.

April 15 — Participated in the CWA National Executive Board meeting.

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COMMUNIQUE

April 16 — Participated in the DSS/HRA Labor Management return to office presentation.

April 19 — Participated in the New York City Central Labor Council Executive Board meeting. That afternoon, interviewed Deaven Richardson for CWA Local 1180 position.

April 20 — Chaired the CWA Local 1180 Board of Trustees meeting.

April 22 - Chaired the H + H Accretion Assistant

Director's meeting to discuss the settlement language.

April 27 — Chaired the Assistant Director's meeting. April 30 — Chaired the Assistant Director CWA/ HHC settlement drafting.

May 4 — Prepared for the upcoming CWA Local 1180 General Membership meeting.

May 5 — Participated in the New York City Central Labor Council Executive Board Mayoral Forum. That afternoon, chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting. That evening, participated in the NYCCLC Mayoral Forum candidate screenings.

May 7 — Participated in the Assistant Director CWA/HHC Settlement Drafting.

May 10 and 11 — Conducted Staff Representative interviews.

May 12 — Chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting. That evening, chaired the CWA Local 1180 General Membership meeting.

May 13 — Chaired CWA Local 1180 Trustee meeting.

May 14 — Participated in the Local Law 18 Data Analytic pay disparity discussion.

May 19 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. That afternoon, chaired the CWA Local 1180 Weekly Staff meeting.

May 20 — Participated in the Assistant Director CWA/HHC settlement drafting. Later that day, participated in the CWA National Executive Board meeting. That evening, chaired the CWA Local 1180 Executive Board meeting.

President Middleton distributed and discussed the status reports dated April 1, 2021, and May 1, 2021, from the Law Offices of Mirkin & Gordon, P.C. listing legal matters being handled on behalf of CWA Local 1180. She distributed and discussed the Municipal Labor Committee New York City Fiscal Year 2022 budget update, and the Policy Research Group reports, Trends in the NYC Economy and their impact on the Municipal Budget and the number of jobs in NYC Industry Groups dated February and April 2021 and March 2021. She also distributed and discussed the May 20, 2021, monthly project updates memorandum submitted by Marci Rosenblum, CWA Local 1180 Communications Director. Lastly, she presented a letter of appreciation from the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation dated March 17, 2021, and a thank you letter from Monica Martinez, Suffolk State Senator, dated July 30, 2020.

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried, to accept the President's Report.

First Vice President's Report

First Vice President Gina Strickland reported the following:

Today's School Construction Authority negotiations were canceled and will be rescheduled at a later date. Staff Representatives continue doing Agency walk-throughs in preparation for employees return to in-person working.

May 5 and 6 — Participated in the NYCCLC Mayor forum.

Lastly, she participated in the various candidate screenings.

Motion was duly made, seconded and carried to accept the First-Vice President's report.

Second Vice President's Report Second Vice President Gerald Brown reported on the following:

April 2 — Prepped for General Membership Meeting.

April 14 — Presented at General Membership Meeting.

April 20 — Attended Trustee Meeting and Chaired the Education Fund Trustee Meeting.

April 26 — Conducted NYCERS Pre-Retirement Seminar with more than 200 members in attendance.

May 13 — Attended Trustee Meeting and NYC Central Labor Council political directors

meetings, CWA District 1 legislative and political meetings, and Local 1180 staff meeting.

Candidate screenings continue for the June 2021 primary election. We are scheduled to host 15 days of candidate screenings for the primary.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Vice President's report.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Robin Blair-Batte presented the CWA Local 1180 Transaction Detail and Income and Expenditures Reports for March and April 2021. She advised that the T.D. checking account has a balance of \$816,051.37 as of C.O.B May 20, 2021.

Secretary-Treasurer Blair-Batte reported the following member activity:

Member Activity for April 2021

New Member Enrollments	.34
Deceased Actives	.2
Retirements	.22
Deceased Retirees	.6
Total Active Members	.8,144
Total Retired Members	.6,562

CWA Local 1180 3rd floor renovations continue and anticipate completion by the end of June 2021. Members who need assistance are to call 212.226.6565 or e-mail staffrepservices@ cwa1180.org and someone will get back to them.

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

Recording Secretary's Report

Recording Secretary Lourdes Acevedo participated in numerous CWA Local 1180 Trustee meetings. Additionally, she participated in the Staten Island Borough Community Coordinating Committee (SIBCCC) meeting. Lastly, she participated in the CWA Local 1180 General Membership meeting.

Members-at-Large Reports Hazel Worley reported 2021 Summer Camp flier is on the CWA Local 1180 website.

Teesha Foreman reported the following Staff Representative Activity for March 2021:

Activity	Count
Conference Calls	10
Counseling/Warning Sessions	1
EEO Investigation/Interview	1
Emails	1,417
G.O. 15 – NYPD	6
Health & Safety Meetings	9
Hearing Preparations	19
Hearings	7
Investigative Hearings/Meetings	6
Labor Management Meetings	8
OATH	2
Phone Calls	546
Site Meetings	15
Supervisory Conferences	3

Site Meetings — March 2021 DEP

420 East 38th Street, Manhattan

DOT 59 Maiden Lane, Manhattan

DOT 30-30 Thompson Ave., Long Island City DOT

28-11 Queens Plaza, Queens H+H — Queens Hospital

82-68 164th St., Queens HRA — Adult Protective Services

109 E 16th St., Manhattan

HRA — Family Services Call Center 88-11 165th St., Queens

HRA — HASA 400 8th Ave./530 W. 135th St., Manhattan

HRA — SNAP 13 & 61 4055 10th Ave., Manhattan 240, 250, 252 Livingston St., Brooklyn

MTA 177 Livingston St., Brooklyn

NYCERS 335 Adams St., Brooklyn

NYCHA 90 Church St., 250 Broadway, Manhattan 23-02 49th Ave., Long Island City

Parks

95 Prospect Park W., Brooklyn Small Business Services

1 Liberty Plaza, Manhattan

Teachers Retirement System 55 Water St., Manhattan

She reported the following Staff Representative Activity for April 2021:

Count

Activity

Activity	count
Agency Walk-Throughs	30
Command Disciplines (CDs)	1
Conference Calls	12
Counseling/Warning Sessions	1
Emails	1717
G.O. 15 – NYPD	2
Health & Safety Meetings	12
Hearing Preparations	13
Hearings	12
Hiring Pools	2
Investigative Hearings/Meetings	8
Labor Management Meetings	19
Phone Calls	573
Site Meetings	13
Supervisory Conferences	3

Site Meetings — April 2021

DCAS 1 Centre St., Manhattan

DHS 101-07 Farragut Rd., Brooklyn

DOF 375 Pearl St., Manhattan

DOF 59 Maiden Lane; 66 John St., Manhattan

DOF 1 Centre St., Manhattan 210 Joralemon St., Brooklyn

DOHMH

25-01 Jackson Ave., Queens

120-55 Queens Blvd., Queens 16 Court St., Brooklyn

DOT 34-20 Queens Blvd., Queens

HPD

100 Gold St., Manhattan HRA — HASA

88 3rd Ave., 275 Bergen St., 95 Evergreen, Brooklyn 33-28 Northern Blvd., Queens 201 Bay St., Staten Island

HRA — OCSE Various citywide locations

adjourn at 9:28 p.m.

Lourdes Acevedo

Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted,

June 24, 2021

Secretary

Ranston Foster

at 6:12 p.m.

President's Report

Meeting called to order at 6:12 p.m.

Executive Board Members in Attendance:

Officers: Gloria Middleton, President; Gina

Strickland, First Vice President; Gerald Brown, Second Vice President; Robin Blair-Batte,

Secretary-Treasurer; Lourdes Acevedo, Recording

Members-at-Large: Denise Gilliam, Helen S.

Jarrett, Debra Paylor, Rosario Roman, Gregory

Absent: Members-at-Large Teesha Foreman and

President Middleton called the meeting to order

Minutes of the May 20, 2021, meeting were

presented. Motion was duly made, seconded,

Smith, Venus Colon Williams, Hazel O. Worley

2021

Parks 1503 1 Bronx River Parkway, Bronx

Next meeting of the Executive Board is June 24,

Motion was duly made, seconded ,and carried to

CWA LOCAL 1180 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

and carried to accept minutes with necessary corrections.

President Middleton discussed the highlights of her schedule since the last Executive Board Meeting held on May 20, 2021:

May 24 — Participated in the New York City Central Labor Council Executive Board meeting.

May 25 — Reviewed the H + H Accretion Assistant Director's settlement language with CWA District 1 Staff Representative Luis Benitez. That evening participated in the CWA Local 1180 Rank Choice Voting webinar.

May 26 — Participated in the NYC Transit Bargaining meeting. That afternoon, chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

May 27 — Participated in the Labor Management meeting presentation for DSS-HRA-DHS COVID-19 Return to Office Phase 2.

June 2 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

June 4 — Held CWA Local 1180 Staff Representative interview

June 8 — Held CWA Local 1180 Staff Representative interviews.

June 9 — Participated in the Municipal Labor Committee Mayor Candidate Forum. That afternoon, participated in CWA Local 1180 Adele Rogers' Retirement Luncheon. Later that day, chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum, and chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

June 10 — Participated in the AFL-CIO Northeast District meeting. Later that day, participated in the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies Advisory Board meeting.

June 11 — Attended the Street Naming Ceremony for CWA Local 1180's Priscilla Carrow.

June 14 — Participated in the MLC Steering Committee meeting. That afternoon chaired CWA Local 1180 Trustee meeting.

June 16 — Participated in the MLC General Membership meeting. That afternoon, chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

June 17 — Participated in the Central Labor Council Resolutions Committee meeting. Later that day, participated in the CWA National Executive Board meeting.

June 18 — Chaired CWA Local 1180 staff meeting.

June 21 — Held final NYC Transit Costing Out meeting. Additionally, prepared for upcoming Assistant Directors' meeting.

June 23 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

June 24 — Chaired the CWA Local 1180 Executive Board meeting.

President Middleton distributed and discussed the status reports dated June 1, 2021, from the Law Offices of Mirkin & Gordon, PC. listing legal matters being handled on behalf of CWA Local 1180. Additionally, she distributed and discussed the June 24, 2021 monthly project updates memorandum submitted by Marci Rosenblum, CWA Local 1180 Communications Director.

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the President's Report.

First Vice President's Report

First Vice President Gina Strickland reported the following:

CWA Local 1180 will conduct Staff Representative Interviews for Private Sector Staff Rep vacancy.

First Vice President Strickland participated in the weekly staff meetings. Additionally, she participated in the NYC Transit Bargaining meetings. Lastly, she participated in the CWA Local 1180 General Membership meeting.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the First Vice President's report.

Second Vice President's Report Second Vice President Gerald Brown reported:

Vice President Brown conducted a total of 15 candidate screenings for citywide and boroughwide races and Council seats.

Vice President Brown attended various meetings throughout the month, which included NYC Central Labor Council political directors meetings, CWA District 1 political and legislative meetings, various meetings with DCAS, and CWA Local 1180 staff meetings.

May 22 — Conducted a Home Ownership Seminar with more than 150 members attending. May 25 — Participated in Ranked Choice Voting

June 22nd was Primary Day. There were nine days of early voting during which 191,000 New Yorkers voted with the following breakdown: 65,000 in

voted with the following breakdown: 65,000 in Brooklyn, 60,000 in Manhattan, and 38,000 in Queens, followed by the Bronx and Staten Island.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Vice President's report.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary Treasurer Robin Blair-Batte presented the CWA Local 1180 Transaction Detail and Income and Expenditures Reports for May 2021. She advised that the T.D. checking account has a balance of \$808,512.91 as of C.O.B June 24, 2021.

Secretary Treasurer Blair-Batte reported the following member activity:

Member Activity for May 2021

New Member Enrollments	21
Deceased Actives	1
Retirements	23
Deceased Retirees	5
Total Active Members	8,146
Total Retired Members	6,565

CWA Local 1180 third floor renovations continue and we anticipate completion by the end of June 2021. Members who need assistance should call 212.226.6565 or e-mail staffrepservices@ cwa1180.org and someone will get back to them.

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

Recording Secretary's Report

Recording Secretary Lourdes Acevedo continues participating in numerous CWA Local 1180 Trustee meetings. Additionally, she participated in the Staten Island Borough Community Coordinating Committee (SIBCCC) meeting. Lastly, she participated in the CWA Local 1180 General Membership meeting.

Members-at-Large Reports

Hazel O. Worley reported the 2021 Summer Camp flier is on the CWA Local 1180 website.

Rosario Roman chaired the SIBCCC meeting. Additionally, she participated in the NYC Council candidate screening interviews.

Next meeting date of the Executive Board is scheduled for Aug. 26, 2021.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lourdes Acevedo Recording Secretary

August 26, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:12 p.m.

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Officers: Gloria Middleton, President; Gina Strickland, First Vice President; Gerald Brown, Second Vice President; Robin Blair-Batte, Secretary-Treasurer; Lourdes Acevedo, Recording Secretary

Members-at-Large: Teesha Foreman, Ranston Foster, Denise Gilliam, Helen S. Jarrett, Debra Paylor, Rosario Roman, Gregory Smith, Venus Colon Williams, Hazel O. Worley

President's Report President Middleton called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

President Middleton welcomed Sara Steffens, CWA's National Secretary-Treasurer to discuss the SMART proposal that will come before the delegates at the upcoming CWA National Convention, which will be held virtually from Oct. 17-20, 2021, due to high COVID-19 cases in Louisiana. The Executive Board will meet at 6 Harrison St. to attend the virtual CWA Convention. Laptops will be provided for each Board member to ensure all our delegate votes are counted.

President Middleton announced the City of New York and the Municipal Labor Committee have customized a new group Medicare plan called the NYC Medicare Advantage Plus Plan being provided by an alliance between Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield and EmblemHealth. The plan will provide comprehensive premium-free health coverage to retirees and will be called Alliance It will offer an optional prescription drug rider. This change becomes effective Jan. 1, 2022. NYC Medicare Advantage ONLY affects retired members who are age 65 and over. CWA Local 1180 is not responsible for administering the NYC Medicare Advantage Plus Plan. The City has a special team to answer any questions that retired members may have about the new NYC Medicare Advantage Plus Plan. The team can be reached at 833.325.1190, Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, excluding holidays.

Minutes of the June 24, 2021, meeting were presented. Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept minutes with necessary corrections.

President Middleton discussed the highlights of her schedule since the last Executive Board Meeting held on June 24, 2021.

June 29 — Participated in the NYC Transit Contract Bargaining meeting.

June 30 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

July 14 — Participated in the Municipal Labor Steering Committee meeting. That afternoon, chaired the weekly CWA Local weekly staff meeting.

July 15 — Participated in the CWA National Executive Board call.

July 20–23 — Participated in the AFL-CIO fundraiser.

July 24-27 — Participated in the CWA Public Health Care Education Workers Conference.

July 28 — Participated in the Labor Management meeting COVID-19 Vaccination or Weekly Testing Requirement discussion with Jonathan Wangel, Vice President, Labor Relations of HHC.

Aug. 3 — Chaired the CWA Local 1180 quarterly Trustee's meeting.

Aug. 4 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

Aug. 11 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

Aug. 18 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting.

Aug. 19 — Participated in the CWA National Executive Board call.

Aug. 20 — Participated in a Special Municipal Labor Steering Committee meeting. That afternoon, participated in the NYC Transit Bargaining update. Later that day, chaired the CWA Local 1180 Staff meeting.

Aug. 23 — Participated in the Municipal Labor Committee meeting pursuant to resolution of the Steering Committee. Later that day, participated in NYPD Site meetings.

Aug. 25 — Chaired the weekly Communications meeting with Marci Rosenblum. That afternoon, chaired the CWA Local 1180 weekly staff meeting. Later that day, met with CVH Juanita Lewis.

Aug. 26 — Chaired the CWA Local 1180 Executive Board meeting.

President Middleton distributed and discussed the status reports dated July 1, 2021, and Aug. 1, 2021, from the Law Offices of Mirkin & Gordon, P.C. listing legal matters being handled on behalf of CWA Local 1180. Additionally, she distributed and discussed the Aug. 24, 2021. monthly project updates memorandum submitted by Marci Rosenblum, CWA Local 1180 Communications Director

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the President's Report.

First Vice President's Report

First Vice President Gina Strickland reported that she participated in the weekly staff meetings and in the NYC Transit Bargaining meetings.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the First Vice President's report.

Second Vice President's Report

Second Vice President Gerald Brown reported that he attended various meetings throughout the month, including NYC Central Labor Council political directors meetings, District 1 legislative and political meetings, various meetings with DCAS, and Local 1180 weekly staff meetings. Attended the Aug. 3 Trustee Meeting and chaired the Education Fund Trustee Meeting.

Begin planning for the Nov. 2 general election.

Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Second Vice President's report.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Robin Blair-Batte presented the CWA Local 1180 Transaction Detail and Income and Expenditures Reports for June and July 2021. She advised that the T.D. checking account has a balance of \$707,656.95 as of C.O.B Aug. 26, 2021.

Secretary-Treasurer Blair-Batte reported the following member activity:

Member Activity for June 2021

New Member Enrollments17	
Deceased Actives2	
Retirements14	
Deceased Retirees	
Total Active Members8,181	
Total Retired Members	

Member Activity for August 2021

New Member Enrollments	124
Deceased Actives.	0
Retirements	14
Deceased Retirees	7
Total Active Members	8,293
Total Retired Members	6,559

CWA Local 1180 renovations at 6 Harrison St. continue. Members who need assistance should call 212.226.6565 or e-mail staffrepservices@ cwa1180.org and someone will get back to them.

A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

Recording Secretary's Report

Recording Secretary Lourdes Acevedo continues participating in numerous CWA Local 1180 Trustee meetings.

Members-At-Large Reports

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Teesha Foreman, Supervisor of Staff Representatives, submitted the following reports:

JULY Activity	Count
Agency Walk-Throughs	9
Appointments	1
Conference Calls	11
Counseling/Warning Sessions	8
EEO Investigations/Interviews	8
Emails	1,321
G.O. 15 – NYPD	1
Health & Safety Meeting	1
Hearing Preparations	11
Hearings	8
Hiring Pools	2
Labor Management Meetings	6
OATH	2
Phone Calls	455
Site Meetings	15
Supervisory Conferences	2

COMMITTEES

Caribbean Heritage Committee Gina Strickland, Chair gstrickland@cwa1180.org Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of each month

Civil Rights & Equity/Community Service Committee

Hazel O. Worley, Chair hworley@cwa1180.org Meeting: 3rd Tuesday of each month

Civil Service Committee Meeting: 4th Tuesday of each month Chair and email to be announced

Editorial Committee Marci Rosenblum, Chair mrosenblum@cwa1180.org

Education Committee Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month Chair and email to be announced

Hispanic Committee Venus Williams, Chair vwilliams@cwa1180.org Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month

Legislative and Political Committee Gerald Brown, Chair gbrown@cwa1180.org

Organizing Committee Leslie Fine, Chair Ifine@cwa1180.org

People with Disabilities Committee Edward Yood, Chair envpush.yme@verizon.net Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month

Pride Committee Vera Jordan, Chair vjordan@health.nyc.gov

Women's Committee

Denise Gilliam, Chair **dgilliam@cwa1180.org** Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of each month

BOROUGH COMMUNITY COORDINATING COMMITTEES

Bronx BCCC Carolyn Chamorro, Chair carolynchamorro@hotmail.com

Brooklyn BCCC Verna Finley, Chair jeanwf50@gmail.com

Manhattan BCCC Patti Jacobs, Chair manhattanbccc1@gmail.com

Queens BCCC Elaine Blair, Chair eilblair5@gmail.com

Staten Island BCCC Rosario Roman, Chair rroman@cwa1180.org

MOST meetings start at 6 p.m. and are held virtually until further notice.

about our members

Sometimes

it's

appreciation of co-workers

and those you supervise

that can make all the

difference in a day's work.

That's why, when Local

1180 received a call from

an NYPD civilian member

who wanted to send in

the following story about

her supervisor and asked if we would publish it in our

newspaper, we jumped at

"With all that our members

have faced in the past

two years during the

pandemic, it was definitely a nice surprise to get this

phone call about one of

our own members," said

Local 1180 President Gloria

Middleton. "Our members

work hard and do their

jobs diligently, but there

are those who definitely go

the chance.

the

Thanks For All You Do



Local 1180 member PRAA Deborah Washington (center) surrounded by just some of those she supervises: Katrece Small who submitted the article, Police Attendant Deborah Hull, Custodian Manuel Nuñez, and SPAA Wanda Spain.

out of their way and make a personal difference in the lives of those they work with. Deborah is one of those special people and is clearly shows. We are proud of who she is as a person and how she represents Local 1180."

Here is the story sent in by Katrece Small, Police Administrative Aide, and a DC 37 Local 1549 member.

"My name is Katrece Small and I'm a Police Administrative Aide (PAA) with the NYC Police Department. I am extremely proud to express my appreciation for **Principal Administrative Associate Level 2 Deborah Washington**.

"She has been on the job for 19 years and is dedicated to her civilian staff and to the NYPD. She is a team player and will assist wherever she is needed and is readily available to help in any way or just lend a listening ear. She supervises a staff of 20+ employees that consist of PAAs, SPAAs, Custodians, Police Cadets, and School Crossing Guards.

"Principal Washington is one who knows the way, goes the ways and shows the way. She always sets out to make a difference and empower us all. She motivates us all to do well, and those who are doing well, she helps do even better.

"Principal Washington wears many hats. She is not just our supervisor, but she is also our 'Precinct Mom' and many days she moonlights as our therapist. Whether it's a big issue or little issue, she is an extraordinary, caring individual and I am proud to work under her tutelage.

"PRAA Washington is very accommodating and understanding, not only to the civilian staff, but also the UMOS as well. We are truly thankful and blessed to have her in our corner."

Condolences to **Retiree Beverly Heiligh-Pabon** on the passing of her two sons 25 days apart. Phillip S. Pabon was born on Sept. 18, 1969, and died on Aug. 13, 2021. Anthony Pabon was born Sept. 15, 1966, and passed away on Sept. 7, 2021. Beverly was a PAA Level 1 who worked for Coler-Goldwater Hospital before she retired.





Condolences to the family of **Susan Reddick** (PAA, NYPD), an active member of the Queens Borough Community Coordinating Committee and the Union, who passed away in June. In celebration of her life, her family requested that all those who attended her funeral wear green and white as green was her favorite color.

IN MEMORIAM

NAME	AGENCY	DECEASED
Faye Allen	Dept. of Social Services	.7/2/2021
Maria Begeleus	Fire Department	.9/9/2021
Lyudmila Belzer	Financial Information Services Agency	.8/3/2021
Emma Chollette	Administration for Children Services (ACS)	.7/26/2021
Thelma Jenkins	Health + Hospital Corp	.7/12/2021
Patricia Junor	Kings County Hospital Center	.7/21/2021
Carmen Lopez	Dept. of Social Services	.9/4/2021
Irene Macherone	.Office of Management & Budget	.7/10/2021
Mary Marotta	NYC Transit Authority	.7/11/2021
Joseph Messana	Department of Transportation	.7/26/2021
Aftab Muddassar	Coney Island Hospital	.6/15/2021
Ruth Murray	Finance Administration	.7/7/2021
Madeleine Peduto	Department of Education	.7/16/2021
Robin Person	Finance Administration	.7/25/2021
Phyllis Pizzolato	Health + Hospital Corp	.7/3/2021
Hazel Racks	NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA)	.6/8/2021
Palmmetta Skinner	Dept. of Social Services	.7/31/2021
Florence Sweeney.	Department of Education	.7/29/2021
Sandra Winston	Dept. of Social Services	.8/15/2021

CWA LOCAL 1180 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Count

Site Meetings — July 2021

Parks Randall's Island, New York H+H Cumberland 100 N. Portland, Brooklyn NYPD 11 Metrotech, Brooklyn HRA SNAP 54 88-11 165th St., Jamaica Comptroller's Office 1 Center St., New York H+H Gouverneur Hospital 227 Madison Ave., New York H+H Coler Hospital 400 Main St., Roosevelt Island H+H Seaview Hospital 460 Brielle Ave., Staten Island HRA/Constituent Services 470 Vanderbilt Ave., Brooklyn H+H Metro Plus Health 1228 Gerard Ave., Bronx HRA — SNAP #45 1365 Jerome Ave., Bronx HRA — SNAP #42 2500 Halsey St., Bronx Department of Consumer and Worker Protection 42 Broadway, New York Department of Education 28-11 Queens Plaza North, Long Island City Department of Education 30-48 Linden Pl. & 82-01 Rockaway Blvd., Queens AUGUST Activity Agency Walk-Throughs1 Conference Calls...

Counseling/Warning Session1 EEO Investigation/Interview1

Emails

AUGUST Activity Count G.O. 15 – NYPD. 6
Hearing Preparations 15 Hearings 4
Hiring Pool1
Investigative Hearings/Meetings
Phone Calls
Site Meetings
Site Meetings — August 2021 H+H Metropolitan 1901 First Ave., New York
HRA Emergency Intervention Services Various Citywide Locations
Manhattan District Attorney's Office 1 Hogan Pl., New York
Department of the Aging 2 Lafayette Ave., New York
NYPD 1 Police Plaza, New York
NYPD 350 Marconi St., Bronx
DOHMH 125 Worth St., New York
HRA/MICSA 404 Pine St. + 441 Clarkson St., Brooklyn
DOC 75-20 Astoria Blvd., East Elmhurst
DOC 59-17 Junction Blvd., Queens
Next meeting date of the Executive Board is scheduled for Sept. 22, 2021.
Motion was duly made, seconded, and carried adjourn at 7:15 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Lourdes Acevedo Recording Secretary

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COMMUNIQUE

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Executive Board

Gloria Middleton, President Gina Strickland, First Vice President Gerald Brown, Second Vice President Robin Blair-Batte, Secretary-Treasurer Lourdes Acevedo, Recording Secretary

Members-at-Large

Teesha Foreman, Ranston Foster, Denise Gilliam, Helen S. Jarrett, Debra Paylor, Rosario Roman, Gregory Smith, Venus Williams, Hazel O. Worley

Communications Director

Communique Editor/Designer Marci Rosenblum • Tricomm Creative, Inc. www.tricommcreative.com

Communique Facilitators Gerald Brown, Gloria Middleton

Printed by DG3 North America Ron Koff • ron.koff@dg3.com



Communications Workers of America Local 1180 6 Harrison Street, New York, NY 10013-2898 NON-PROFIT-ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 8190

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- 3. Be sure to turn on push notifications
- 4. IF you are asked for an All Aboard Code, it is CWA1180