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New York State Senate | 28th District



February 2019

Message from Liz...

The first month of the legislative session has been historically productive, and it has been a great pleasure to work with my colleagues in the Senate majority to move a host of legislation that has been delayed for years. After the election, I received an email in response to one of my newsletters saying that I'd have to start writing about accomplishments now, rather than complaining of all we couldn't get done. I am very happy to be able to devote this message to highlighting some of the important legislation that passed both houses of the legislature in January, most of which has already been signed by the Governor and is now law. So here goes:

Election Reforms: The right to vote is one of the most fundamental freedoms belonging to every American. But New York's convoluted and outdated voting laws have discouraged participation in our electoral process and caused us to have one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the country. The first legislation we passed this year was a package of voting reforms, including:

- *Early Voting:* S.1102 will establish an Early Voting system to permit eligible voters in New York State to vote in person during a designated period.
- *Consolidation of Federal and State Primaries:* S.1103 will save taxpayer dollars and make state primary elections the same day as federal primary elections. It also ensures that New York State's election law complies with the federal Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act.
- *Closing the LLC Loophole:* S.1101 holds Limited Liability Companies (LLC's) to the same aggregate contribution limit of \$5,000 that applies to corporations. The bill would require the disclosure of the identity and proportion of ownership of all direct and indirect owners of the membership interests in the LLC. This legislation will also require all contributions made to political committees or campaigns by an LLC be attributed to each member of the LLC in proportion to the member's ownership interest.

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- *Same-Day Voter Registration*: S.1048 amends the state Constitution to remove the ten-day advance voter registration requirement, subject to second passage by the next legislature and approval in a statewide referendum.

- *No-Excuse Absentee Voting*: S.1049 will amend the state Constitution to allow for any voter to request to vote by mail without declaring a reason, subject to second passage by the next legislature and approval in a statewide referendum.

- *Voter Registration Transfers*: S.1099 will require the Board of Elections to transfer the registration and enrollment of a voter to wherever they move within New York State.

- *Voter Pre-Registration*: S.1100 will enable 16- and 17-year olds to pre-register to vote and requires local boards of education to adopt policies to promote student voter registration and pre-registration.

LGBTQ Rights: The legislature also took action on the first significant legislation expanding LGBT rights since the passage of marriage equality in 2011. We passed S.1047, the *Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act* (GENDA) that prohibits discrimination based on gender identity or expression and adds transgender New Yorkers to those protected by the state's Hate Crimes Law. The Senate also passed legislation *banning conversion therapy* (S.1046) which prohibits mental health professionals from engaging in sexual orientation change efforts with a patient under the age of 18. I am pleased that New York is once again taking the lead in ensuring that all people are protected by the laws of our state, regardless of who they love or how they identify their gender.

Reproductive Health: In the face of the threats to reproductive rights emanating from the Trump administration and the Supreme Court, it was critical that New York take action. On January 22nd, the 46th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the legislature passed:

- *The Reproductive Health Act*: S.240, which I sponsored, will modernize New York's nearly 50-year-old statutes regarding abortion and ensure that New York State law treats abortion as health care, not a criminal act.

- *The Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act*: S.659-A will require health insurance companies to include coverage of all FDA-approved contraceptive options, as well as contraceptive counseling, and services.

- *The Boss Bill*: S.660 will ensure that employees or their dependents are able to make their own reproductive health care decisions without incurring adverse employment consequences.

DREAM Act: The legislature also passed the DREAM Act (S.1250), which will allow undocumented children, who are already students in New York State, the ability to qualify for state aid for higher education, create a Dream Fund for college scholarship opportunities, and remove barriers that block undocumented families from college saving programs. At this time when immigrants are under attack from the Trump administration, I am gratified that New York is standing up for educational opportunity for all.

Child Victims Act: S.2440 reformed New York State's outdated statute of limitations for child sexual abuse. The Child Victims Act will raise the criminal statute of limitations for child sexual abuse crimes by five years and raise the civil statute of limitations for causes of action brought by someone seeking

redress for physical, psychological or other injury caused by child sexual abuse to age 55. Additionally, this legislation will create a one-year window, starting six months from the effective date of the bill, for past victims of child sexual abuse to initiate lawsuits against their abusers and the public and private institutions that let the abuse happen. It is incomprehensible that until now New York State has failed to allow all victims of child sexual abuse to have their day in court. By passing the Child Victims Act, we are ensuring that New York laws will not stand in the way of the right of victims to seek justice.

Anti-Gun Violence Legislation: We have a responsibility to keep New York families safe and secure from gun violence. That means enacting commonsense laws that the vast majority of people, including gun owners, support. After years of inaction, the legislature passed a comprehensive package of commonsense gun bills, including:

- *Extreme Risk Protection Orders:* S.2451 allows law enforcement officials, family and household members, and certain school officials to seek a court order requiring a person likely to harm themselves or others to relinquish any firearms in their possession.
- *Effective Background Check Act:* S.2374 establishes an extension of time up to thirty calendar days for national instant background checks.
- *Bump Stock Ban:* S.2448 prohibits the possession of a device that accelerates the rate of fire of a firearm.
- *Preventing School Districts from Arming Teachers:* S.101A prevents K-12 schools from authorizing anyone other than a security officer, school resource officer, or law enforcement officer to carry a firearm on school grounds.
- *Gun Buy Backs:* S.2449 directs the State Police to devise regulations for gun buyback programs so that all buyback programs across the state are operated consistently with uniform best practices.
- *Out of State Mental Health Records:* S.2438 will require out-of-state applicants for gun permits to allow New York permitting authorities to review out-of-state mental health records.

There remains much to do, but I am pleased that the new Senate Democratic Majority has been moving so aggressively to address issues that were held up for years by the Senate Republicans. I look forward to continuing to advance a progressive agenda as we turn to evaluating the Governor's budget proposal in the weeks ahead.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Senate Hearing on Climate and Community Protection Act February 14th:

The New York State Senate will be holding three hearings across the state on the Climate & Community Protection Act ("CCPA"). Senator Todd Kaminsky, Chair of the Environmental Conservation Committee and sponsor of the legislation, will head these hearings. This comprehensive act intends to tackle the effects of climate change by drastically cutting greenhouse

gases, diverting the State's energy reliance to renewable sources, and creating green jobs in an effort to promote environmental justice across New York State. The New York City hearing will take place February 14 at 10:30 a.m. at 250 Broadway, 19th Floor. If you would like to testify at the hearing, please RSVP to encon@nysenate.gov.

People's Budget Forum with Manhattan Senate Delegation March 2nd:

On Saturday March 2 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. I will join my Senate colleagues from Manhattan at a forum on the State Budget. The Forum is an opportunity to join other community members, advocates, and other interested parties to make your voice heard regarding priorities for the 2019-20 NYS Budget. The forum will take place at Mt. Sinai St. Luke's, Muhlenberg Auditorium, 440 West 114th Street, 4th Floor (4M).

We welcome anyone's opinion as written or oral testimony. Each speaker will have up to three minutes to speak. Time limits will be strictly enforced. If you would like to attend the event and/or testify you can sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/BudgetForum2019> or call 212-490-9535. If you would like to submit testimony in writing, you can email it to budgetforum2019@gmail.com.

Roundtable for Boomers and Seniors Thursday March 14th:

The Roundtable for Boomers & Seniors provides an opportunity for constituents to come together to explore life issues that are relevant across the age span. At each session, attendees hear from and engage with professionals who are knowledgeable on topics that are of most concern to the growing population of older adults in New York City. Over the course of five sessions, the Roundtable looks at a specific issue from different perspectives each month. This year's series will focus on myths, facts and possibilities. The third roundtable session will take place Thursday, March 14th from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street, and the topic will be loneliness. Speakers include Lauren Goldman, Deputy Volunteer Director, Friendly Visiting Program, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House; Lindsay Goldman, Director, Healthy Aging, NY Academy of Medicine; Jacqueline Berman, Director of Research, NYC Department for the Aging; and Manou Pardasani, Associate Professor Fordham Graduate School of Social Work. To RSVP visit <https://tinyurl.com/lonelinessforum> or call (212) 490-9535.

Homeowners and Tenants Enrollment Events:

The New York City Department of Finance is hosting two events in Manhattan to provide enrollment assistance for homeowners seeking to apply for property tax exemptions and tenants seeking to apply for the rent freeze program.

Property Tax Exemptions Available Include:

- STAR: for homeowners with an annual income of \$500,000 or less
- Enhanced STAR: for seniors 65 and over with annual incomes of \$86,300 or less
- SCHE & DHE: for seniors 65 and over or disabled homeowners with annual incomes of \$58,399 or less
- Veterans: for those who served in the U.S. military during designated periods of conflict, their un-remarried surviving spouses, and Gold Star parents
- Clergy: for active and retired members of the clergy and their un-remarried surviving spouses.

You May Qualify for Rent Freeze if You:

- Are at least 62 years old, or at least 18 years old with a qualifying disability

- Have a household income of \$50,000 or less
- Live in a rent-regulated apartment (monthly stabilized, rent controlled, or SRO)
- Spend more than 1/3 of your income on rent

Please note that NYCHA residents and SECTION 8 recipients are not eligible for the Rent Freeze program.

The enrollment events are hosted by Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and will take place on Wednesday February 6th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon and Wednesday February 13th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. 1 Centre Street, North Mezzanine.

For an updated list of ongoing enrollment events please call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/rentfreeze and select the “Outreach Events” link.

Conversation on A New Way to Look at Aging on February 9th:

On Saturday, February 9th Lenox Hill Neighborhood House is hosting an event entitled “A New Way to Look at Aging: A Conversation with Ashton Applewhite, John Leland and Dr. Ruth Finklestein.” Join *This Chair Rocks* author Ashton Applewhite, New York Times writer John Leland and Dr. Ruth Finkelstein for a conversation about attitudes on aging, what it means to grow older and strategies for fighting ageism. The event will take place at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Auditorium, 331 E. 70th Street. Light refreshments will be served. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Program begins at 2:00 p.m.

Flatiron Plaza and Worth Square Workshop February 12th:

On Tuesday, February 12th there will be a Public Workshop on the Flatiron Plaza and Worth Square Capital Design Proposal. The event is sponsored by the NYC Department of Transportation, the NYC Department of Design and Construction, the Flatiron 23rd Street Partnership, and the Madison Square Park Conservancy. At the workshop there will be a review of the design proposal, an opportunity to provide design input, and a discussion of ways to enhance public space and bike connections. The event will take place at Porcelanosa, 202 5th Avenue at 25th Street from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information, contact Colleen Chattergoon at 212.839.6216 or cchattergoon@dot.nyc.gov.

Tax Season Safety Seminar February 13:

Have you been the target of a tax scam, or are you concerned that this might happen to you? The 19th Precinct of the NYPD is holding a Tax Season Safety Seminar on Wednesday, February 13th. The seminar will be held at the Precinct, 153 E. 67th Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10021. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the seminar will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Free Tax Preparation Assistance:

IRS-trained volunteers are available to provide free tax preparation assistance throughout New York City. I encourage you to take advantage of these services, which can save you money and ensure you avoid getting caught in “Refund Anticipation Loan” scams that many for-profit tax preparers engage in.

AARP is sponsoring a number of locations on the East Side, and there are no age or income restrictions to receive this assistance. Here are some sites in the 28th Senate District where you can get free assistance with your taxes:

58th Street Library, 127 East 58th Street
Telephone: 212-759-7358

Site Hours: Wednesday and Saturday, 10:00am-2:00pm

67th Street Library, 328 East 67th Street

Telephone: 212-734-1717

Site Hours: Friday, 10:00am-2:00pm

Community Church of New York, 40 East 35th Street

Telephone: 212-683-4988

Site Hours: Thursday, 9:30am-1:30pm except April 4

Epiphany Library, 228 East 23rd Street

Telephone: 212-679-2645

Site Hours: Thursday, 10:00am-2:00pm

Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street

Telephone: 212-744-5022

Site Hours: Wednesday, 9:00am-1:00pm

Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL), 188 Madison Ave @ 34th Street

Telephone: (212) 592-7077

Site Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center, 415 East 93rd Street

Telephone: 212-360-7620

Site Hours: Friday, 9:30am-2:00pm

New York City also offers free tax preparation either in person or online for individuals making \$66,000 or less.

You can file in-person an NYC Free Tax Prep site. Filing is completely free and includes e-filing and direct deposit of your refund. Some sites have income limits. For most sites, you must have earned \$54,000 or less in 2018 to use In Person service. Some NYC Free Tax Prep sites have special services if you are self-employed, are applying for an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, you are a senior over age 60 with pension or retirement-related question or you need to file or change your return from a previous tax year. At these sites, you will drop off your documents and pick up the completed return later.

You can also complete your tax return online at certain NYC Free Tax Prep sites with help from an IRS certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparer. You must have earned \$66,000 or less in 2018 and have a valid email address to use the Assisted Self-Preparation service.

You can access a map of tax preparation sites at each site and find out which required tax documents you need at nyc.gov/taxprep.

Elder Abuse Helpline for Concerned Persons:

The Helpline for Concerned Persons is a program of Weill Cornell Medicine's NYC Elder Abuse Center. It is a free, confidential service for the family members, friends and neighbors of elder abuse victims who live in New York City's five boroughs. Available Mon-Fri, 9–5 pm, a social worker

provides supportive counseling; information about elder abuse, neglect and exploitation; guidance for next steps; and referrals. Calls received during evenings, weekends, and holidays will be responded to by next business day. Phone: 212-746-6905 or E-mail: helpline@nyceac.org. For more info visit our webpage: <https://bit.ly/2ycJ2st>

The Helpline is not an emergency service. For safety and health emergencies, call 911.

Millions of elders are abused - and there are millions of non-abusing family, friends and neighbors valiantly seeking to protect them. They are often the first to respond, providing a wide range of emotional and practical assistance. They might hear abuse through adjacent apartment walls - and if they reside with the victim, they are also living with the abuse. These concerned people may witness the decline in the victim's health, notice their distress, or even become the target of the abuse after stepping in to help. And they frequently experience a wide range of emotional and practical problems by becoming involved in elder abuse situations. Unfortunately, like the victims they help, they are largely invisible: their deeds often not recognized, their needs unacknowledged.

Legal Advocacy Clinics At Lenox Hill Neighborhood House:

The Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Legal Advocacy Center Offers assistance on a number of different issues. Here is a list of their ongoing programs and clinics:

- SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) Clinics:

- Wednesdays from 10am to 1pm at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street. Arrive by Noon.

- Mondays from 9am to 3pm at Bellevue Hospital Ambulatory Care Pavilion, First Avenue between 26th and 27th Streets, 3rd Floor. Arrive by 2pm.

First come, first served. Bring proof of identity, income information, utility bill, proof of housing costs, information on any dependents, proof of immigration status for non-citizens, and if you are 60 or over or on SSI/SSD, information on medical costs. For more information, call 212-218-0503, option 2.

- SCRIE Clinics: Walk-in Clinic. The next clinic will take place Tuesday, March 5 from 10:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street. You must arrive before Noon to ensure you can be seen. If you are 62 years or older, live in a rent regulated apartment and have an annual household income of \$50,000 or less you may be eligible for the Rent Freeze Program. Find out if you are eligible and get assistance applying or recertifying for SCRIE.

- DRIE Clinics: By Appointment only. If you are receiving disability benefits, live in a rent-regulated apartment and have an annual household income of \$50,000 or less you may be eligible for the Rent Freeze Program. Find out if you are eligible and get assistance applying or recertifying for DRIE. For more information, please email DRIE@lenoxhill.org or call 212-218-1503, option 0.

- Tenants Rights Advice Clinic: Walk-in clinic, now at 2 locations.

- February 7 and April 11 from 10am to 1pm at 331 East 70th Street. First come-first Served, arrive by Noon.

- March 7 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Casa Mutua Clinics at 159 East 102nd Street. First come, first served, arrive by 4 p.m. Please bring all relevant housing-related documents with you.

- February 20 and March 20 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the East Harlem Health Action Center, 158 East 115th Street. First come, first served, arrive by 4 p.m. Please bring all relevant housing-related documents with you.

- Health Care Access Project: call 212-218-0503. Assistance with Medicaid, Medicare Savings Program Medicare Part D, Epic and health insurance through the New York State of Health Marketplace.

VOLS Legal Clinics for Seniors:

The VOLS Elderly Project will be at one location in my district this month. The Elderly Project staff and pro bono attorneys provide free legal advice, information, document drafting, and other brief services to low-income Manhattan residents aged 60 and over, and to the social workers and advocates who assist them. Their schedule includes:

Friday February 8th - 2:00 pm, Legal Clinic,
Burden Center for the Aging, 415 East 73rd Street (b/t 1st and York)

Friday, February 15th - 10:00 am, Legal Clinic,
Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, 415 East 93rd Street

Monday February 25th - 10:00 am, Legal Clinic,
Encore Community Services Center, 239 West 49th Street (b/t Broadway and 8th Ave.)

And, just across the Park on the Westside: Monthly Housing Clinics and Workshops:

Council Member Helen Rosenthal, Goddard Riverside's SRO Law Project, and the Urban Justice Center co-sponsor monthly housing clinics and workshops at the Goddard Riverside Community Center, 593 Columbus Avenue (between 88th and 89th Streets). On the first Wednesday of each month, from 6pm – 8pm, the clinic offers a presentation on a variety of topics, followed by a question and answer session. Each evening, at least one staff attorney will meet with individuals who are seeking specific legal advice.

For questions, contact the Office of Council Member Rosenthal at (212) 873-0282 ext. 206 or Helen@helenrosenthal.com. Sign-up sheet starting at 6pm each evening.

February 6, 2019: DHCR II: Failure to Provide a Lease and Rent Overcharge applications

March 6, 2019: When a landlord wants you to go: Harassment, Construction Harassment and Buyouts

April 3, 2019: Eviction Prevention: Residency Challenges, Clutter, Unapproved Alterations, Nuisances

May 1, 2019: Succession Rights I: Family, Partners and Others

June 5, 2019: Succession Rights II: Apartment Sharing, Roommates, Sublets, Short-term rentals

Affordable Housing Opportunities in Manhattan:

2121 7th Avenue Apartments is now accepting applications for 7 affordable 1- and 2-bedroom apartments newly constructed at 2121 7th Avenue in the Harlem neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments are \$2,253 to 2,716, depending on unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$77,246 and 135,590 depending on unit and family size. Asset limits also apply. Preference will be given to mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units and visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at

<https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/663.pdf>.

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at

www.nyc.gov/housingconnect and select “Apply for Housing.” To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: 2121 7th Avenue Apartments
C/O Reside New York 381 South 5th Street unit 1 Brooklyn, NY 11211.

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by February 11, 2019. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

Central Harlem Apartments is now accepting applications for 68 affordable studio, 1- 2- and 3-bedroom apartments newly renovated at 111 West 131st Street, 116-118-120 West 129th Street, 410-418 West 128th Street, 157 West 122nd Street, 23-27 West 119th Street, and 244 Lenox Avenue in the Central Harlem neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$8968 to \$1,339 depending on unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$32,606 and \$72,600 depending on unit and family size. Asset limits also apply. Preference will be given to mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, and visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at <https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/651.pdf>.

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at www.nyc.gov/housingconnect and select “Apply for Housing.” To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: CENTRAL HARLEM APARTMENTS c/o Bronx Pro Group 1605 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Bronx, NY 10453.

Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by March 5, 2019. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

Metrocard Bus and Van Schedule:

The MTA offers MetroCard-related services throughout New York City through mobile buses and vans. Buses provide a full range of services, including applying for or refilling a Reduced-Fare MetroCard, buying or refilling a regular MetroCard, or getting answers to a MetroCard-related question. Vans sell Unlimited Ride MetroCards and Pay-Per-Ride MetroCards, and they refill MetroCards and Reduced-Fare MetroCards. Buses and vans will be in my district on the following dates and locations:

- February 12, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
- February 12, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm., 86 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
- February 12, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
- February 20, 9 – 10:30 am, 79 Street & Third Avenue - Bus
- February 20, 11 am - 1 pm, 79 Street & York Avenue – Bus
- February 20, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 72 Street & York Avenue – Bus
- February 21, 8:00 - 10:30 am, 47 Street & 2 Avenue – Van
- February 21, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, 28 Street & 2 Avenue – Van
- February 26, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
- February 26, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm., 86 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus
- February 26, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus

March 1, 9 - 10 am, 57 Street and 1 Avenue – Van
March 1, 10:30 - 11:30 am, 57 Street and 3 Avenue – Van
March 1, 12:30 - 2:00 pm, 68 Street and 1 Avenue – Van
March 6, 9 - 10:30 am, 79 Street & Third Avenue – Bus
March 6, 11 am - 1 pm, 79 Street & York Avenue – Bus
March 6, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 72 Street & York Avenue – Bus
March 7, 7 – 9 am, 91 Street and York Avenue - Van
March 7, 8:00 - 10:30 am, 47 Street & 2 Avenue – Van
March 7, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, 28 Street & 2 Avenue – Van

The full mobile MetroCard schedule is available at <http://mta.info/metrocard/mms.htm>. Please note that MetroCard buses and vans do not take credit cards.

Heat Season Rules:

The City Housing Maintenance Code and State Multiple Dwelling Law require building owners to provide heat and hot water to all tenants. Building owners are required to provide hot water 365 days a year at a constant minimum temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Between October 1st and May 31st, a period designated as “Heat Season,” building owners are also required to provide tenants with heat under the following conditions:

- Between the hours of 6AM and 10PM if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Between the hours of 10PM and 6AM the inside temperature is required to be at least 62 degrees Fahrenheit. Note that there is no longer any outside temperature requirement for night hours

Tenants who are cold in their apartments should first attempt to notify the building owner, managing agent or superintendent. If heat is not restored, the tenant should call the City’s Citizen Service Center at 311. For the hearing-impaired, the TTY number is (212) 504-4115. The Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.