

Good afternoon.

It has been 101 days since the first reported case of COVID-19 in New York State and 16 days since the first event of civil unrest following the untimely death of George Floyd. In today's press briefing, Governor Cuomo reported net hospitalizations, ICU admittance, intubations, and rate of new cases all continue to show a downward trend. The number of COVID-19 related deaths reported yesterday was 49 deaths. The Governor wished peace to the family of George Floyd, whose final memorial was held today.

REOPENING

The Hudson Valley, Westchester County, and Rockland County all entered into Phase 2 of the reopening today and the Long Island region will be entering Phase 2 tomorrow. The state will be deploying 500,000 masks, 10,000 gallons and 100,000 2 oz. bottles of hand sanitizer to assist Metro-North. The Governor restated the need to focus on the day-to-day viral spread upon reopening, especially with the recent protests against police brutality and other organized events. The state has developed a new dashboard with a greater citizen focus showing the percentage of positive tests per day by region and county. This dashboard will be used as a tool to identify any hotspot and/or spike in COVID-19 cases.

The Governor stressed the need to be smart, citing a Wall Street Journal article on COVID-19 cases accelerating in more than a dozen states upon reopening.

CIVIL UNREST & REFORM

This week the Legislature and Governor have been working to pass a series of criminal justice reform bills. The Governor announced the the following reforms as part of the Justice Agenda:

- Transparency of disciplinary records with a repeal of 50-A
- Banning the use of chokeholds by law enforcement
- Naming the Attorney General as a special prosecutor
- The prohibition of making false race-based 911 reports

The Governor took time to applaud the Legislature for beginning to pass these reforms and others yesterday, stating he aims to sign the reforms into law later this week. The Senate and Assembly issued press releases regarding the legislation they expect to pass this week which can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

The Governor stressed the importance of police departments regaining the trust of the public as a measure of true criminal justice reform, stating this is not just a moment for political protests but for true systemic reform and that the Justice Agenda aims to fight racial injustice in our society. The Governor stated reform must include education equity, measures to alleviate child poverty, and providing affordable housing.

He stated housing is a federal responsibility, noting the 1949 Housing Act and that the Justice Agenda should be tackled on the federal level because it is a national issue not exclusive to New York State. He stated racial and class injustice have been "brewing for centuries in this nation" and that there must be trust between law

enforcement officers and the communities they serve. The Governor stated that he has "faith" that the federal government will not turn their back on state and local governments in terms of funding during the collision of crises across the nation.

The Governor sharply criticized President Trump for posting from a Twitter account that the 75-year-old protestor who remains in serious condition at Erie County Medical Center in Buffalo after being shoved to the ground by law enforcement during a peaceful protest was an "Antifa agitator." Governor Cuomo expressed frustration at the idea that the president would even suggest that the protestor's injuries were staged.

We continue to closely monitor all legislative and Executive activity and will continue to provide timely, relevant updates. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your trust and focus as these uncertain and rapidly changing events at the state and federal level continue to unfold, often on a minute by minute basis.

Today and always, we hope you and yours stay safe and remain well.

Take care.