



All races across New York State have been certified recently with the New York State Board of Elections except for one Congressional seat across Utica and Binghamton between Brindisi (D) and Tenney (R). The increased number of mail-in ballots this year proved to be important in many races. The Board of Election certification officially changed the composition of the New York State legislature. The New York State Senate Democrats now hold a Super Majority with 43 seats. The peoples house, the New York State Assembly, maintains its veto proof majority with 107 members.

Below please find the list of new members for the 2021-2022 legislative session. You will find there are 14 new members in the Senate and 26 new Members in the Assembly.

#### **SENATE DEMOCRATS:**

##### **SD 25: Jabari Brisport**

(replaces Velmanette Montgomery)



Jabari is a former public-school teacher. He ran for City Council in District 35 in 2017 as an independent candidate. Jabari was able to build name recognition and garner roughly 30% of the vote against a strong incumbent, who ran to fill the seat of the retiring Senator Montgomery, which was the best finish for a nonmajor party candidate in over a decade.

### **SD 38: Elijah Reichlin-Melnick**

(replaces David Carlucci)



Elijah began his career as an elementary school teacher and continued in the private sector as a regional planner and researcher into government efficiency. Elijah has also served his community as a staffer to a Town Supervisor and to two members of Congress. Most recently he served as the Legislative Director for State Senator James Skoufis.

### **SD 46: Michelle Hinchey**

(replaces George Amedore)



Michelle is a Saugerties native that attended the Industrial and Labor Relations School at Cornell University. Over the past decade Michelle has served in a wide range of fields, working as a communications executive in the technology and media fields, a grassroots organizer on a year-long campaign to ban fracking in New York, serving on the Board of Directors of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development. She is the daughter of the late Maurice Hinchey who was a New York Assemblyman and Congressman.

**SD 50: John Mannion**

(replaces Robert Antonacci, John DeFrancisco)



John Mannion is a lifelong resident of Central New York. Currently he is a public high school Advanced Biology teacher and union leader.

**SD 55: Samra Brouk**

(replaces Richard Funke)



After graduating from Williams College with a Bachelor's in Psychology and a minor in Spanish, Samra joined the U.S. Peace Corps where she volunteered in rural Guatemala as a health education specialist. She later worked to help the Town of Brookhaven adopt a recycling education program for their population of nearly 500,000 people, which led to her partnering with mayors and municipal leaders across the Northeast to adopt recycling education programs.

She later joined, DoSomething.org, to mobilize millions of youths as social change advocates. Samra later assisted in starting Umbrella, a start-up that used technology to keep seniors safe in their homes by connecting them with affordable and community-driven home care.

Most recently, Samra drove fundraising efforts for Chalkbeat, the fastest growing grassroots journalism organization, supporting their work reporting on inequities in the public school system.

**SD 56: Jeremy Cooney**

(replaces Joseph Robach)



Jeremy began his career by working on Capitol Hill for the late U.S. Congresswoman Louise Slaughter. Jeremy has also worked for two New York Governors and the Mayor of Rochester. With a deep commitment to creating the Rochester of tomorrow, Jeremy is passionate about investing in quality public schools, affordable housing, universal health care, reducing our carbon footprint and helping families find pathways out of poverty.

Jeremy is a Rochester native, graduating with honors in Public Policy from Hobart College and obtain a law degree from Albany Law School.

**SD 60: Sean Ryan**

(replaces Chris Jacobs)



Sean most recently served as a state Assemblyman, where he championed many different issues including creating a fair economy for all, lower taxes for middle-class families and small businesses, increased investment in education, waterfront development, neighborhood redevelopment, and clean air, water, and environmental protection.

## SENATE REPUBLICANS:

### **SD 1: Anthony Palumbo**

(replaces Kenneth LaValle)



Anthony H. Palumbo most recently served as New York Assemblyman representing Suffolk County residents in the 2nd Assembly District. Prior to being elected to the Assembly, Anthony served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, where he prosecuted hundreds of cases on misdemeanor and felony levels. Later being promoted to the position of Trial Supervisor to the five Eastern Suffolk Towns. He later left the District Attorney's office in 2004 to enter private practice as a partner in a small Mattituck law firm.

### **SD 2: Mario Mattera (R)**

(replaces John Flanagan)



Mario is a longtime union leader in the Plumbers Local Union #200. He has dedicated himself to helping local organizations and has served as a board member on the St. Catherine's Health And Wellness Advisory Board, the Suffolk County Water Authority, Community Association of Greater St. James and the Smithtown Advisory Board.

### **SD 3: Alexis Weik**

(replaces Monica Martinez)



Alexis has been elected Islip Receiver of Taxes for three consecutive terms and is also the President of Suffolk County Receivers Association. She has also served as an Aide to Legislator Tom Cilmi. She is a member of the Chamber of Commerce for the towns of Bayport, Bluepoint, Brentwood, Holbrook, Patchogue, and Sayville.

### **SD 42: Mike Martucci**

(replaces Jen Metzger)



Mike is a small business owner of school transportation company who has employed hundreds of people locally. He is also a family farmer.

In 2015, Mike was elected President of the New York School Bus Contractors Association becoming a leading state and national voice on school transportation. He is a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President of the SUNY Orange Foundation, which provides scholarships for students seeking a college education.

**SD 45: Daniel Stec**

(replaces Betty Little)



Dan Stec most recently was serving the constituents of the 114th Assembly District on January 1st, 2013. During his time in the Assembly, he opposed the NY-SAFE Act and voted against the legislation. He also served as the Vice-Chair of the Minority Program Committee, Ranking Minority Member of the Assembly’s Committee on Environmental Conservation and sits on the Consumer Affairs, Local Governments, Social Services, and Tourism committees.

**SD 51: Peter Oberacker**

(replaces James Seward)



In 2015 Peter was elected to the Otsego County Board of Representatives. Peter chairs the Public Works Committee, is Vice-Chair of the Administration Committee, Human Services, Negotiations, and Inter- Governmental Affairs committees. Prior to his election to the County Board, Peter served as Maryland Town Supervisor. Peter has a long career in product research, development, and implementation in the food industry business.

In 2007, he created Form Tech Solutions and built it into a successful multi-million-dollar business working with major companies around the world to develop and incorporate new and innovative products and then make them applicable in the ever-growing food industry.

## **SD 61: Ed Rath**

(replaces Michael Ranzenhofer)



As an Erie County Legislator, Ed has built a reputation for being an advocate for taxpayers and has fiercely advocated for a stronger economy, government accountability and more affordable and safer communities. Ed has also been a longtime member of the Legislature's Public Safety Committee, where he is a champion for our first responders and has led efforts against cyberbullying. While in office Ed has remained an active member of the community. He continues to volunteer for organizations that provide assistance throughout the community including the Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Rotary International and the Alzheimer's Foundation.

## **ASSEMBLY DEMOCRATS**

### **AD 16: Gina Silliti**

(replaces Anthony D'Urso)



Gina Silliti grew up on Long Island in the town of Hauppauge. After graduating from the University of Georgia, Gina returned home to begin her nearly two-decade career in government starting with the Nassau County Legislature. In 2010, Gina was appointed Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Community Services at the Town of North Hempstead. She was promoted to Deputy Chief of Staff and the Director of Legislative Affairs for the Town. In 2015, Gina was recruited to serve as Director of Human Resources and Compliance at the Nassau County Board of Elections.

**AD 31: Khaleel M. Anderson**

(replaces Michelle Titus)



Khaleel graduated Queens College and is finalizing his Master’s Degree in Urban Affairs, with a minor in Cities and Social Medicine. He serves on the Queens Community Board 14, the 101st Police Precinct Council, and is a member of the NAACP Far Rockaway Branch. He is the youngest Black state lawmaker in New York history.

**AD 34: Jessica González-Rojas**

(replaces Michael Dendekker)



Jessica González-Rojas is a life-long activist and change-maker. She was on the founding board of New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE), a Queens-based immigrant rights organization and a founding member of Jackson Heights' New Visions Democratic Club. She has served in leadership of several advocacy efforts, including the New York City Transit Riders Council and the New York City Young Women's Initiative.

For the past 13 years, Jessica has led a national organization dedicated to expanding healthcare access, building Latinx power, and advancing reproductive justice. Jessica was also an adjunct professor at CUNY City College and NYU Wagner School of Public Service.

### **AD 36: Zohran Mamdani**

(replaces Aravella Simotas)



Zohran Mamdani was born and raised in Kampala, Uganda, and grew up in New York City after his family migrated to the U.S. when he was seven years old. He graduated from Bowdoin College, and most recently worked as a housing counselor, helping immigrant families facing eviction stay in their homes.

### **AD 38: Jenifer Rajkumar**

(replaces Michael Miller)



Jenifer is a lawyer, and a Professor at CUNY and also former New York State Government official. With early roots in public service, Jenifer graduated from Stanford Law School with distinction for her pro bono legal work on behalf of vulnerable individuals. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania at the top of her class where she received the Alice Paul Award for exemplary service to women and families.

## **AD 50: Emily Gallagher**

(replaces Joseph Lentol)



Emily Gallagher has worked in retail, the gig economy, public education and the nonprofit sector. In 2016, she was approached by members of the New Kings Democrats reform club to run for the position of Female District Leader in the 50th Assembly district. She narrowly lost by less than 350 votes while winning 53 of 87 election districts.

## **AD 51: Marcela Mitaynes**

(replaces Felix Ortiz)



As a child Marcela Mitaynes migrated to New York City from Peru with her family and was raised in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. She is now raising her own family in that same community. Marcela was evicted from her rent stabilized apartment of 30 years and began her life's work of empowering her neighbors to know their rights and find their voices to fight to stay in their homes.

Through her work with Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and with tenants throughout New York State, Marcela was instrumental in the passage of the historic Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act of 2019. This legislation dramatically and comprehensively strengthened the rights of tenants in rent stabilized apartments to defend their homes and communities.

**AD 56: Stefani L. Zinerman**

(replaces Tremaine Wright)



Stefani Zinerman decided to volunteer for the Obama For America campaign and soon became the neighborhood team leader for Bedford Stuyvesant. There, she recruited and trained volunteers to canvas in Pennsylvania and conduct phone banks in Brooklyn and Ohio. When President Obama was re-elected, Stefani was tapped to be the Campaign Manager for the local Council Member and went on to serve as Chief of Staff.

Five years later, she became the Director of Special Projects and Institutional Stability for State Senator Velmanette Montgomery. She is also a former Civic Engagement Chair for the NAACP.

**AD 57: Phara Souffrant Forrest**

(replaces Walter Mosley)



In June 2019, Phara Souffrant Forrest fought alongside the Housing Justice For All campaign in Albany, helping to win a landmark agreement to strengthen New York City's rent and tenant protection laws. During her run, Forrest also worked as a union nurse for the New York State Nurses Association.

**AD 79: Chantel Jackson**

(replaces Michael Blake)



After Chantel graduated from The City College of New York with a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Science, she took action to support her adopted community, The Bronx. There she served as the youngest board member at her cooperative and organizing multiple voter registration drives. As a college advisor for low-income first-generation high school students, she assisted thousands of students get into college and receive financial aid.

She received a Masters Degree in Social Work from Adelphi University, received her license and assists high school students in their holistic wellness. She is a proud UFT member and social worker at a NYC public high school, college professor and published author.

**AD 84: Amanda Septimo**

(replaces Carmen Arroyo)



Amanda Septimo Bronx native with a long, rich history of service to the community. She attended Vanderbilt University where throughout her college years she served as an intern with the Legal Aid Society. Amanda went on to work with Congressman Jose E. Serrano as a Community Liaison and was later promoted to District Director. Amanda went on to work with the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators.

**AD 85: Kenneth Burgos**

(replaces Marcus Crespo)



Kenny’s career in public service began as a Summer Associate for the New York City Council. He worked alongside financial analysts in various sectors, ranging from law and childcare to health and more. This opportunity catapulted him to his next role as a Deputy Chief of Staff in the New York City Council.

**AD 93: Chris Burdick**

(replaces David Buchwald)



Chris Burdick currently serves as full-time Supervisor of the Town of Bedford, governing a town of 17,500 residents, managing 125 town employees and an annual budget of \$41 million. Previously a member of the Town Board, he became Bedford’s first Democratic Supervisor in 30 years after a hard-fought election in 2013. He has since won re-election three times – unopposed the last two.

## **AD 125: Anna Kelles**

(replaces Barbara Lifton)



Anna studied Biology and Environmental Studies at Binghamton University, and after years working in South America, earned a PhD in Nutritional Epidemiology from University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. As an educator, an environmental non-profit director, a human rights activist and now a Tompkins County legislator, she has used her public health training to advocate for our community.

## **AD 135: Jen Lunsford**

(replaces Mark Johns)



Jen graduated with a major in Political Science and Philosophy from Hartwick College. After college she moved to Los Angeles to work as a paralegal at the international law firm Sullivan & Cromwell. She then returned to the East Coast to attend law school at Boston University where she concentrated in healthcare law.

After finishing law school, Jen was admitted to practice and began volunteering with the Rochester Teen Court.

Jen is currently an attorney at Segar & Sciortino where she advocates for people at some of the most difficult times in their lives. She also sits on the board of the Anthony Poselovich Memorial Foundation, which helps families of young children diagnosed with cancer.

**AD 136: Sarah Clark**

(replaces Steve Hawley)



A lifelong Rochester resident and SUNY Stony Brook graduate, Sarah has dedicated her entire career over the last two decades to public service. Prior to running for office, Sarah worked for the United States Senate – initially for Senator Hillary Clinton and, for the past eight years, as Senator Kirsten Gillibrand’s Deputy State Director.

For the past seven years, Sarah has served as a member of the Community Impact Cabinet and the Women United Steering Committee for the United Way of Greater Rochester.

**AD 137: Demond L. Meeks**

(replaces David Gantt)



Most recently, Demond worked as an administrative organizer with 1199SEIU, representing nearly 800 health care sector employees and takes on an array of tasks including bargaining contracts. Demond has mobilized workers around workplace issues, such as improved wages and benefits, as well as dignity and respect.

**AD 140: William Conrad**

(replaces Robin Schimminger)



William has been a Social Studies Teacher and coach for the past twenty years. He has also been active in his community throughout his life and is currently serving on the Town of Tonawanda Town Board.

**AD 149: Jonathan D. Rivera**

(replaces Sean Ryan)



Jon is a proud graduate Buffalo State College, earning Bachelor's in Business Administration. After graduating, Jon began his own public service career in the office of Congressman Brian Higgins during his first term in office, where he represented Congressman Higgins in the community, and advocated for constituent needs in Washington. Jon later joined the private sector, where he worked for HSBC Bank.

After growing a career in banking, Jon sought a return to public service and accepted a position in the office of the Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz as the liaison to the County Legislature. Later, Jon was promoted the Special Assistant to the Commissioner of Public Works in Erie County.

## ASSEMBLY REPUBLICANS:

### **AD 12: Keith Brown**

(replaces Andrew Raia)



Keith is a founding partner of Brown & Altman, LLP, where he represents a wide range of corporations in real estate matters, from complicated commercial disputes to issues related to zoning and land use regulations. He has advised multiple Fortune 500 companies in all aspects of programmatic development, including leasing, zoning and litigation.

### **AD 64: Michael Tannousis**

(replaces Nicole Malliotakis)



Michael Tannousis is a lifelong Staten Islander. He earned his undergraduate degree from SUNY Binghamton and Juris Doctor from Pace Law School. Mike began his career in public service as an aide to then-Minority Leader James Oddo. During much of this time, Mike was attending law school in addition to working and after becoming a lawyer fulfilled a long-held dream of becoming a prosecutor. Mike worked as an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx District Attorney's office in 2011 and in 2016, he was hired by Richmond County District Attorney Michael McMahon. In his tenure in the Staten Island office, Mike Tannousis successfully prosecuted serious, high profile cases involving violent crimes and drug sales.

**AD 97: Michael Lawler**

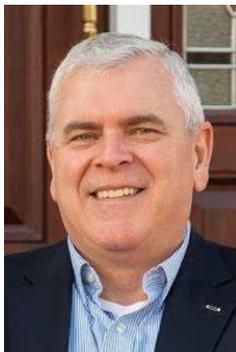
(replaces Ellen Jaffee)



Mike currently serves as Deputy Town Supervisor in Orangetown under Supervisor Teresa Kenny and previously worked in the Westchester County Executive's Office as an advisor to Rob Astorino. In addition, Mike previously served as Executive Director of the State Republican Party, helping elect candidates to federal, state, and local office.

**AD 122: Joe G. Angelino**

(replaces Clifford Crouch)



Joe is a former Marine and a three-time combat veteran over two wars and recipient of two Purple Heart medals. Joe retired from the Marine reserves as a Sergeant Major, the highest enlisted rank in 2008.

While serving as the Norwich Police Chief, Joe was tapped to simultaneously act as the city's fire chief, thus responsible for over half of the city's budget and personnel.

**AD 126: John Lemondes**

(replaces Gary Finch)



John served in the Army for nearly 27 years and has been deployed overseas numerous times and retired in 2014 as a Colonel. Most recently has worked as a Defense and National Security consultant.

John is also President of the Farmer Veteran Coalition of New York State and is active nationally with the American Sheep Industry Association. He was also appointed to the Board of Directors of the Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District by the County Executive and is a member of New York State Farm Bureau.

**AD 131: Jeff L. Gallahan**

(replaces Brian Kolb)



Jeff currently serves as Manchester town supervisor. Aside from his government role, Jeff works in industrial and cutting tool sales. He's also been active in community organizations. He started the Red Jacket High School Clay Target League and has served for 27 years on the board of the directors of the Clifton Springs YMCA. Jeff is also on the board of Ontario County SCOPE, a gun rights organization, and is a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association.

**AD 134: Josh Jensen**

(replaces Peter Lawrence)



Josh Jensen currently serves as a Councilman to the Town of Greece, representing the residents of the 3rd Ward. He has spent his career serving his community through public service. Previously, Josh served in various capacities for New York State Senator Joseph E. Robach, including as Director of Communications and Director of Community Affairs and Public Policy. Josh has also volunteered with the Hilton Education Foundation and Rochester area chapter of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.