



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
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**CICELY HARRIS**  
Chairperson

**SHATIC MITCHELL**  
District Manager

## **Public Safety Committee**

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 – 6:30pm

Hon. Charles Johnson, Chair  
Hon. Jerika Richardson, Vice Chair

### **MINUTES**

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Jerika Richardson, Jamilah Clark, Christina Curry, Marquis Harrison, John Lynch, Safiya Mann, LaShanda Meyers

**Other Board Members Present:** Derek Perkinson

**Committee Members Excused:** Charles Johnson, Carlene Pinto

**Committee Members Absent:** N/A

**Guests in Attendance:** Julius Tajiddin (Preserve Harlem's Legacy), Jovaughn Mills and Tanae Belton (Street Corner Resources), Bryson McEachin (Community Board 10 Intern), Mouminatou Fall, Jameg Allah and Allah B (Allah School in Mecca), Sgt. Opeyemi Sapara (NYPD 28 Precinct – Supervisor for the Neighborhood Coordination Officers), Fabricio Caro (FDNY Director of Community Affairs), Ashimell Bussey, Diane Pinkson (Malikah's Keepers), Linda Jones-Jannah (Director of Harlem Office, District Attorney's Office for New York County)

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **I. Old Business**

- 1.) **Immigration Update** – Tonight's update was postponed and will be given by the head of the Immigration Taskforce, Carlene Pinto, at the next Public Safety Committee meeting on Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 2.) **Reentry Program Update** – CB10 Reentry Committee was re-activated in April. The Committee's Chair, Safiya Mann, reminded meeting attendees about the Reentry Resource Fair that is being planned for fall 2019 and asked board members to review the

list of proposed location options and provide feedback via email. Ms. Mann will provide another update on the event at June's committee meeting. Additionally, she was connected by Taj, a staff member from the office of Councilman Bill Perkins, with Victor Pate from New York Campaigns to Alternatives for Isolated Confinement and the National Action Network. Mr. Pate will be coming to the June meeting. Ms. Mann will also be attending the upcoming West Harlem Reentry Initiative Meet Up.

- 3.) **5/11 Education Youth & Libraries Resource Fair** Update – The panel discussion portion of the day was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts with Mother's Day. District Manager Mitchell mentioned a number of agencies and other community organizations that attended the resource fair and acknowledged their efforts in helping to make the event a success. He said the Board is looking to host more resource fairs in the future.

## II. New Business

- 1.) **28<sup>th</sup> Precinct Update** – Sgt. Opeyemi Sapara provided attendees with an update on crime statistics in the area. The precinct is down 13% in the seven major crime areas. Right now there is a little bit of an uptick in car break-ins. So the 28<sup>th</sup> precinct is trying to remind everyone not to leave anything valuable inside their vehicles. Down in the lower end of the precinct, the NYPD still has narcotics units doing work there. The homicide on 119<sup>th</sup> street has been solved. Sgt. Sapara also announced that both perpetrators involved in the shooting that took place on 113<sup>th</sup> Street are in custody. He reminded everyone for the summer that **barbequing is not permitted** on the sidewalks. The 28<sup>th</sup> Precinct also notified attendees of an ongoing issue with packages being stolen. They encouraged the community to make arrangements for someone to be home to accept packages from USPS, UPS, FedEx, etc. They also reminded community members to always mail checks at the post office in order to avoid them being unlawfully intercepted by others.
- 2.) **Arson at the Allah School in Mecca on 126<sup>th</sup> Street** – District Manager Mitchell asked Sgt. Sapara if there were any updates regarding this incident. Sgt. Sapara was not aware of any updates regarding the incident and noted that the Fire Department is responsible for investigating arson. FDNY Director Caro noted that if there is a case of arson he can look into it with the fire department to determine where the investigation is if needed.

Representatives from the Allah School in Mecca described the fire bombing at their location and noted that it was 28<sup>th</sup> Precinct that asked the fire marshalls to step down from the investigation. They were informed that the precinct did view the videos from the police surveillance cameras in front of the school at 126<sup>th</sup> Street and Adam Clayton Blvd. as well as video from the Alahambra Ballroom Building and observed two different vehicles and two different individuals throwing fire bombs over the fence to ignite the school. They said they 28<sup>th</sup> Precinct did not inform them who the individuals were or give them an opportunity to view the video or pictures of the perpetrators. The school would like to be consulted in they event that its staff might know the perpetrators or be able to assist the precinct with identifying them. Sgt. Sapara promised to look up the case and have the detective in charge of the investigation reach out to the school. Vice Chair Richardson asked Sgt. Sapara to come back to the June meeting to provide an update.

- 3.) **FDNY Community Affairs Update** – Citywide Director Fabricio Caro came to speak about the fire that occurred in the district on 2441 Adam Clayton Powell. Unfortunately, due to unattended cooking the community tragically lost a family – four children and two adults. At this time, the Department is trying to do more in terms of building community ties and enforcing and enhancing overall fire safety. With renewed funding from the Mayor’s Office and the City Council, the FDNY did receive money to purchase 66,000 smoke alarms. In partnership with the Red Cross, FDNY will work to install alarms citywide with the Red Cross at no cost. Community residents can register for installation and can receive free fire safety education within their households by: calling 1 (877) RED-CROSS; or going to FDNY’s website through [FDNYsmart.org](http://FDNYsmart.org); or going to the Red Cross’s website [soundthealarm.org](http://soundthealarm.org). Immediately following the fire last week, FDNY Community Affairs [(718) 999-8112] officers canvassed the neighborhood from 140<sup>th</sup> to 147<sup>th</sup> Street between Adam Clayton Powell Blvd, Frederick Douglass Blvd, and Lenox Ave to ensure residents were aware of the program. They would like to do more with the Community Board, Faith-based groups, and the whole uptown community to raise awareness and educate the community about fire safety. Director Caro promised to provide the District Manager with a 1-pager on all of the Department’s resources for the community. The FDNY will also provide alarms for the hearing impaired and sort out any issues with property managers regarding installations.
- 4.) **New Life Juice Bar & Lounge (67 St. Nicholas Ave)** – Representatives were unable to attend the meeting and will be invited back for the June meeting. Board member Lynch provided background on the issues that the business will address at the next meeting.
- 5.) **Manhattan Construction Fraud Task Force** – Director Linda Jones-Janneh provided an overview of what the task force does and will follow up with DANY staffer Allan S. Valerio regarding a presentation before the Public Safety Committee meeting.
- 6.) **New York Harm Reduction Educators Outreach** – The slated presenter for the organization was not in attendance. The District Office will follow up with the organization.

### III. Announcements

- 1.) **Madison Square Boys & Girls Club Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** – June 6, 2019 at 3pm
- 2.) **National Action Network**
  - Unity Peace March – June 1, 2019 at (starts at 110<sup>th</sup> & Lenox)
  - Census Job Fair – May 18, 2019 12 – 2 pm
- 3.) **Celebrity All-Star Game at Rucker Park Against Gun Violence Honoring Nipsey Hustle** – June 1, 2019
- 4.) **Lincoln Correctional Facility & DANY Harlem Office**
  - “Meet & Greet” - May 16, 2019
  - Job Fair - May 31, 2019

5.) **Adam Clayton Blvd Fire / Family Funeral** – May 20, 2019 at First Corinthian Baptist Church at 9am.