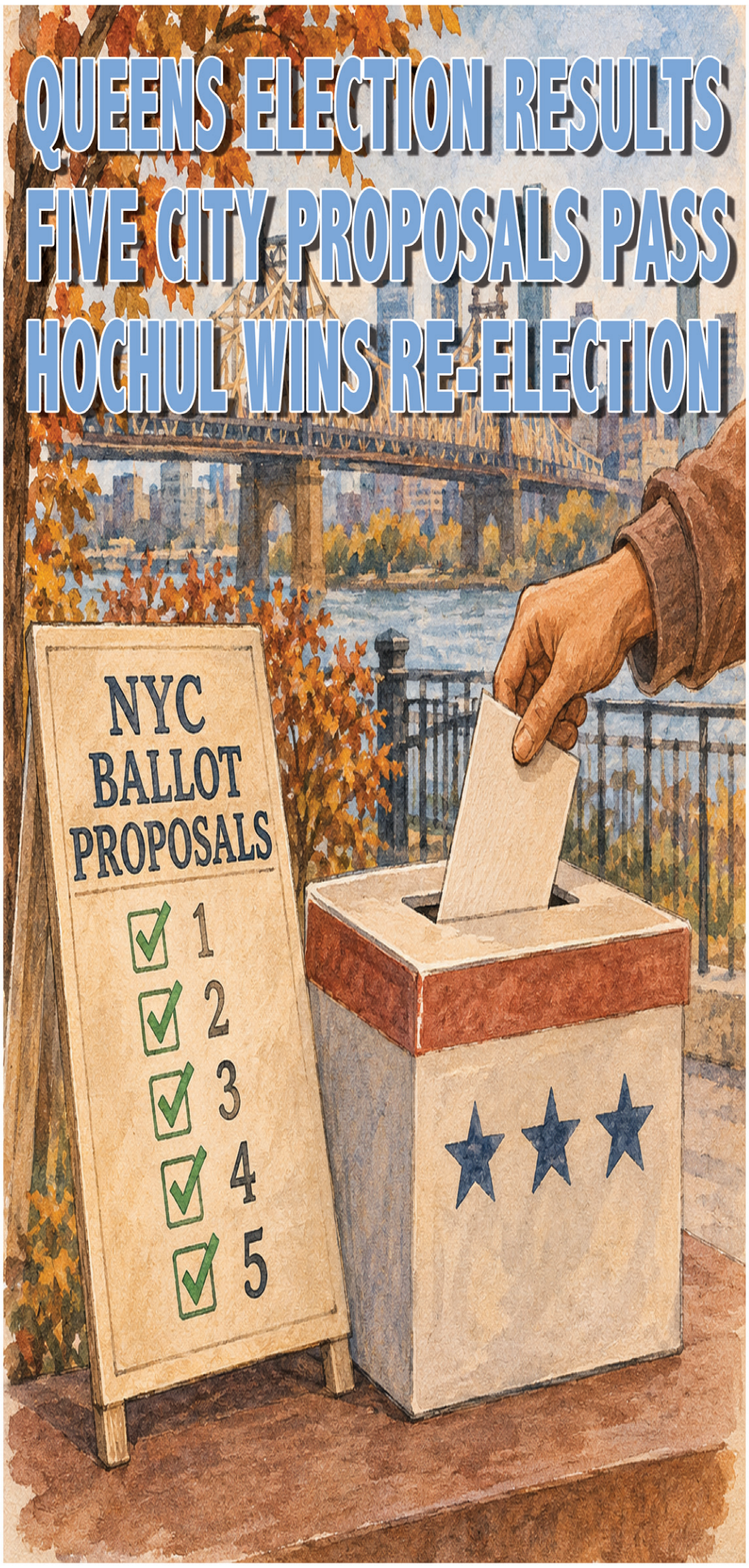
WOODSIDE HERALD

SERVING SUNNYSIDE-WOODSIDE AND LONG ISLAND CITY

VOL. 93 NO. 45 | WOODSIDE, L.I.C., N.Y. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026 | FREE



VOTERS APPROVE CHANGES TO CITY PROCEDURES AS QUEENS ELECTS CONGRESSIONAL AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES

QUEENS — New York City voters approved all five ballot proposals in Tuesday's general election, backing changes to city procedures involving outdoor dining permits, government contracting, street-safety projects, city-owned property, construction permitting and financial reserves.

The election also brought victories for Gov. Kathy Hochul and several Queens candidates seeking seats in Congress and the New York State Legislature. Election results cited in this report are preliminary and remain subject to official certification.

FIVE CITY BALLOT PROPOSALS PASS

The five proposals amend the New York City Charter, which establishes how city government operates. According to preliminary results reported by amNY, all five passed.

Question 1: Use of public space. The proposal streamlines applications for uses such as outdoor dining, accessibility ramps and planters. It makes public hearings optional for certain applications and removes the City Council's authority to reject individual sidewalk-cafe permits. Community boards, Council members and borough presidents can still submit comments.

Question 2: City contracting. The measure authorizes changes to contractor questionnaires, including the possibility of reducing paperwork for certain businesses and nonprofits. It also requires the Procurement Policy Board to meet at least quarterly and permits delegation of certain contract approvals.

Question 3: Street safety and city property. The proposal changes review procedures for street-safety projects, including bike lanes and roadway redesigns. It also creates a faster review process for certain sales or leases of city-owned property and changes approval procedures for office space used by city employees.

Question 4: Construction permits. The measure calls for a centralized permitting hub to coordinate approximately 40 permits and approvals now handled by 18 city agencies and offices. It also transfers waterfront construction-permitting responsibilities to the Department of Buildings. The system will require further development and implementation.

Question 5: City financial reserves. The proposal establishes a target for reserve funds equal to at least 12% of the previous fiscal year's tax revenue. The mayor's budget office, consulting with the comptroller, must develop a method for calculating contributions. The amendment does not require automatic annual deposits whenever reserves fall below the target.

The proposals were advanced by the city's Commission on Government Efficiency. They change government rules and procedures; their passage does not mean that every permit, construction project or property transaction will automatically move faster.

Hochul reelected; Queens candidates win

Hochul, a Democrat, won another term as governor, with former New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams elected as lieutenant governor on her ticket. State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli and Attorney General Letitia James, both incumbents, also won re-election, according to election-night reporting.

In congressional races involving Queens, the reported winners included:

Tom Suozzi, reelected to the 3rd Congressional District.

Gregory Meeks, reelected to the 5th Congressional District.

Grace Meng, reelected to the 6th Congressional District.

Claire Valdez, elected to the 7th Congressional District seat being vacated by Nydia Velázquez.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, reelected to the 14th Congressional District.

In state legislative races, Jessica González-Rojas won the 13th State Senate District, and Patrick Martinez won the 30th Assembly District, which includes Woodside, Elmhurst and parts of Maspeth. Other Queens incumbents were also reelected, while several candidates won open legislative seats.

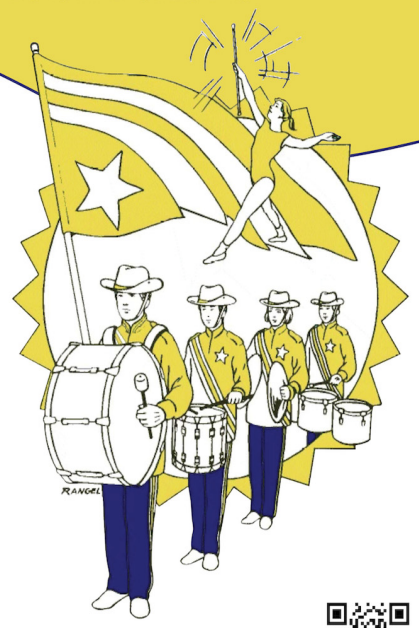
The Board of Elections must complete its official process before the results are certified. Vote totals and percentages may change as counting and canvassing continue.

The election now leaves city officials responsible for putting the approved Charter changes into effect. The practical impact will depend on the rules developed, implementation schedules and how city agencies apply the new procedures.

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Stan Popovich, Rix Quinn, Peter Ross, Robert Flanagan
CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS
Dr. Sharon Cadiz, Joe Gurrado, Peter Ross

HANDLING DIFFICULT CLIENTS: TIPS FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

by Stan Popovich

Dealing with difficult clients is a common challenge in many professions.

Learning how to respond calmly and professionally can help protect your work relationships and reduce stress.

How Can You Handle Difficult Clients Professionally?

Handling difficult clients starts with staying calm, setting clear expectations, and communicating effectively. Successful businesses manage challenging client relationships by establishing boundaries, documenting agreements, listening carefully, and focusing on practical solutions instead of reacting emotionally.

What Makes a Client Difficult to Work With?

Challenging clients can be demanding, hard to satisfy, and emotionally draining. Stress is normal when their behavior affects your workflow, team, or well-being. By learning strategies to handle these interactions, you can protect your health and keep your business running smoothly.

What Are the Common Signs of a Difficult Client?

Dealing with challenging clients is stressful, but identifying what makes them difficult is the first step to managing the situation. Common traits include unrealistic expectations, constant micromanagement, poor communication, indecisiveness, aggressive behavior, excessive complaints, and a lack of trust.

By understanding these behaviors, you can respond more effectively. Recognizing patterns, setting clear boundaries, and maintaining professional communication helps reduce stress and improve interactions—even with the most demanding clients.

How Can You Manage Clients With Unrealistic Expectations?

Some clients expect results that aren't possible within the agreed timeframe or budget. To stay calm and professional, discuss project feasibility upfront and set clear boundaries. Break projects into phases, offer realistic timelines, and propose alternatives that still meet key goals.

Document all agreements, including scope, deadlines, and deliverables, to prevent misunderstandings. Use examples or data to show what's reasonable and guide expectations. Clear communication and preparation help manage demands, reduce stress, and keep the client relationship productive.

How Can You Handle Clients Who Keep Changing Requirements?

Some clients frequently revise decisions, add requests, or shift priorities, causing delays and added stress. Stay professional and set boundaries by documenting every change, including its effect on timelines, deliverables, and costs.

Break projects into phases or milestones to make adjustments manageable. Provide examples or data showing how repeated changes impact outcomes, and offer alternatives that still achieve core goals. Clear expectations and open communication reduce stress and preserve productive relationships.



QUINN QUESTIONS – WHAT DID THE ANCIENT HUMANS EAT?

by Rix Quinn

Sometimes I wonder how our ancient ancestors survived without foods like breakfast cereal and ice cream. But maybe they didn't realize what they were missing, because pre-historic television commercials got such poor reception. Seriously, consider the paleolithic period, which covers about 2.5 million years. Up until 12,000 years ago, these folks were hunters and gatherers. They just kind of wandered around, searching for fruit, vegetables, and slow animals that looked tasty. Their housing was basic. They lived in huts, teepees, or caves. However, without pest exterminators, you can guess the size of cave bugs that crawled over them. Yuck!

Anyway, about this time some genius found a way to start a fire. He – or she – heated some meat over it. Wow, that tasted lots better than raw gristle. And it didn't make them quite as sick. Nobody knows who first invented fire, or how. There's speculation that some cave dude rubbed two sticks together, or created sparks with flint stones. Today, I can simply rub two sticks together. I call them "matches." Soon, people realized that flames could keep them warm, improve food flavor, and illuminate the evening hours. They sat around those fires, and invented chants they later called "songs for summer camp."

These people were possibly humankind's first artists. They created paints from things like animal fats, tree sap, and bone meal. Then, they drew humans, animals, and strange designs on cave walls. Some of this cave art is still around. Because it's on the walls, it can't be displayed in museums. But back then, it probably improved a cave's resale value.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

by Dr. Sharon M. Cadiz

Moving about in our busy neighborhoods often includes scenes of change and disruption of the normal flow of life. Detours, construction, road changes, City Bikes, delivery people on scooters and parking nightmares can make the simplest errand into a major challenge. Add a major election and a few holidays and the task of navigating the walkways and roadways becomes a feat of will and wit. The frustrations are clearly more than many of us can bear, but over the weekend that wrapped up early voting; celebrated Halloween; and highlighted "Day of the Dead" ceremonies, my husband and I got a glimpse of the enduring spirit of our communities that overcome challenge. In spite of the uncertainty of national and global events, our diverse communities gave us a look at what we can be proud of displayed in a characteristic resilience and steadfast commitment to fun, fellowship and a grounded sense of mutual belonging. The streets were filled with revelers and costumed fun-seekers that included children, parents and individuals.

Central Astoria Local Development Coalition got things started with their 11th Annual Batty over Halloween Celebration on the Great Lawn at Astoria Park. They had Pumpkin Painting; a Puppet Show; a magician; crafts; goodies; Voice Middle School singing spooky songs; an interactive kid sing-along; a haunted maze; costume characters and a book giveaway.

We started off on Friday, by attending the annual Halloween Costume Party sponsored by the United Community Civic Association in order to extend our special thanks to RoseMarie Poveromo for her leadership in creating this wonderful experience along with her fellow members and volunteers. The gathering was a joyful celebration that provided both safety and fun.

While doing errands on Saturday, we saw hundreds of folks on main streets stopping in at local businesses for treats. When we approached our neighborhood shoe repair establishment to drop off shoes, we saw a line outside and a smiling woman inside handing out candy for all-comers, while the owner took care of the business of fixing shoes. Each block we went down, on our way to the supermarket, was lined with a steady stream of people coming and going in and out of restaurants, shops and businesses.

On Sunday, we joined the excitement at the Museum of the Moving Image celebration of "Day of the Dead" where we all learned about the significance of the Mexican cultural tradition. It featured drumming; elaborately costumed performers, dancers and musicians and an "ofrenda" where photos of those who passed away were honored. The museum was filled inside and out with children, families and visitors who took advantage of the face painting and wonderful pageantry of the narrated performances.

Sunnyside Shines sponsored the "Halloween Kids Plaza Party at Bliss Plaza and 46th Street. The event included a scary story hour; a pumpkin bouncy house, creepy crafts; "frightening" face painting; and "ghoulish" goodie bags.

There was more excitement and activities than I could possibly capture, and my husband and I were left with a heartfelt appreciation for the ways that our diverse communities define our "village" that is without borders. It is a true example of what America has always aspired to be. It is the re-creation of the "village" from which many new arrivals and immigrants come. And it is the truest expression of what it means to have open doors and open hearts that we use to welcome each other with mutual respect and support.







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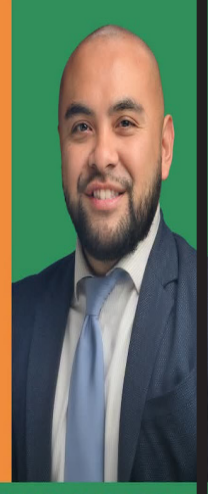
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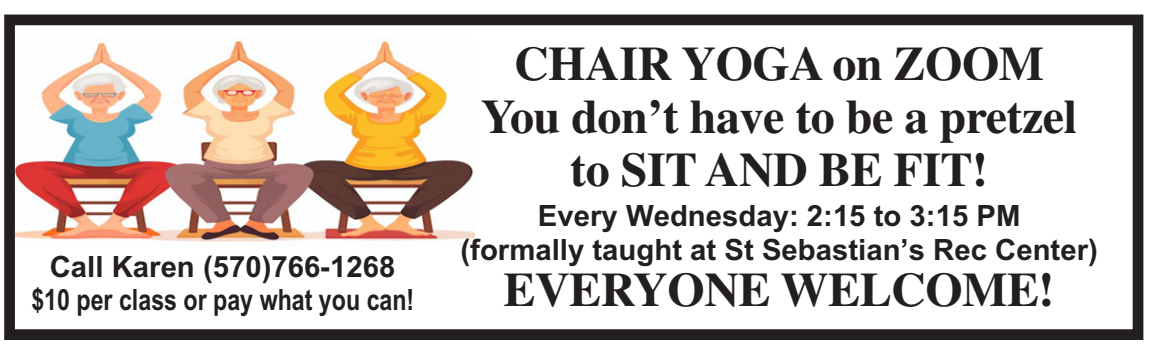

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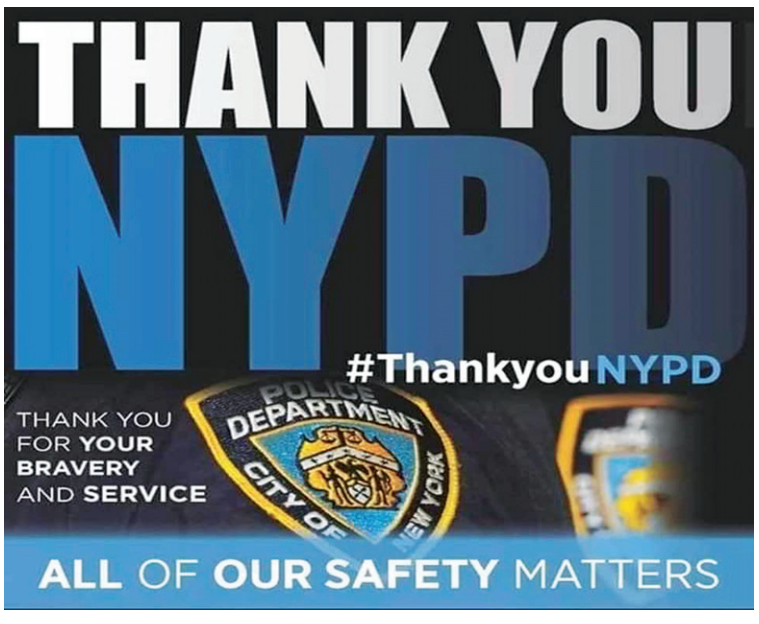

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To:
Estate of Ines Beatriz Aguiree Ramirez de Cussianovich,
Ivan Carlos Cussianovich Val,
Karlos Augusto Cussianovich Aguirre,
Mirtha Aguirre,
Carlos Pedreros,
Attorney General of the State of New York
The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of Augusto Aguirre**,** deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained
Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of Augusto Aguirre**,** deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 92-31 57th Avenue, Apt 2F, Elmhurst, NY 11373, in the County of Queens, State of New York.
SEND GREETING:
Upon the petition of JACQUELINE M. MAZZOLA, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Temporary Administrator of the Estate of Augusto Aguirre, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, Room 62, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 14th day of January, 2027 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as **Temporary** Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of $107,623.01 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 3.5% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why the Last Will and Testament dated October 12, 2001, copy attached, should not be admitted to Probate; and why the Letters of Temporary Administration issued to the Public Administrator should not be revoked; and why Letters of Administration CTA should not be issued to the Public Administrator; and why the net residuary estate should not be paid pursuant to the Last Will and Testament as follows;
STATEMENT OF PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION
100% to the Fiduciary of the Estate of Ines Beatriz Aguirre Ramirez de Cussianovich and if none appointed within 90 days of the accounting Decree, to the NYC Commissioner of Finance FBO the Estate of Ines Beatriz Aguirre Ramirez de Cussianovich
Dated, Attested and Sealed
28th day of October, 2026
HON. CASSANDRA A. JOHNSON
Surrogate, Queens County
Janet Edwards Tucker
Chief Clerk
GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ.
(718) 459-9000
100 Jericho Quadrangle, suite 328
Jericho, New York 11753
NOTICE: THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPEAR; HOWEVER, IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IT WILL BE ASSUMED YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY APPEAR FOR YOU, AND YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MAY REQUEST A COPY OF THE FULL ACCOUNT FROM THE PETITIONER OR PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY
Accounting Citation
11/6/26, 11/13/26, 11/20/26, 11/27/26

File No.: **2025-3001/**B
CITATION
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT
To:
Calvin Roberts,
Rotchell Roberts,
Karen Roberts,
Attorney General of the State of New York
The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of MERVIN RICARDO ROBERTS**,** deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained
Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of MERVIN RICARDO ROBERTS**,** deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 31-17 97th Street, East Elmhurst, NY 11369, in the County of Queens, State of New York.
SEND GREETING:
Upon the petition of JACQUELINE M. MAZZOLA, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of MERVIN RICARDO ROBERTS, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 10th day of December, 2026 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as **Administrator** of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of $94,067.01 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 4.5% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why each of you claiming to be a distributee of the decedent should not establish proof of your kinship; and why the balance of said funds should not be paid to said alleged distributees upon proof of kinship, or deposited with the Commissioner of Finance of the City of New York should said alleged distributees default herein, or fail to establish proof of kinship,
Dated, Attested and Sealed
8th day of October, 2026
HON. CASSANDRA A. JOHNSON
Surrogate, Queens County
Janet Edwards Tucker
Chief Clerk
GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ.
(718) 459-9000
100 Jericho Quadrangle, Suite 328
Jericho, NY 11753
NOTICE: THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO APPEAR; HOWEVER, IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IT WILL BE ASSUMED YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY APPEAR FOR YOU, AND YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MAY REQUEST A COPY OF THE FULL ACCOUNT FROM THE PETITIONER OR PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY
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Helping Special Needs Families Navigate The System

DISCOVER SHINING STARS: Guiding Families with Special Needs

Are you navigating the complex world of special needs/Autism support? At Shining Stars, we are here to help. With 40 years of personal experience, our dedicated team offers comprehensive guidance for families with special needs members from kindergarten age to adulthood.

****OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:****

-Help with Pre-K Children Medicaid and OPWDD
- Access A Ride Assistance
- Advocacy and resource navigation
- Educational guidance and assistance
- Emotional and social support for families

Let us light the way for your family's journey. Join the Shining Stars community today and experience the difference expert care and genuine compassion can make.

CONTACT HOWARD: 917-972-5587, Daily 9a-5p
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$50 YEARLY FEE FOR SERVICES
DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED







