

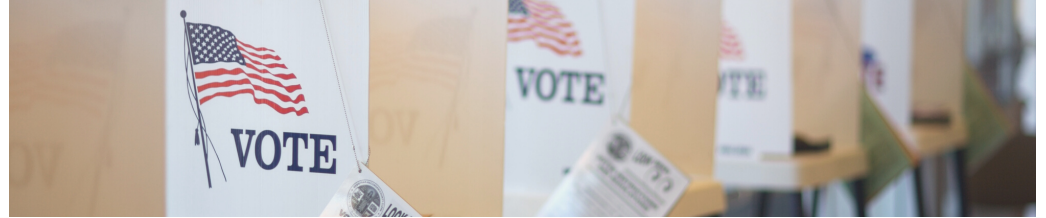
## JUNE 23 ELECTION UPDATE--DISTRICT LEADER CURTIS ARLUCK

As this is written, we still do not have official results from the June 23 NY Primary. They were scheduled to be released August 4th, exactly six weeks from Election Day, but Federal Judge Analisa Torres just ordered the NY Board of Elections to count otherwise valid Absentee Ballots received June 24 regardless of postmark, and by June 25 even if not postmarked. This is a vital victory for democracy, but it will slow the vote counting even further. In every major contest, though, we do know the winners, including Congress Members Jerry Nadler, Adriano Espaillat, and Carolyn Maloney, Congressional candidates Ritchie Torres and Jamaal Bowman, and State Senator Robert Jackson. All but Maloney won by lopsided margins.

Our dictator-wannabe President claims that the June 23 election buttresses his "case" against more widespread Absentee Ballot voting. This, like almost everything he says, is a lie. There is no evidence whatsoever of fraud in absentee ballot voting, in this or any other election. In recent years, every single one of the infinitesimal proven instances of absentee ballot fraud has been committed by Republicans. But nevertheless, New York's current system for distributing and counting increased numbers of absentee ballots is entirely unsatisfactory. The Boards of Elections, especially in NYC, are underfunded, rife with election officials interested in sandbagging the election on the Republican side and not up to the job on the Democratic side. (This is largely not the case in Manhattan.) Picayune absentee ballot requirements ensure a far greater rejection rate of absentee ballots than of those cast on the machines. Antiquated election laws make vote counting that takes a week or two in other states take more than a month in New York. Unless the pandemic returns, voters in New York are strongly advised to vote in person in the General Election, either on November 3, or better yet in the Early Voting days leading up to the election.

## AUGUST ZOOM FORUM: BUDGET JUSTICE THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 - 7:00 PM

At our next forum on August 13th at 7 PM, Ricky Silver, Co-Founder of Empire State Indivisible, will discuss the New York State budgeting process, and what advocacy and activist groups mean by the term Budget Justice. He'll discuss some history, explain some bills and policy initiatives, and offer some suggestions about what the Broadway Democrats can do to help push our state towards a more equitable budget. Depending upon where things stand with the budget process at that time, additional speakers may join in. For more information, visit [www.broadwaydemocrats.org](http://www.broadwaydemocrats.org).



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT-- AMY PORTER

It has been a hot number of weeks here in the city. I have been trying hard to escape the heat and find relief as well as safe ways to travel in and outside the city. I urge you all to take care of yourselves, wear lightweight masks, wash your hands, keep social distance and find helpful ways to relax and recharge yourselves over this next month. We all need to rest, be healthy and prepare to work together for the most important election year in our lifetime.

I have a couple of updates and announcements about Broadway Democrats' past and future activities. Last month, we had some great events. We joined with Assembly Member Danny O'Donnell's office and New York Census to help register people in our neighborhood for the Census. We also held a most important forum on Racial Justice. Because this is a crucial conversation in our country right now which will play a role in the upcoming election, we have formed a Racial Justice Committee, headed by Paula Diamond Roman and Luis Roman. I am very much looking forward to this new committee's activities.

For our next forum we will be holding another very important and educational forum on Budget Justice, organized by our terrific new Steering Committee member, Allison Downey, co-founder of Indivisible Harlem. This is a chance for us all to learn more about what we can do to bring economic justice and opportunity to those who are suffering and need it most now. I hope you can join us.

Because of Covid, we regret we will not be phone banking from the storefront we have traditionally shared every presidential election with Three Parks Independent Democrats. However, we are well positioned to focus on the most important races in this country with our ongoing Go Blue Committee Zoom activities. Please check out our website [www.broadwaydemocrats.org](http://www.broadwaydemocrats.org) to see how you can get involved.

Thank you so much for joining us, and once again, stay safe.

Sincerely,  
Amy Porter

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You're invited to join us every night at 7:30 PM on the corner of 111th and Broadway to stand in solidarity (while socially distanced) with those protesting in New York City and across the country for criminal justice reforms