

HUDSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RE:

REGULAR MEETING : TRANSCRIPT OF  
OF THE :  
HUDSON COUNTY BOARD OF : PROCEEDINGS  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS :

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O P E N S E S S I O N

Hudson County  
Administration Building,  
Commissioners Chambers  
567 Pavonia Avenue  
Jersey City, New Jersey  
Thursday, January 15, 2026  
4:30 p.m.

B E F O R E:

ANTHONY ROMANO, Chairman  
YRAIDA APONTE-LIPSKI, Commissioner  
ROBERT BASELICE, Commissioner  
FANNY CEDEÑO, Commissioner  
ALBERT CIFELLI, Commissioner  
KENNETH KOPACZ, Commissioner  
WILLIAM O'DEA, Commissioner  
CARIDAD RODRIGUEZ, Commissioner

A L S O P R E S E N T:

MICHAEL B. SIMONE, ESQ., Board Counsel/Clerk  
ALBERICO DE PIERRO, Hudson County Counsel  
ABRAHAM ANTUN, County Administrator  
Reported by: Shari Cathey, CCR, RPR

1 THE CLERK: My name is Mike Simone  
2 from the law firm of Florio Kenny Raval. I'm going  
3 to do the roll call.

4 Commissioner Aponte- Lipski.  
5 Commissioner Baselice.

6 COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Here.

7 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cedeño.

8 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Here.

9 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cifelli.  
10 Commissioner Kopacz.

11 COMMISSIONER KOPACZ: Here.

12 THE CLERK: Commissioner O'Dea.

13 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Here.

14 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rodriguez.  
15 And Chairperson Romano.

16 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Here. Please stand  
17 for the Pledge of Allegiance.

18 (Flag Salute.)

19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: We have a moment of  
20 silence for former Governor Dick Cody, who is very  
21 good to Hudson.

22 (Moment of Silence.)

23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you. Go  
24 ahead, Mike.

25 THE CLERK: Adequate notice of this

1 meeting has been provided as follows. Posting notice  
2 of Resolution No. 8-01-2026 on County Commissioner's  
3 Bolton Board, First Floor, Administration Building  
4 Annex, Jersey City, New Jersey.

5 And copies of the above mentioned  
6 resolution have been sent to the county clerk and  
7 the editors of the Kearny Observer and the Star  
8 Ledger.

9 May I have a motion to approve the  
10 minutes -- to read the minutes of Caucus Meeting  
11 from December 9th, 2025; the Regular Meeting of  
12 December 11th, 2025; Caucus Meeting of December  
13 22nd, 2025, and Regular Meeting of December 22nd,  
14 2025.

15 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I'll make a  
16 motion.

17 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Note that  
19 Commissioner Cifelli and Commissioner Rodriguez are  
20 in attendance via Zoom.

21 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: And I second  
22 the motion to approve the minutes.

23 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: O'Dea and Cifelli  
24 are the motion on the minutes.

25 THE CLERK: Thank you. Okay.

1 Commissioner Aponte-Lipski is absent. Sorry.

2 Commissioner Baselice.

3 COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Yes.

4 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cedeño.

5 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Yes.

6 THE CLERK: You say Cifelli is here?

7 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes, he's on board.

8 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cifelli.

9 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Yes.

10 THE CLERK: Commissioner Kopacz.

11 COMMISSIONER KOPACZ: Yes.

12 THE CLERK: Commissioner O'Dea.

13 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Yes.

14 THE CLERK: Commissioner -- Sorry.

15 Chairperson Romano.

16 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: No.

17 Commissioner Rodriguez.

18 THE CLERK: I'm sorry. Rodriguez is  
19 here?

20 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Yes. See me  
21 up there?

22 THE CLERK: Yes, now I do. And  
23 Chairperson --

24 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Yes. Yes.

25 THE CLERK: Chairperson Romano.

1 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.

2 THE CLERK: Yes. Thank you. Okay.

3 The first order of business is a laudatory  
4 resolution. The resolution reads as follows:

5 Honoring the North Bergen High School  
6 Marching Band for their outstanding 2025  
7 championship season.

8 Whereas, the North Bergen High School  
9 Marching Band has completed an extraordinary and  
10 historic 2025 season, earning first place at the  
11 Tournament of Bands Atlantic Coast Championships  
12 with a school record score of 95.48; and

13 Whereas, throughout the 2025 competition  
14 season, the band consistently achieved excellence,  
15 earning multiple first place finishes and  
16 distinctions for Best Visual, Best Music, and Best  
17 Percussion, reflecting their exceptional talent,  
18 discipline, and artistry; and

19 Whereas, on October 19, 2025, the band  
20 earned first place at the Region 10 Championships at  
21 West Essex Regional High School with a score of  
22 92.36, capturing Best Visual, Best Music, and  
23 proudly claiming the title of Region 10 Champions;  
24 and

25 Whereas, on October 25, 2025, the band

1 continued its winning streak by earning first place  
2 at the New Jersey State Championships with a score  
3 of 92.69, once again receiving top caption awards  
4 and further elevating North Bergen's reputation for  
5 excellence in the performing arts; and

6           Whereas, these remarkable accomplishments  
7 are the result of the unwavering dedication and hard  
8 work of the band's student musicians, the leadership  
9 and guidance of Directors Mike Connor and Paul  
10 Major, and the steadfast support of the North Bergen  
11 High School staff, families, and community; and

12           Whereas, the success of the North Bergen  
13 High School Marching Band has brought tremendous  
14 pride to the township of North Bergen and to Hudson  
15 County, showcasing the talent, commitment, and  
16 community spirit of its young performers on both the  
17 state and regional levels.

18           Now, therefore, be it resolved that the  
19 Hudson County Board of County Commissioners,  
20 together with County Executive Craig Guy, hereby  
21 recognizes and congratulates the members and  
22 directors of the North Bergen High School Marching  
23 Band for their exceptional achievements and for  
24 representing their community with distinction,  
25 pride, and excellence.

1 Commissioner Baselize.

2 COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Yes.

3 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cedeño.

4 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Yes.

5 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cifelli.

6 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: So I just want  
7 to commend the band. I know that very often the  
8 band, unfortunately, sometimes takes backseat to  
9 things like football players and basketball players,  
10 but the amount of time and energy and dedication  
11 that these young people put into is very  
12 commendable, and I wholeheartedly endorse and  
13 applaud their success. Yes, I vote aye.

14 THE CLERK: Thank you. Commissioner  
15 Kopacz.

16 COMMISSIONER KOPACZ: Yes.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner O'Dea.

18 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Yes.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rodriguez.

20 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: I want to  
21 congratulate the band, the town. My children  
22 attended North Bergen High School, and we were  
23 always very proud of it. I vote yes.

24 THE CLERK: Chairperson Romano.

25 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Gladly, yes.

1 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Hello?

2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yraida Aponte is  
3 on. She's here.

4 THE CLERK: Okay. And Commissioner  
5 Aponte-Lipski.

6 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yraida, on the  
7 minutes and on the band?

8 COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Chairman, can  
9 I say something?

10 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Yes,  
11 aye.

12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: You get that?  
13 Yraida, on both minutes and the band.

14 THE CLERK: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Bobby.

16 COMMISSIONER BASELICE: So, what an  
17 accomplishment. Champions. You're champions.  
18 Understand that. I did children's services,  
19 juvenile justice for a long time, kids' services.  
20 Relish every time that you get to be honored. This  
21 is an honor. You are making Hudson County, North  
22 Bergen proud. All I want to say is you've made me  
23 very, very proud, and just keep going. You're going  
24 to be tremendous musicians.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, we'll take

1 that.

2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Does any of the  
3 band leadership want to come up? We're going to  
4 take a picture with all the wonderful students up  
5 here. And if we can have up here, everyone. Should  
6 we stand here?

7 (Photo Opportunity.)

8 THE CLERK: The next order of  
9 business is additional discussion on today's agenda.  
10 I'll turn the meeting over to the Administrator.

11 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, I have no  
12 additional items.

13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Good. Okay. Thank  
14 you. Okay.

15 THE CLERK: According to the policy  
16 set by the Board of County commissioners, members of  
17 the public are asked to limit their comments to five  
18 minutes when discussing agenda items, and three  
19 minutes at the conclusion of the meeting for persons  
20 who submitted a written request to discuss matters  
21 of public interest.

22 At this time, the public may address the  
23 board on any item on the agenda only. And please  
24 keep your comments limited to five minutes. Are  
25 there any speakers on the agenda items only?

1           Seeing that there are no members of the  
2 public who'd like to speak on the agenda items. May  
3 I have a motion to approve?

4           COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Motion to  
5 approve.

6           COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Second.

7           THE CLERK: Thank you. Commissioner  
8 Aponte-Lipski.

9           CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yraida.

10          COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.

11          THE CLERK: Commissioner Baselice.

12          COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Yes.

13          THE CLERK: Commissioner Cedeño.

14          COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Yes.

15          THE CLERK: Commissioner Cifelli.

16          CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Albert.

17          COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Yeah. Can you  
18 hear me?

19          CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.

20          COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Yes.

21          CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.

22          THE CLERK: Commissioner Kopacz.

23          COMMISSIONER KOPACZ: Yes.

24          THE CLERK: Commissioner O'Dea.

25          COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Just in -- just

1 because In a protest. I'm going to vote no on 5 F.

2 THE CLERK: Okay. Noted.

3 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Verizon cellular  
4 service after yesterday.

5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: You're right.

6 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: We should defeat  
7 it and make it come back at the next agenda.

8 THE CLERK: Okay. Thank you.

9 Commissioner Rodriguez.

10 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

11 THE CLERK: And Chairperson Romano.

12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.

13 THE CLERK: Okay. Thank you. We  
14 have zero ordinances for introduction today. We do  
15 have one ordinance for a second reading.

16 This ordinance is A-1, Roads and Public  
17 property. An ordinance amending Chapter 200,  
18 Article 18 of the Administrative Code to regulate  
19 bus stops on John F. Kennedy Boulevard East in the  
20 town of Guttenberg.

21 This is the time fixed for public hearing  
22 of this ordinance, which was introduced at the  
23 meeting of December 22nd, 2025, advertised as  
24 required by law together with a notice of hearing  
25 for this time. It has been posted on the County

1 Commissioner's Bulletin Board and made available to  
2 the general public. Are there any speakers on the  
3 ordinance?

4 COMMISSIONER KOPACZ: Motion to  
5 close.

6 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Second.

7 THE CLERK: Thank you. Commissioner  
8 Aponte-Lipski.

9 COMMISSIONER APONTE-LIPSKI: Aye.

10 THE CLERK: Commissioner Baselice.

11 COMMISSIONER BASELICE: Yes.

12 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cedeño.

13 COMMISSIONER CEDEÑO: Yes.

14 THE CLERK: Commissioner Cifelli.

15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Albert.

16 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Yes.

17 THE CLERK: Commissioner Kopacz.

18 COMMISSIONER KOPACZ: Yes.

19 THE CLERK: Commissioner O'Dea.

20 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Yes.

21 THE CLERK: Commissioner Rodriguez.

22 COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

23 THE CLERK: Chairman Romano.

24 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yes.

25 THE CLERK: Okay. Thank you. That

1 motion passes. That concludes the items of business  
2 on today's agenda. Are there any comments from the  
3 Commissioners on the business of the Board?

4 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: All right. Just two  
5 things. The next public safety meeting, Director  
6 DeFilippo and D'Alessandro asked to be on. Just to  
7 have them included for the next meeting. Denise and  
8 Jonathan.

9 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I have a  
10 question.

11 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Al.

12 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Just because  
13 of Jerry's vacancy, do we have any idea when that  
14 may be filled?

15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Chief of Staff  
16 Davis, can you answer that?

17 MS. DAVIS: The 26th maybe is the  
18 date for the meeting. I have to schedule the  
19 meeting.

20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yeah. Okay. For  
21 the next meeting, Albert.

22 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: All right.

23 MS. DAVIS: Trying to do it to 26th.

24 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: There's no  
25 specific issue. Just curious as to when we're going

1 to have a complete complement of our Board. That's  
2 all. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Also, for the  
4 speaking portion, please ensure us that it's three  
5 minutes so we're not deviating. And how can the  
6 speakers know the light's working? Or are you going  
7 to do it by the clock?

8 THE CLERK: All right.

9 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Just make sure. Go  
10 ahead. Continue.

11 THE CLERK: Thank you, Chairperson.  
12 Are there any comments from the Chief of Staff to  
13 the County Executive?

14 MS. DAVIS: Yes. Very briefly, I  
15 just want to read into the record a statement from  
16 the County Executive that was put out today. By  
17 now, we have all seen the tragic events in many  
18 American cities in 2026 and in 2025, including  
19 Minneapolis, Chicago, and towns right here in New  
20 Jersey.

21 The New Jersey Attorney General guidelines  
22 outlined in the Immigrant Trust Directive Act, as  
23 we've spoken about before, prohibit local law  
24 enforcement from cooperating with federal  
25 immigration authorities. As County Executive, he,

1 I, have a standing agreement with the Hudson County  
2 Sheriff's Office to alert this Administration and  
3 the Board of Commissioners if federal immigration  
4 authorities are conducting operations in our County  
5 parks and facilities. All County officials must and  
6 will work together to ensure the safety of Hudson  
7 County residents. That's all. Thank you.

8 MS. WAITERS: Excuse me, Mr.  
9 Chairman. Should you state your name when you go to  
10 the microphone?

11 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: That's Jenny Davis,  
12 Deputy to the County Executive.

13 MS. WAITERS: Jenny Davis.

14 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Mike.  
15 Thank you, Ms. Davis.

16 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I have a  
17 question.

18 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Question. Go  
19 ahead.

20 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Mr.  
21 Administrator, how many times have, and obviously  
22 there's a new Sheriff in town, but how many times  
23 had the Sheriff's Department notified the  
24 Administration and us that there were ICE agents  
25 conducting operations in County buildings or parks?

1 MR. ANTUN: You know, Commissioner, I  
2 can't answer that because many times the  
3 notification would go to the County Executive's  
4 office, and I would not be involved.

5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Does anyone know  
6 that? I don't remember getting any. Transition, so  
7 I don't know.

8 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: No, but I  
9 don't remember getting any before. To join in on  
10 Bill's comment, I don't ever see, ever remember  
11 seeing any notification that the federal government  
12 was sending in ICE people to enforce whatever they  
13 think they can enforce in Hudson County.

14 And piggyback on top of that, I would  
15 certainly want to know that so that our local law  
16 enforcement officers can be advised of that and what  
17 their direction is. And on a third level, shame on  
18 ICE. That's what I got to say. If they come in, if  
19 they think they're going to go to Hudson County and  
20 do what they're doing in Minneapolis, shame on them.  
21 Please don't let that happen. All it does is cause  
22 chaos.

23 We have too many good, good residents of  
24 Hudson County. Some may be undocumented, but  
25 they're hardworking, wonderful people with wonderful

1 families. And what's happening in Minneapolis is a  
2 disgrace. A disgrace.

3 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you, Al.  
4 Yes, Jenny, go ahead.

5 MS. DAVIS: Just for clarity, we  
6 don't get advance notice of ICE coming in. And  
7 again, Commissioner O'Dea, I think you and I were on  
8 three or four e-mails in the past few months, I  
9 think, and I'm not positive.

10 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I don't  
11 remember. I just don't remember. I'll have to go  
12 search, but maybe one.

13 MS. DAVIS: I probably read three or  
14 so from Andrew Conti, but I could be wrong. But  
15 either way, just so you know, the County Executive  
16 is speaking to the new Sheriff about the same, about  
17 this policy. And just so you know, it is being  
18 emphasized.

19 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: I mean, it just  
20 should be read every morning when the officers go  
21 out, right? It should be constantly provided to  
22 them. Otherwise, they're just going to go, I didn't  
23 realize that. I didn't know that. And look, and I  
24 know where the County Executive stands on it. So  
25 it's not in any way a critique of his.

1           But based on the number of times that we  
2 have either had speakers here or read in the news  
3 media about issues with ICE agents, vis-a-vis how  
4 many times we received a notification, seems like  
5 there were a lot more of the notices and the public  
6 speakers than actual e-mails or notices that we got.  
7 That was all. That was my point.

8           COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: And if I might  
9 just end with one comment. And it has nothing to do  
10 with any ability that our Board has, but just as a  
11 comment. Our illustrious President has declared and  
12 his Homeland Security Advisor has declared that they  
13 are going after the worst of the worst to take  
14 murderers, rapists, and child abusers off the  
15 streets.

16           The actual statistics from their own  
17 bureau and the Cato Institute shows that of all of  
18 the people that have been detained, at least since  
19 October of last year, '25 until now, 72-percent of  
20 the people that have been detained, taken off the  
21 streets. And we've all seen the videos about how  
22 violently they've been taken out of their cars and  
23 from their employments and from their schools;  
24 71.5-percent have absolutely no criminal records.

25           The only ones with serious criminal

1 records, which I think when I read the statistics,  
2 are people that have been either accused or  
3 convicted of felonies are five-percent of the people  
4 that they've picked up. But yet we're told that the  
5 only people that are going to be taken off the  
6 streets and from their homes are the worst, worst  
7 immigrants, the worst people. It's just an  
8 abomination. This is not the country that I grew up  
9 in. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: And all I would  
11 add is that as somebody who voted against the ICE  
12 detention contract in 2017, vehemently opposed it  
13 again in 2020, and spoke out and was punished at  
14 that time for the position that I took and stripped  
15 of my Vice Chairmanship. And until this year,  
16 because now I'm back on the Public Safety Committee,  
17 was taken off the Public Safety Committee.

18 I want to echo what Commissioner Cifelli  
19 said and just give you one example. So I have a  
20 friend who used to work for me. Her brother was, I  
21 guess, 18 years old in two months, 30 years ago or  
22 28 years ago when the mother became a citizen. So  
23 both her and her other brother became citizens,  
24 because he was 18 years old in two months, he did  
25 not automatically become a citizen. This is 28

1 years ago.

2 He was a foreman in a building trade  
3 union; 26 years ago, I think he was however young,  
4 he was maybe 20 years old, he had a significantly  
5 minor infraction with the law. He took a trip to  
6 the Dominican Republic. On his return to this  
7 country, he was detained at Newark Airport, brought  
8 to the Elizabeth Detention Center, and basically,  
9 which I think is the MO at these places, coerced to  
10 just go back to the Dominican Republic.

11 That's the reality of what's going on in  
12 this country each and every day. I know two other  
13 people that have been members. So think, in this  
14 individual's case, they had been employed within a  
15 building trade union for 25 years, was a foreman in  
16 the union. Had a minor fraction 26 years ago. And  
17 now they were detained, gave up. They're still  
18 trying to work through the legal work, but they're  
19 back in the Dominican Republic.

20 Had two other people that are in other  
21 building trade unions. No problems. Family's here.  
22 In this case, this gentleman has two children. He  
23 was the dad. He was the parent. So the number of  
24 horror stories that are out there, the fact that the  
25 optics from the Trump administration that's trying

1 to be focused on this, it's one of our saddest  
2 moments in the entire history of that. At least,  
3 I've been alive. I just need to put that on the  
4 record, because not a week goes by when someone  
5 doesn't come and tell me a story about something  
6 that happened to someone.

7           And everybody in this room knows people  
8 that are here that are undocumented. I know a  
9 number of people here that are undocumented.  
10 They're some of the best people that I deal with on  
11 a daily basis. People that we go to church to.  
12 People that are in our communities. People that we  
13 work with. You'd be amazed in a place like Jersey  
14 City, how many of our children, in my case, my  
15 grandchild, go to school. And their parents, and  
16 their parents, and their children. And they're  
17 living today in fear every day. People are afraid  
18 to bring --

19           If you look now at early childhood  
20 centers, populations are down, because people are  
21 afraid to put their children in. Even in schools,  
22 populations are down, because people are afraid to  
23 bring their children in. Something's wrong.  
24 Something's out of control. And we should just  
25 speak up, not be afraid to speak up, and hold

1 everyone that we need to hold accountable.

2 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: And I don't  
3 want to beat a dead horse, but what Billy just said,  
4 I wholeheartedly agree with. But where -- and I'm an  
5 old guy. I'm going to be 75 years old pretty soon.  
6 And some of you young people sitting in the  
7 audience, I always remember movies, World War II  
8 vintage movies, where the villains used to come up  
9 to people and say, where are your papers? And  
10 that's what we're going through today?

11 Come on. This is ridiculous. It's not  
12 ridiculous. It's absurd. It's illegal. And  
13 somebody's got to step up and stop this. They're  
14 creating chaos in our cities, and it's happening in  
15 Minnesota today. It happened in LA a couple of  
16 months ago. People in New York have stood up to it.  
17 So I think Trump's going to be afraid of tangling  
18 with the New York people. But we're the next people  
19 on the target list. So we got to be prepared to  
20 stand up to this nonsense.

21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Okay. Mike,  
22 continue.

23 THE CLERK: Thank you, Commissioners.  
24 Now is the time for persons who have submitted a  
25 timely written request to address the Board on any

1 matter of public interest. This is a reminder to  
2 limit your comments to three minutes.

3 First, we will have Leroy Truth. Is he  
4 here? Okay. Next speaker.

5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Not present.

6 THE CLERK: Next, we will move to  
7 Raymond Mitchell.

8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Not here.

9 THE CLERK: Not present either.  
10 Next, we'll move to Sabora T. Alexander.

11 MS. ALEXANDER: Good evening,  
12 commissioners. Sabora T. Alexander, Hudson County  
13 Family Services Reintegration and Hudson County  
14 Corrections employee, supervisor of AFSCME Local  
15 1697 Union President.

16 First and foremost, Romano, that was me  
17 you honked that in that parking lot. But I'm here  
18 to discuss with Alberico. How you doing? Happy New  
19 Year, everyone. Back in October, I had mentioned an  
20 employee assistance program, which I was advised by  
21 Chairperson Romano and O'Dea to present that to you.  
22 So I want to put on record that I have not  
23 forgotten. I'm working on that because there was a  
24 serious need.

25 During negotiations, I had also mentioned

1 that myself, along with fellow colleagues, had to  
2 take pension loans prior to and during. So now the  
3 money that we received, and we're thankful for that,  
4 is now being turned back over. So that still puts  
5 us in a deficit. So we definitely need to have some  
6 type of assistance with paying our rent, you know,  
7 because we are giving assistance to our clients and  
8 we live in the same communities. The difference is  
9 we're paying the full amount.

10 So I propose, because I know this is going  
11 to take funding, so I would like to ask, and I see  
12 that Elinor Gibney and Cheryl Fuller are both  
13 present. So we have categories where the County is  
14 going to be saving funding from us as employees.  
15 And those categories are furloughs, suspension,  
16 absent no pay, and grace and lateness period. So  
17 those funds, I don't know how they're being  
18 allocated when they come back. So if possible, once  
19 we launched a program, could those funds possibly be  
20 considered to assist us in meeting our needs?  
21 Because we need to survive. And unfortunately.

22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Sorry, if you're on  
23 the Zoom, please mute yourself. Thank you.

24 MS. ALEXANDER: Okay. So like I was  
25 saying, unfortunately, I understand, Elinor, I know

1 you're in the room, that we cannot do  
2 intergovernmental transfers where other counties are  
3 doing the same as we're doing and making way more,  
4 even with negotiations and ratification. So we get  
5 that. But what is the County going to do to help us  
6 as employees who are also struggling with meeting  
7 our needs, which is paying our rent, our PSE&G and  
8 JIT. We have services at the County, but if we have  
9 an employee assistance program set aside just for  
10 us, then we wouldn't have to be mixed in between.

11 And that is it. So I'll be preparing that  
12 and submitting that to you. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you, Sabora.  
14 Next speaker.

15 THE CLERK: Next on the list is Dr.  
16 Khan Muslim. Doctor?

17 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: No.

18 THE CLERK: Okay. Not here. Next on  
19 the list is Kay Daly.

20 MS. DALY: Good evening,  
21 Commissioners and Happy New Year to everyone.

22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Good evening.  
23 Thank you.

24 MS. DALY: Tonight I want to speak to  
25 you about the members of Local 2306, who were not

1 awarded the retention bonus, the COVID-19 retention  
2 bonus. We've been dealing with people going on the  
3 court. They've been rescheduling court dates, and  
4 the workers are still not home. The workers have  
5 seen other unions in a building. Their supervisors  
6 receive the retention bonus along with other  
7 counties, other states, everybody's received their  
8 bonuses.

9           So the workers are now wondering what's  
10 going on due to the fact that we're not receiving  
11 something that we basically provided information  
12 showing that we were there working. It was a  
13 hundred it's hundreds of workers. I think like  
14 maybe a hundred people were awarded the bonus. But  
15 when it came to negotiating no one communicated  
16 between the County or the union. So no one got an  
17 accurate number.

18           So what we're asking for now is for you to  
19 help us and see what can be done. Because it's  
20 going on a year now with them trying to figure out  
21 what they're going to do, and nothing has been done.

22           The next thing I wanted to speak on, I was  
23 wondering if you can basically help me out with  
24 this. I noticed when the state of emergency is  
25 declared, all the jurisdictions and other agencies

1 in the city are granted to basically leave under  
2 these, under these grounds except the County. So  
3 I'm wondering if that can be reviewed and see what  
4 can be done because I myself was stuck in a parking  
5 lot with like a bucket trying to get out, you know,  
6 some snow.

7 And the winter season has approached and  
8 we need to know. Are we going to be, you know, in  
9 this situation again, are we going to be stuck in a  
10 building? Are we going to be stuck in a parking  
11 lot? Are we going to be stuck in a parking lot? Or  
12 if, you know, what can be done when this state  
13 emergency basically comes into effect? So that's  
14 what I'm speaking on tonight. Thank you. And you  
15 didn't cut me off today. You was, you was late. We  
16 all in the same car.

17 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Miss Daly.  
18 Can I ask a question? So can I recognize this  
19 question?

20 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Al.

21 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: My question is  
22 about the speaker. So when employees either are on  
23 their way to work or are there a half an hour and  
24 the State declares an emergency, what's the weather  
25 emergency, and the buildings are closed, and the

1 employees are sent home. How do they get  
2 compensated? Do they get -- do they -- is that  
3 count as -- how does that count? Don't they --  
4 don't they get credit for -- For that -- that day?  
5 That's not counted as a personal day or a vacation  
6 there.

7 MS. DALY: It isn't. I don't. It's  
8 supposed to be excused leave.

9 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: So take it.

10 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: But you get  
11 paid for that? That's my question I'm asking. I  
12 don't know.

13 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Yeah, he's going to  
14 take it. Go ahead, Abe.

15 MR. ANTUN: Yes. Yes. First of all,  
16 a state in a state of emergency, that's declared by  
17 the Governor. It doesn't always impact our County.  
18 That's the County is the one that decides, whether  
19 we're going to have an early closing. Obviously we,  
20 we use the Governor's declaration, but It's the --  
21 it's the County of Hudson that.

22 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Yeah. I didn't  
23 know that. I thought if the -- if the Governor  
24 declared an emergency, it was all 21 counties. But  
25 you're saying that, that each local county has the

1 right to say, No, with the weather impact is not so  
2 bad up here. It was more -- more South Jersey. So  
3 you have to come to work. And if you don't come to  
4 work, you get docked.

5 MR. ANTUN: Keep in mind that, you  
6 know --

7 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I didn't know  
8 that. I'm ignorant about that.

9 MR. ANTUN: Yeah. The County  
10 Executive is the one that has to, you know,  
11 Authorize --

12 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: That's by the  
13 State.

14 MR. ANTUN: Exactly. Although we're  
15 guided by what the County -- what the State does.

16 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Yeah, but  
17 ultimately the determination about what this young  
18 lady is saying is, how does that impact on the  
19 employee? That's the important question that she's  
20 asking.

21 MR. ANTUN: Yeah. And when we  
22 declare it, they are paid for the day. There's no  
23 docking or anything like that. They're paid.

24 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Okay.

25 MS. DALY: I have one more question.

1 It's just this. Even when the City and other  
2 agencies within Jersey City are sent home, and we're  
3 still there. That was my question. I don't know.  
4 Why does that happen?

5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: We go by the rules  
6 of the County.

7 MS. DALY: Thank you. That's weird.

8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: They said, correct.  
9 Yes. We go by the rule of the County.

10 MS. DALY: Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Who is the --  
12 I don't mean to be facetious, but when I was  
13 practicing law in courts, Judge Connors, I guess he  
14 designated himself because he lives close to the  
15 courthouse as the snow judge, and he was the one  
16 that declared whether the County Courthouse should  
17 be closed because of the snow.

18 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Can we get to  
19 the speakers because I have an inauguration to go  
20 to, and if I walk off the dais, if there's no  
21 quorum.

22 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Oh, yeah. All  
23 right. All right. I just wanted to know who in the  
24 County makes that. Who presses the button?

25 MR. ANTUN: Yeah, Commissioner. The

1 ALC is the one that advises the -- a judge whether  
2 or not there's going to be a closing.

3 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I got it.

4 MR. ANTUN: It has nothing to do with  
5 the County. The courts are not --

6 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I realize.  
7 This young lady is talking about County employees,  
8 not the state.

9 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Her question was  
10 about when the City, and we're not guided by the  
11 city.

12 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: We're not  
13 guided by them. But my question is who in the  
14 County pushes the button and says, We're gone.

15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: The County  
16 Executive, I would assume.

17 MR. ANTUN: Correct. The County  
18 Executive, the executive.

19 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I get it. I  
20 just want. I just want her to know who's  
21 accountable. All right. Thank you.

22 THE CLERK: Next on the list is Amal  
23 Pollack.

24 MR. POLLACK: Hi, good evening and  
25 Happy New Year's, Commissioners. I'm Amal. Usually

1 people come up here to give you guys hell, but I'm  
2 actually a freshman at Seton Hall. And I wanted to  
3 take the time to personally thank each and every one  
4 of you. The pickle ball courts at Laurel Hill Park,  
5 and the new ones come to Shetik Field, they've been  
6 a blessing. I spent my whole summer there. I think  
7 you guys have maximum aura. No cap.

8 A lot of the other counties are vibrating  
9 at a low energy. But Hudson County, we're mugging  
10 the whole state right now. And I just want to  
11 encourage you guys to keep this energy and to not  
12 let the haters tax your progress. The inclusive  
13 playgrounds under Jake's Law also have maximum aura,  
14 and the wheelchair accessible swings and sensor  
15 friendly zones have increased my respect to all of  
16 you a lot.

17 And I see all of these other NPC counties  
18 and they're fumbling the bag, and they're letting  
19 their playgrounds flop. Hudson County, we're locked  
20 in, and you guys are looking at the youth, and you  
21 guys are looking at the things that we needed, and  
22 you're saying that we're going to help. And when a  
23 kids goes to the park, they shouldn't have to worry  
24 that the slide is mid. They need to know that the  
25 Commissioners have double your risk when it comes to

1 urban planning.

2           So I'm asking you guys to vote yes on the  
3 expansion. And hopefully keep on doing the good  
4 work and keep the momentum high. I want to ask you  
5 guys to keep the swing-skivity. And that's in the  
6 most respectful and structural sense of the word. I  
7 see the vision of what you guys are doing. And I  
8 want you guys to keep mewing for the next  
9 generation.

10           Additionally, I see that Kennedy  
11 Boulevard's traffic is cooked. And that new  
12 protected bike lanes and raised crosswalks, that is  
13 the types of motion that we need. And Chairman,  
14 when you prioritize pedestrian safety, it's not just  
15 passing policy. But it's mewing in the face of  
16 danger. And some people say that you guys want to  
17 ban on tax the budget. But I'd say that just let  
18 them talk.

19           Because when a resident like Tung Tung  
20 Sehort can cross the street without fear, that's not  
21 safety, but it's infinite aura. I want Hudson  
22 County to be a place where infrastructure is a  
23 straight 6-7. And by 6-7, I mean being locked in on  
24 saving lives and having the County prioritize  
25 safety. I don't want these other counties to log us

1 with their superior transport. I want you guys to  
2 keep the road Sigma and eat the pedestrian safe and  
3 get this W and hopefully get Hudson County more  
4 motion. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you. Thank  
6 you, Pirate. Thank you. Michael, could you  
7 translate for the Commissioner?

8 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: The last  
9 speaker, the last speaker was it was refreshing.  
10 Because he came to my office in Harrison, and we had  
11 a nice conversation for maybe a half an hour about  
12 Hudson County. And he was very inspiring to me  
13 knowing that there were -- there were young people  
14 That were -- were very interested in -- in the  
15 County. And getting the County to move forward.

16 And on a personal note. He didn't say  
17 this, but I'll -- I'll say it to us. Not only is he  
18 a Pirate in that he is a freshman at Seton Hall, but  
19 Amal told me that he is -- he was -- he was accepted  
20 into a seven-year program, where not only will he  
21 get his undergraduate degree from Seton Hall, but he  
22 will on successful completion of that, he will go  
23 right into Seton Hall's new medical school. And  
24 he'll be an MD in seven years. So God bless him,  
25 and we need more people like that, young people to

1 be interested in not only Hudson County politics,  
2 but to be part of the Hudson County community and  
3 God bless him.

4 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Mike, go ahead.

5 THE CLERK: Thank you, Commissioner.  
6 Next on the list is Courtney Walker.

7 MS. WALKER: Good evening,  
8 Commissioners. My name is Courtney Walker and  
9 usually I have a prepared statement today, but in  
10 light of how this meeting has transpired, I'm going  
11 to go a little off script.

12 When I came in, I'm here today again to  
13 talk about ICE. I've been coming here since July,  
14 asking y'all to do something. ICE has been seen  
15 across Hudson County. That's undeniable. And  
16 there've been multiple sightings on County property,  
17 and really Braddock Park. You know, back in  
18 September, we discussed it when ICE was seen with an  
19 encounter with the Sheriff officer.

20 After that meeting, documenting the  
21 Undersheriff came up to us and said that they're  
22 going to start documenting when Sheriff's came  
23 across ICE in the County. I've OPRA requested that  
24 several times, and there's only ever been one report  
25 that was filed. I know the Chief of Staff mentioned

1 that maybe there were three reports that were sent  
2 so clearly the OPRA request was not fulfilled to  
3 satisfaction with what was requested. I asked are  
4 there any reports apparently there are three. I  
5 only received one.

6 When I was standing in the lobby in the  
7 meeting today, a lot more people than usual, all the  
8 people who we congratulated in the marching band, I  
9 overheard those kids talking about how important it  
10 was to carry around their passport cards with them.  
11 Y'all just congratulated them. You're like we got  
12 each other's back celebrate this moment. And  
13 they're worried about who is in our community.

14 It's not okay. This Commission has -- the  
15 County has done nothing. We have -- we have been  
16 asking for months. We need a strong message ICE is  
17 not welcome here. We need clear action plans from  
18 the County when ICE shows up to County property,  
19 County parks to buildings. There are no such plans.  
20 And we need to figure out how to support the  
21 families who have been separated when ICE takes the  
22 breadwinners of these families.

23 We have blood on our hands and ICE has  
24 killed someone in Hudson County. They took someone  
25 who lived in Hudson County, and he died from medical

1 issues in a detention center just last week. This  
2 is not okay. People are dying. People are scared,  
3 and y'all need to have some political will and show  
4 up. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you. Next  
6 speaker, Mike.

7 THE CLERK: Ms. Patricia Waiters.

8 MS. WAITERS: Patricia Waiters, 15  
9 Church Towers, Hoboken, New Jersey. I did get a  
10 little distracted to tonight being that you  
11 mentioned a ICE, and I don't have to well scripted  
12 where we heard nothing. Y'all know me.

13 Welcome back after two decades. I found  
14 it a need to come back with this last election that  
15 took place, because it's serious. It is even bigger  
16 than ICE. I see everybody concerned about ICE.  
17 What about the United States citizens that lived  
18 here, okay? Before ICE that's subjected to wrongful  
19 doing with the court system and the jails? What  
20 about us, okay? And so we make a stand to care  
21 about the people this here. That's the only way  
22 we're going to unite. That's just to speak on that  
23 part, since they brought up ICE.

24 But I have here today, and you might find  
25 it comical. Now, I don't want to get off script

1 because I have three people from Hudson County  
2 Welfare that I want to recognize tonight, so don't  
3 misconstrue the negativity with the positive things  
4 that these three people do. But right here, it says  
5 OPRA request from -- funny that she said that. Open  
6 Public Meeting Records Act is sad.

7 For the last two years, I ride around with  
8 this type of paperwork in my car, okay? Because I  
9 can't count on my elected officials. Here I have  
10 what is that? Congressman card, assemblyman's card.  
11 Mayor's cards and it goes on, okay? We're tired. I  
12 know I am. I know I am. And you know what's  
13 happening?

14 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: Who texts you  
15 back whenever you text me?

16 MS. WAITERS: Bill O'Dea, I've got  
17 you all the way. Listen, guys, and this is serious.  
18 The saddest thing in the world is I hear everybody  
19 talk about Donald Trump. Well, it's Trump, is  
20 Trump, is Trump. We have a lot of Donald Trumps in  
21 local offices sitting in the same chairs to give two  
22 cents about us, okay?

23 We look at the homelessness. This is why  
24 I want to recognize Bob Knapp, and I took pictures,  
25 so y'all and they got timestamps and dates on it.

1 This is a picture with me, Bob Knapp, Mr. Mazza and  
2 Kevin Callahan, and I'm not lying. This day it was  
3 zero below. They was in there doing what they do,  
4 being people were yelling at them, humiliating them.  
5 Poor Bob Knapp, after that had a stroke. This is  
6 sad, and to me the coins is not matching. It's not  
7 matching.

8 I will argue about the budget, y'all know  
9 that, but when they come to those three people  
10 salary, hands off. I'm asking y'all tonight to  
11 recognize these three please because their job is  
12 not hard, and neither are your jobs. I want to wrap  
13 it up real quick because all y'all got my  
14 information.

15 And it's just saying that Mr. Romano  
16 congratulations that you are the Chair, because I'm  
17 knocking on your door too. And I mean it. You will  
18 hear me in Marine View, knocking on your door,  
19 because I need the prosecutor like I told you  
20 briefly, and I need the Senior Chief of Staff, which  
21 I just met tonight, if I had to ask her to identify  
22 herself to meet immediately with politicians in  
23 closing to stay out of the justice system using your  
24 political influences, and do what's right in that  
25 court system. Thank you, Miss Mooney, you'll see me

1 tomorrow. Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you. Next  
3 speaker, Mike.

4 THE CLERK: Thank you. Our final  
5 speaker is Mark Bloomberg.

6 MR. BLOOMBERG: Think one other  
7 gentleman might have signed up.

8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Mark.  
9 Oh, she's checking.

10 MR. BLOOMBERG: Okay. Good evening.  
11 Happy New Year. I'm here tonight -- today asking  
12 for your help to look into whether any departments  
13 within the County may inadvertently be assisting  
14 ICE.

15 Many counties and municipalities across  
16 the country have signed contracts with and are using  
17 cameras from a technology company called Flock  
18 Safety. Flock cameras are very effective at reading  
19 license plates, capturing images and capturing  
20 images of every single vehicle on the roadways where  
21 they are installed. They are a very effective tool  
22 for local law enforcement. I'm not here to suggest  
23 they should not be used.

24 With the license plates characteristics of  
25 the vehicle and the timestamps of those images,

1 driving patterns of any single vehicle can readily  
2 be identified. Simply running someone's plate  
3 through the system will tell you everywhere that  
4 vehicle has traveled within the Flock network. So  
5 if there's someone ICE is looking for, they know  
6 exactly where they're going to be going every day.

7           So bear in mind, though, that similar to  
8 how internet sites and technology companies sell or  
9 share personal data to third parties, Flock does the  
10 same thing with the driving data that they collect.  
11 In some cases, municipalities specifically sign off  
12 on data sharing, but in many cases, that sharing  
13 agreement is hidden in the fine print of the  
14 contract or a corresponding privacy agreement.

15           So it should come as no surprise that  
16 across the country, ICE has been directly and  
17 indirectly leveraging information from Flock to  
18 target specific vehicles, conduct traffic stops, and  
19 take people into custody.

20           So what I'm asking for help with today is  
21 how collectively, how the Commissioners can help me  
22 look into any departments in the County that have  
23 contracts with Flock or other companies that provide  
24 the same services, and if that's the case, to review  
25 any data sharing agreements that may be in effect.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: Can I ask a  
4 question?

5 COMMISSIONER O'DEA: The question was  
6 asked, can we find out for the next caucus, are any  
7 of our County agencies have contracts with Flock,  
8 and if they do, do they have any sharing information  
9 agreements with other law enforcement? It's a  
10 fairly reasonable question. So I'm asking that  
11 officially so you let us know for the next caucus.

12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Al.

13 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: A follow-up  
14 with Bill's question and the speaker's question. My  
15 understanding is that there is out there is the  
16 software that most, if not any, most, if not all, I  
17 should say, our police squad cars have, I think the  
18 abbreviation is APLR, maybe the speaker will confirm  
19 this, and it stands for Automatic Plate License  
20 Reader.

21 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: They're license  
22 readers. They're issued to all people.

23 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I'm sorry,  
24 Chairman. You're a police official. I'm sorry.  
25 You would know much more than I would. But my

1 understanding from representing clients who have  
2 been pulled over, the police car can, with their  
3 computers, the in-board computers, they can identify  
4 a license plate, and then that license plate is  
5 hooked up to an NJ DMV computer, and that computer  
6 will immediately spit out whether that particular  
7 license plate is registered to someone, a driver,  
8 presumably, who has an outstanding license  
9 violation, an outstanding registration problem,  
10 insurance problem, whatever.

11 But it's kind of limited to that for that  
12 particular stop. But what I'm gathering from the  
13 speaker is that that information is perhaps cast  
14 over a much wider net into other things that maybe  
15 DMV and the local police shouldn't be involved with,  
16 and that's my concern.

17 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: The MDTs only come  
18 up with the owner of a vehicle and an owner of a  
19 license plate. That's it.

20 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: But if the  
21 information gets spit back by DMV's computer that  
22 that owner has his license suspended, if the driver  
23 of the vehicle is a female, but the operator of the  
24 vehicle, according to the license plate reader, is a  
25 male, then there's no probable cause to stop them.

1 But if it's a male, they'll stop them. And maybe  
2 everything that flows from that is correct. I get  
3 it. But my concern is bigger than that.

4 If the police have the ability to do that  
5 and they pull somebody over, where does the inquiry  
6 end? Does the inquiry end at New Jersey DMV, or  
7 does it go out to somebody like ICE? I don't know.

8 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: My knowledge, I  
9 don't think it goes. I can't answer.

10 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: I don't know.  
11 That's why I'm asking the question.

12 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: I don't know that  
13 answer either.

14 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: All right.

15 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: We'll find out.  
16 We'll get it from Jeremy for the next meeting.

17 COMMISSIONER CIFELLI: All right.

18 MR. BLOOMBERG: Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Go ahead, Mike.

20 THE CLERK: Thank you. And our final  
21 speaker will be Brian Heisinger.

22 MR. HEISINGER: Good evening. My  
23 name is Ryan. I've been a Hudson County resident for  
24 over a decade. I spoke a few months ago at one of  
25 your meetings to encourage you to pass the ITA

1 referendum or resolution, rather, which I want to  
2 thank you again for passing. Monday night the State  
3 Assembly and Senate passed three bills as part of an  
4 ITA package, and they're now sitting on Governor  
5 Murphy's desk awaiting his signature. So thank you  
6 for applying pressure there.

7           But even if these bills become law,  
8 they're just small protective measures that will  
9 only slow what we are already experiencing in Hudson  
10 County, and they do virtually nothing to address if  
11 what's happening in Minneapolis makes its way here.

12           There were at least 30 ICE abductions of  
13 our neighbors in Hudson County in December alone,  
14 and those are just the ones verified by rapid  
15 responders, so the number is likely much higher.  
16 And while I don't believe anybody should be scooped  
17 up by masked agents without a judicial warrant,  
18 according to ICE's own data last month, about  
19 90-percent of the people detained at Delaney Hall in  
20 Newark have no criminal conviction at all.

21           So these neighbors are fathers taking  
22 their daughters to school, mothers boarding the bus  
23 before a long day of hard work, men driving to the  
24 grocery store to grab food for their families. I  
25 could go on. And while you certainly heard about

1 the murder of Renee Goode last week, were you aware  
2 that Luis Yanez Cruz, a 68-year-old Union City  
3 resident, died in ICE custody a day earlier?

4 It doesn't have to be this way, and there  
5 are things you as Commissioners can do to protect  
6 people. For example, have you considered a mask ban  
7 for law enforcement like they adopted in California?  
8 Have you considered banning them from using  
9 County-owned property for staging and processing as  
10 they did in Chicago? Have you considered a  
11 systematic way of supporting families who have just  
12 lost their primary breadwinners as they did in L.A.  
13 County?

14 I have those policies if you'd like to  
15 review them. The situation is already dire here in  
16 Hudson County, and I just implore you to take bold  
17 leadership on this issue. Lay the groundwork so  
18 that we can be protected when Kristi Noem, Greg  
19 Bovino, and even larger numbers of their goons  
20 descend on Hudson County. So thank you for your  
21 time.

22 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Thank you, sir.  
23 Mike, next speaker.

24 THE CLERK: Thank you. Okay. There  
25 being no further business before the Board, may I

1 have a motion to adjourn?

2 CHAIRMAN ROMANO: Kopacz and  
3 Baselice.

4 THE CLERK: All in favor?

5 (Whereupon the proceeding is then  
6 concluded at 5:31 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR, License No.  
30XI00234700, and Notary Public of the State of New  
Jersey, hereby certify that the proceedings herein  
are from the notes taken by me of a Regular Meeting  
of the Hudson County Board of County Commissioners,  
held on Thursday, January 15, 2026; and that this is  
a correct transcript of the same.



SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR

A NOTARY PUBLIC of the

State of New Jersey

I.D. No. 2283786

Commission Expires 2/4/27

<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>abductions</b> 45:12	<b>add</b> 19:11
<b>1</b> 11:16	<b>30</b> 19:21 45:12	<b>abe</b> 28:14	<b>additional</b> 9:9
<b>10</b> 5:20,23	<b>30xi00234700</b> 48:5	<b>ability</b> 18:10	9:12
<b>11th</b> 3:12	<b>4</b>	44:4	<b>additionally</b> 33:10
<b>15</b> 1:9 37:8 48:9	<b>4:30</b> 1:10	<b>abomination</b> 19:8	<b>address</b> 9:22 22:25 45:10
<b>1697</b> 23:15	<b>5</b>	<b>above</b> 3:5	<b>adequate</b> 2:25
<b>18</b> 11:18 19:21 19:24	<b>5</b> 11:1	<b>abraham</b> 1:23	<b>adjourn</b> 47:1
<b>19</b> 5:19 26:1	<b>567</b> 1:8	<b>absent</b> 4:1 24:16	<b>administration</b> 1:7 3:3 15:2,24 20:25
<b>2</b>	<b>5:31</b> 47:6	<b>absolutely</b> 18:24	<b>administrative</b> 11:18
<b>2/4/27</b> 48:16	<b>6</b>	<b>absurd</b> 22:12	<b>administrator</b> 1:23 9:10 15:21
<b>20</b> 20:4	<b>6-7</b> 33:23,23	<b>abusers</b> 18:14	<b>adopted</b> 46:7
<b>200</b> 11:17	<b>68</b> 46:2	<b>accepted</b> 34:19	<b>advance</b> 17:6
<b>2017</b> 19:12	<b>7</b>	<b>accessible</b> 32:14	<b>advertised</b> 11:23
<b>2020</b> 19:13	<b>71.5</b> 18:24	<b>accomplishm...</b> 8:17	<b>advised</b> 16:16 23:20
<b>2025</b> 3:11,12,13 3:14 5:6,10,13 5:19,25 11:23 14:18	<b>72</b> 18:19	<b>accomplishm...</b> 6:6	<b>advises</b> 31:1
<b>2026</b> 1:9 14:18 48:9	<b>75</b> 22:5	<b>accountable</b> 22:1 31:21	<b>advisor</b> 18:12
<b>21</b> 28:24	<b>8</b>	<b>accurate</b> 26:17	<b>afraid</b> 21:17,21 21:22,25 22:17
<b>2283786</b> 48:15	<b>8-01-2026</b> 3:2	<b>accused</b> 19:2	<b>afscme</b> 23:14
<b>22nd</b> 3:13,13 11:23	<b>9</b>	<b>achieved</b> 5:14	<b>agencies</b> 26:25 30:2 42:7
<b>2306</b> 25:25	<b>90</b> 45:19	<b>achievements</b> 6:23	<b>agenda</b> 9:9,18 9:23,25 10:2 11:7 13:2
<b>25</b> 5:25 18:19 20:15	<b>9078</b> 48:13	<b>act</b> 14:22 38:6	
<b>26</b> 20:3,16	<b>92.36</b> 5:22	<b>action</b> 36:17	
<b>26th</b> 13:17,23	<b>92.69</b> 6:3	<b>actual</b> 18:6,16	
<b>28</b> 19:22,25	<b>95.48</b> 5:12	<b>actually</b> 32:2	
	<b>9th</b> 3:11		
	<b>a</b>		
	<b>abbreviation</b> 42:18		

<b>agents</b> 15:24 18:3 45:17 <b>ago</b> 19:21,22 20:1,3,16 22:16 44:24 <b>agree</b> 22:4 <b>agreement</b> 15:1 41:13,14 <b>agreements</b> 41:25 42:9 <b>ahead</b> 2:24 8:15 13:11 14:10 15:14,19 17:4 27:20 28:14 35:4 40:8 42:12 44:19 <b>airport</b> 20:7 <b>al</b> 13:11 17:3 27:20 42:12 <b>alberico</b> 1:22 23:18 <b>albert</b> 1:15 10:16 12:15 13:21 <b>alc</b> 31:1 <b>alert</b> 15:2 <b>alexander</b> 23:10,11,12 24:24 <b>alive</b> 21:3 <b>allegiance</b> 2:17 <b>allocated</b> 24:18	<b>amal</b> 31:22,25 34:19 <b>amazed</b> 21:13 <b>amending</b> 11:17 <b>american</b> 14:18 <b>amount</b> 7:10 24:9 <b>andrew</b> 17:14 <b>annex</b> 3:4 <b>answer</b> 13:16 16:2 44:9,13 <b>anthony</b> 1:13 <b>antun</b> 1:23 9:11 16:1 28:15 29:5,9 29:14,21 30:25 31:4,17 <b>anybody</b> 45:16 <b>aplr</b> 42:18 <b>aponte</b> 1:14 2:4 4:1 8:1,2,5,10 10:8,10 12:8,9 <b>apparently</b> 36:4 <b>applaud</b> 7:13 <b>applying</b> 45:6 <b>approached</b> 27:7 <b>approve</b> 3:9,22 10:3,5 <b>argue</b> 39:8 <b>article</b> 11:18	<b>artistry</b> 5:18 <b>arts</b> 6:5 <b>aside</b> 25:9 <b>asked</b> 9:17 13:6 36:3 42:6 <b>asking</b> 26:18 28:11 29:20 33:2 35:14 36:16 39:10 40:11 41:20 42:10 44:11 <b>assembly</b> 45:3 <b>assemblyman's</b> 38:10 <b>assist</b> 24:20 <b>assistance</b> 23:20 24:6,7 25:9 <b>assisting</b> 40:13 <b>assume</b> 31:16 <b>atlantic</b> 5:11 <b>attendance</b> 3:20 <b>attended</b> 7:22 <b>attorney</b> 14:21 <b>audience</b> 8:25 22:7 <b>aura</b> 32:7,13 33:21 <b>authorities</b> 14:25 15:4 <b>authorize</b> 29:11	<b>automatic</b> 42:19 <b>automatically</b> 19:25 <b>available</b> 12:1 <b>avenue</b> 1:8 <b>awaiting</b> 45:5 <b>awarded</b> 26:1 26:14 <b>awards</b> 6:3 <b>aware</b> 46:1 <b>aye</b> 7:13 8:11 10:10 12:9
			<b>b</b>
			<b>b</b> 1:11,21 <b>back</b> 11:7 19:16 20:10,19 23:19 24:4,18 35:17 36:12 37:13,14 38:15 43:21 <b>backseat</b> 7:8 <b>bad</b> 29:2 <b>bag</b> 32:18 <b>ball</b> 32:4 <b>ban</b> 33:17 46:6 <b>band</b> 5:6,9,14 5:19,25 6:13 6:23 7:7,8,21 8:7,13 9:3 36:8 <b>band's</b> 6:8 <b>bands</b> 5:11

<b>banning</b> 46:8	<b>bloomberg</b> 40:5,6,10	<b>brought</b> 6:13	<b>card</b> 38:10,10
<b>based</b> 18:1	44:18	20:7 37:23	<b>cards</b> 36:10
<b>baselice</b> 1:14	<b>board</b> 1:1,4,21	<b>bucket</b> 27:5	38:11
2:5,6 4:2,3 7:1	3:3 4:7 6:19	<b>budget</b> 33:17	<b>care</b> 37:20
7:2 8:8,16 10:6	9:16,23 12:1	39:8	<b>caridad</b> 1:17
10:11,12 12:10	13:3 14:1 15:3	<b>building</b> 1:7	<b>carry</b> 36:10
12:11 47:3	18:10 22:25	3:3 20:2,15,21	<b>cars</b> 18:22
<b>basically</b> 20:8	43:3 46:25	26:5 27:10	42:17
26:11,23 27:1	48:8	<b>buildings</b> 15:25	<b>case</b> 20:14,22
27:13	<b>boarding</b> 45:22	27:25 36:19	21:14 41:24
<b>basis</b> 21:11	<b>bob</b> 38:24 39:1	<b>bulletin</b> 12:1	<b>cases</b> 41:11,12
<b>basketball</b> 7:9	39:5	<b>bureau</b> 18:17	<b>cast</b> 43:13
<b>bear</b> 41:7	<b>bobby</b> 8:15	<b>bus</b> 11:19	<b>categories</b>
<b>beat</b> 22:3	<b>bold</b> 46:16	45:22	24:13,15
<b>believe</b> 45:16	<b>bolton</b> 3:3	<b>business</b> 5:3	<b>cathey</b> 1:24
<b>bergen</b> 5:5,8	<b>bonus</b> 26:1,2,6	9:9 13:1,3	48:4,14
6:10,12,14,22	26:14	46:25	<b>cato</b> 18:17
7:22 8:22	<b>bonuses</b> 26:8	<b>button</b> 30:24	<b>caucus</b> 3:10,12
<b>bergen's</b> 6:4	<b>boulevard</b>	31:14	42:6,11
<b>best</b> 5:16,16,16	11:19	<b>c</b>	<b>cause</b> 16:21
5:22,22 21:10	<b>boulevard's</b>	<b>c</b> 48:1,1	43:25
<b>bigger</b> 37:15	33:11	<b>california</b> 46:7	<b>ccr</b> 1:24 48:4
44:3	<b>bovino</b> 46:19	<b>call</b> 2:3	48:14
<b>bike</b> 33:12	<b>braddock</b>	<b>callahan</b> 39:2	<b>cedeño</b> 1:15 2:7
<b>bill</b> 38:16	35:17	<b>called</b> 40:17	2:8 4:4,5 7:3,4
<b>bill's</b> 16:10	<b>breadwinners</b>	<b>cameras</b> 40:17	10:13,14 12:6
42:14	36:22 46:12	40:18	12:12,13
<b>bills</b> 45:3,7	<b>brian</b> 44:21	<b>cap</b> 32:7	<b>celebrate</b> 36:12
<b>billy</b> 22:3	<b>briefly</b> 14:14	<b>caption</b> 6:3	<b>cellular</b> 11:3
<b>bless</b> 34:24	39:20	<b>capturing</b> 5:22	<b>center</b> 20:8
35:3	<b>bring</b> 21:18,23	40:19,19	37:1
<b>blessing</b> 32:6	<b>brother</b> 19:20	<b>car</b> 27:16 38:8	<b>centers</b> 21:20
<b>blood</b> 36:23	19:23	43:2	<b>cents</b> 38:22

<b>certainly</b> 16:15 45:25 <b>certify</b> 48:6 <b>chair</b> 39:16 <b>chairman</b> 1:13 2:16,19,23 3:18,23 4:7 5:1 7:25 8:2,6,8,12 8:15 9:2,11,13 10:9,16,19,21 11:5,12 12:15 12:23,24 13:4 13:11,15,20 14:3,9 15:9,11 15:14,18 17:3 22:21 23:5,8 24:22 25:13,17 25:22 27:20 28:9,13 30:5,8 31:9,15 33:13 34:5 35:4 37:5 40:2,8 42:2,12 42:21,24 43:17 44:8,12,15,19 46:22 47:2 <b>chairmanship</b> 19:15 <b>chairperson</b> 2:15 4:15,23 4:25 7:24 11:11 14:11 23:21 <b>chairs</b> 38:21	<b>chambers</b> 1:8 <b>champions</b> 5:23 8:17,17 <b>championship</b> 5:7 <b>championships</b> 5:11,20 6:2 <b>chaos</b> 16:22 22:14 <b>chapter</b> 11:17 <b>characteristics</b> 40:24 <b>checking</b> 40:9 <b>cheryl</b> 24:12 <b>chicago</b> 14:19 46:10 <b>chief</b> 13:15 14:12 35:25 39:20 <b>child</b> 18:14 <b>childhood</b> 21:19 <b>children</b> 7:21 20:22 21:14,16 21:21,23 <b>children's</b> 8:18 <b>church</b> 21:11 37:9 <b>cifelli</b> 1:15 2:9 3:17,19,21,23 4:6,8,9 7:5,6 10:15,17,20 12:14,16 13:9 13:12,22,24	16:8 18:8 19:18 22:2 27:17,21 28:10 28:22 29:7,12 29:16,24 30:11 30:22 31:3,6 31:12,19 34:8 42:3,13,23 43:20 44:10,14 44:17 <b>cities</b> 14:18 22:14 <b>citizen</b> 19:22,25 <b>citizens</b> 19:23 37:17 <b>city</b> 1:9 3:4 21:14 27:1 30:1,2 31:10 31:11 46:2 <b>claiming</b> 5:23 <b>clarity</b> 17:5 <b>clear</b> 36:17 <b>clearly</b> 36:2 <b>clerk</b> 1:21 2:1,7 2:9,12,14,25 3:6,25 4:4,6,8 4:10,12,14,18 4:22,25 5:2 7:3 7:5,14,17,19,24 8:4,14 9:8,15 10:7,11,13,15 10:22,24 11:2 11:8,11,13 12:7,10,12,14	12:17,19,21,23 12:25 14:8,11 22:23 23:6,9 25:15,18 31:22 35:5 37:7 40:4 44:20 46:24 47:4 <b>clients</b> 24:7 43:1 <b>clock</b> 14:7 <b>close</b> 12:5 30:14 <b>closed</b> 27:25 30:17 <b>closing</b> 28:19 31:2 39:23 <b>coast</b> 5:11 <b>code</b> 11:18 <b>cody</b> 2:20 <b>coerced</b> 20:9 <b>coins</b> 39:6 <b>colleagues</b> 24:1 <b>collect</b> 41:10 <b>collectively</b> 41:21 <b>come</b> 9:3 11:7 16:18 21:5 22:8,11 24:18 29:3,3 32:1,5 37:14 39:9 41:15 43:17 <b>comes</b> 27:13 32:25
--	--	--	--

<b>comical</b> 37:25	12:21,22 13:9	<b>community</b>	<b>congratulated</b>
<b>coming</b> 17:6	13:12,22,24	6:11,16,24	36:8,11
35:13	15:16,20 16:1	35:2 36:13	<b>congratulates</b>
<b>commend</b> 7:7	16:5,8 17:7,10	<b>companies</b> 41:8	6:21
<b>commendable</b>	17:19 18:8	41:23	<b>congratulations</b>
7:12	19:10,18 22:2	<b>company</b> 40:17	39:16
<b>comment</b> 16:10	27:17,21 28:10	<b>compensated</b>	<b>congressman</b>
18:9,11	28:22 29:7,12	28:2	38:10
<b>comments</b> 9:17	29:16,24 30:11	<b>competition</b>	<b>connor</b> 6:9
9:24 13:2	30:18,22,25	5:13	<b>connors</b> 30:13
14:12 23:2	31:3,6,12,19	<b>complement</b>	<b>considered</b>
<b>commission</b>	34:7,8 35:5	14:1	24:20 46:6,8
36:14 48:16	38:14 42:3,5	<b>complete</b> 14:1	46:10
<b>commissioner</b>	42:13,23 43:20	<b>completed</b> 5:9	<b>consistently</b>
1:14,14,15,15	44:10,14,17	<b>completion</b>	5:14
1:16,16,17 2:4	<b>commissioner's</b>	34:22	<b>constantly</b>
2:5,6,7,8,9,10	3:2 12:1	<b>computer</b> 43:5	17:21
2:11,12,13,14	<b>commissioners</b>	43:5,21	<b>conti</b> 17:14
3:15,17,19,19	1:1,4,8 6:19	<b>computers</b> 43:3	<b>continue</b> 14:10
3:21 4:1,2,3,4,5	9:16 13:3 15:3	43:3	22:22
4:8,9,10,11,12	22:23 23:12	<b>concern</b> 43:16	<b>continued</b> 6:1
4:13,14,16,17	25:21 31:25	44:3	<b>contract</b> 19:12
4:20,24 7:1,2,3	32:25 35:8	<b>concerned</b>	41:14
7:4,5,6,14,16	41:21 46:5	37:16	<b>contracts</b> 40:16
7:17,18,19,20	48:8	<b>concluded</b> 47:6	41:23 42:7
8:1,4,8,10,16	<b>commitment</b>	<b>concludes</b> 13:1	<b>control</b> 21:24
10:4,6,7,10,11	6:15	<b>conclusion</b> 9:19	<b>conversation</b>
10:12,13,14,15	<b>committee</b>	<b>conduct</b> 41:18	34:11
10:17,20,22,23	19:16,17	<b>conducting</b>	<b>convicted</b> 19:3
10:24,25 11:3	<b>communicated</b>	15:4,25	<b>conviction</b>
11:6,9,10 12:4	26:15	<b>confirm</b> 42:18	45:20
12:6,7,9,10,11	<b>communities</b>	<b>congratulate</b>	<b>cooked</b> 33:11
12:12,13,14,16	21:12 24:8	7:21	<b>cooperating</b>
12:17,18,19,20			14:24

<b>copies</b> 3:5	31:7,14,15,17	<b>cut</b> 27:15	<b>decade</b> 44:24
<b>correct</b> 30:8	32:9,19 33:22	<b>d</b>	<b>decades</b> 37:13
31:17 44:2	33:24 34:3,12	<b>d'alessandro</b>	<b>december</b> 3:11
48:10	34:15,15 35:1	13:6	3:12,12,13
<b>corrections</b>	35:2,15,16,23	<b>dad</b> 20:23	11:23 45:13
23:14	36:15,18,18,19	<b>daily</b> 21:11	<b>decides</b> 28:18
<b>corresponding</b>	36:24,25 38:1	<b>dais</b> 30:20	<b>declaration</b>
41:14	40:13 41:22	<b>daly</b> 25:19,20	28:20
<b>counsel</b> 1:21,22	42:7 44:23	25:24 27:17	<b>declare</b> 29:22
<b>count</b> 28:3,3	45:10,13 46:9	28:7 29:25	<b>declared</b> 18:11
38:9	46:13,16,20	30:7,10	18:12 26:25
<b>counted</b> 28:5	48:8,8	<b>danger</b> 33:16	28:16,24 30:16
<b>counties</b> 25:2	<b>couple</b> 22:15	<b>data</b> 41:9,10,12	<b>declares</b> 27:24
26:7 28:24	<b>court</b> 26:3,3	41:25 45:18	<b>dedication</b> 6:7
32:8,17 33:25	37:19 39:25	<b>date</b> 13:18	7:10
40:15	<b>courthouse</b>	<b>dates</b> 26:3	<b>defeat</b> 11:6
<b>country</b> 19:8	30:15,16	38:25	<b>deficit</b> 24:5
20:7,12 40:16	<b>courtney</b> 35:6,8	<b>daughters</b>	<b>defilippo</b> 13:6
41:16	<b>courts</b> 30:13	45:22	<b>definitely</b> 24:5
<b>county</b> 1:1,1,4	31:5 32:4	<b>davis</b> 13:16,17	<b>degree</b> 34:21
1:4,7,22,23 3:2	<b>covid</b> 26:1	13:23 14:14	<b>delaney</b> 45:19
3:6 6:15,19,19	<b>craig</b> 6:20	15:11,13,15	<b>denise</b> 13:7
6:20 8:21 9:16	<b>creating</b> 22:14	17:5,13	<b>department</b>
11:25 14:13,16	<b>credit</b> 28:4	<b>day</b> 20:12	15:23
14:25 15:1,4,5	<b>criminal</b> 18:24	21:17 28:4,5	<b>departments</b>
15:7,12,25	18:25 45:20	29:22 39:2	40:12 41:22
16:3,13,19,24	<b>critique</b> 17:25	41:6 45:23	<b>deputy</b> 15:12
17:15,24 23:12	<b>cross</b> 33:20	46:3	<b>descend</b> 46:20
23:13 24:13	<b>crosswalks</b>	<b>de</b> 1:22	<b>designated</b>
25:5,8 26:16	33:12	<b>dead</b> 22:3	30:14
27:2 28:17,18	<b>cruz</b> 46:2	<b>deal</b> 21:10	<b>desk</b> 45:5
28:21,25 29:9	<b>curious</b> 13:25	<b>dealing</b> 26:2	<b>detained</b> 18:18
29:15 30:6,9	<b>custody</b> 41:19		18:20 20:7,17
30:16,24 31:5	46:3		45:19

<b>detention</b> 19:12 20:8 37:1 <b>determination</b> 29:17 <b>deviating</b> 14:5 <b>dick</b> 2:20 <b>died</b> 36:25 46:3 <b>difference</b> 24:8 <b>dire</b> 46:15 <b>direction</b> 16:17 <b>directive</b> 14:22 <b>directly</b> 41:16 <b>director</b> 13:5 <b>directors</b> 6:9 6:22 <b>discipline</b> 5:18 <b>discuss</b> 9:20 23:18 <b>discussed</b> 35:18 <b>discussing</b> 9:18 <b>discussion</b> 9:9 <b>disgrace</b> 17:2,2 <b>distinction</b> 6:24 <b>distinctions</b> 5:16 <b>distracted</b> 37:10 <b>dmv</b> 43:5,15 44:6 <b>dmv's</b> 43:21 <b>docked</b> 29:4 <b>docking</b> 29:23 <b>doctor</b> 25:16	<b>documenting</b> 35:20,22 <b>doing</b> 16:20 23:18 25:3,3 33:3,7 37:19 39:3 <b>dominican</b> 20:6 20:10,19 <b>donald</b> 38:19 38:20 <b>door</b> 39:17,18 <b>double</b> 32:25 <b>dr</b> 25:15 <b>driver</b> 43:7,22 <b>driving</b> 41:1,10 45:23 <b>due</b> 26:10 <b>dying</b> 37:2	<b>effect</b> 27:13 41:25 <b>effective</b> 40:18 40:21 <b>either</b> 17:15 18:2 19:2 23:9 27:22 44:13 <b>elected</b> 38:9 <b>election</b> 37:14 <b>elevating</b> 6:4 <b>elinor</b> 24:12,25 <b>elizabeth</b> 20:8 <b>emergency</b> 26:24 27:13,24 27:25 28:16,24 <b>emphasized</b> 17:18 <b>employed</b> 20:14 <b>employee</b> 23:14 23:20 25:9 29:19 <b>employees</b> 24:14 25:6 27:22 28:1 31:7 <b>employments</b> 18:23 <b>encounter</b> 35:19 <b>encourage</b> 32:11 44:25 <b>endorse</b> 7:12	<b>energy</b> 7:10 32:9,11 <b>enforce</b> 16:12 16:13 <b>enforcement</b> 14:24 16:16 40:22 42:9 46:7 <b>ensure</b> 14:4 15:6 <b>entire</b> 21:2 <b>esq</b> 1:21 <b>essex</b> 5:21 <b>evening</b> 23:11 25:20,22 31:24 35:7 40:10 44:22 <b>events</b> 14:17 <b>everybody</b> 21:7 37:16 38:18 <b>everybody's</b> 26:7 <b>exactly</b> 29:14 41:6 <b>example</b> 19:19 46:6 <b>excellence</b> 5:14 6:5,25 <b>except</b> 27:2 <b>exceptional</b> 5:17 6:23 <b>excuse</b> 15:8 <b>excused</b> 28:8
	<b>e</b> e 1:6,6,11,11,20 1:20 17:8 18:6 48:1 <b>earlier</b> 46:3 <b>early</b> 21:19 28:19 <b>earned</b> 5:20 <b>earning</b> 5:10,15 6:1 <b>east</b> 11:19 <b>eat</b> 34:2 <b>echo</b> 19:18 <b>editors</b> 3:7		

<b>executive</b> 6:20 14:13,16,25 15:12 17:15,24 29:10 31:16,18 31:18 <b>executive's</b> 16:3 <b>expansion</b> 33:3 <b>experiencing</b> 45:9 <b>expires</b> 48:16 <b>extraordinary</b> 5:9	<b>federal</b> 14:24 15:3 16:11 <b>fellow</b> 24:1 <b>felonies</b> 19:3 <b>female</b> 43:23 <b>field</b> 32:5 <b>figure</b> 26:20 36:20 <b>filed</b> 35:25 <b>filled</b> 13:14 <b>final</b> 40:4 44:20 <b>find</b> 37:24 42:6 44:15 <b>fine</b> 41:13 <b>finishes</b> 5:15 <b>firm</b> 2:2 <b>first</b> 3:3 5:3,10 5:15,20 6:1 23:3,16 28:15 <b>five</b> 9:17,24 19:3 <b>fixed</b> 11:21 <b>flag</b> 2:18 <b>flock</b> 40:17,18 41:4,9,17,23 42:7 <b>floor</b> 3:3 <b>flop</b> 32:19 <b>florio</b> 2:2 <b>flows</b> 44:2 <b>focused</b> 21:1 <b>follow</b> 42:13 <b>follows</b> 3:1 5:4	<b>food</b> 45:24 <b>football</b> 7:9 <b>foreman</b> 20:2 20:15 <b>foremost</b> 23:16 <b>forgotten</b> 23:23 <b>former</b> 2:20 <b>forward</b> 34:15 <b>found</b> 37:13 <b>four</b> 17:8 <b>fraction</b> 20:16 <b>freshman</b> 32:2 34:18 <b>friend</b> 19:20 <b>friendly</b> 32:15 <b>fulfilled</b> 36:2 <b>full</b> 24:9 <b>fuller</b> 24:12 <b>fumbling</b> 32:18 <b>funding</b> 24:11 24:14 <b>funds</b> 24:17,19 <b>funny</b> 38:5 <b>furloughs</b> 24:15 <b>further</b> 6:4 46:25	<b>generation</b> 33:9 <b>gentleman</b> 20:22 40:7 <b>getting</b> 16:6,9 34:15 <b>gibney</b> 24:12 <b>give</b> 19:19 32:1 38:21 <b>giving</b> 24:7 <b>gladly</b> 7:25 <b>go</b> 2:23 8:15 13:11 14:9 15:9,14,18 16:3,19 17:4 17:11,20,22 20:10 21:11,15 27:20 28:14 30:5,9,19 34:22 35:4,11 40:8 42:12 44:7,19 45:25 <b>god</b> 34:24 35:3 <b>goes</b> 21:4 32:23 38:11 44:9 <b>going</b> 2:2 8:23 8:23 9:3 11:1 13:25 14:6 16:19 17:22 18:13 19:5 20:11 22:5,10 22:17 24:10,14 25:5 26:2,10 26:20,21 27:8
<b>f</b>			
<b>f</b> 1:11 11:1,19 48:1 <b>face</b> 33:15 <b>facetious</b> 30:12 <b>facilities</b> 15:5 <b>fact</b> 20:24 26:10 <b>fairly</b> 42:10 <b>families</b> 6:11 17:1 36:21,22 45:24 46:11 <b>family</b> 23:13 <b>family's</b> 20:21 <b>fanny</b> 1:15 <b>fathers</b> 45:21 <b>favor</b> 47:4 <b>fear</b> 21:17 33:20			
		<b>g</b>	
		<b>gathering</b> 43:12 <b>general</b> 12:2 14:21	

<p>27:9,10,11 28:13,19 31:2 32:22 35:10,22 37:22 41:6,6 <b>good</b> 2:21 9:13 16:23,23 23:11 25:20,22 31:24 33:3 35:7 40:10 44:22 <b>goode</b> 46:1 <b>goons</b> 46:19 <b>government</b> 16:11 <b>governor</b> 2:20 28:17,23 45:4 <b>governor's</b> 28:20 <b>grab</b> 45:24 <b>grace</b> 24:16 <b>grandchild</b> 21:15 <b>granted</b> 27:1 <b>greg</b> 46:18 <b>grew</b> 19:8 <b>grocery</b> 45:24 <b>grounds</b> 27:2 <b>groundwork</b> 46:17 <b>guess</b> 19:21 30:13 <b>guidance</b> 6:9 <b>guided</b> 29:15 31:10,13</p>	<p><b>guidelines</b> 14:21 <b>guttenberg</b> 11:20 <b>guy</b> 6:20 22:5 <b>guys</b> 32:1,7,11 32:20,21 33:2 33:5,7,8,16 34:1 38:17</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>h</b></p> <p><b>half</b> 27:23 34:11 <b>hall</b> 32:2 34:18 34:21 45:19 <b>hall's</b> 34:23 <b>hands</b> 36:23 39:10 <b>happen</b> 16:21 30:4 <b>happened</b> 21:6 22:15 <b>happening</b> 17:1 22:14 38:13 45:11 <b>happy</b> 23:18 25:21 31:25 40:11 <b>hard</b> 6:7 39:12 45:23 <b>hardworking</b> 16:25 <b>harrison</b> 34:10</p>	<p><b>haters</b> 32:12 <b>he'll</b> 34:24 <b>hear</b> 10:18 38:18 39:18 <b>heard</b> 37:12 45:25 <b>hearing</b> 11:21 11:24 <b>heisinger</b> 44:21 44:22 <b>held</b> 48:9 <b>hell</b> 32:1 <b>hello</b> 8:1 <b>help</b> 25:5 26:19 26:23 32:22 40:12 41:20,21 <b>hi</b> 31:24 <b>hidden</b> 41:13 <b>high</b> 5:5,8,21 6:11,13,22 7:22 33:4 <b>higher</b> 45:15 <b>hill</b> 32:4 <b>historic</b> 5:10 <b>history</b> 21:2 <b>hoboken</b> 37:9 <b>hold</b> 21:25 22:1 <b>home</b> 26:4 28:1 30:2 <b>homeland</b> 18:12 <b>homelessness</b> 38:23</p>	<p><b>homes</b> 19:6 <b>honked</b> 23:17 <b>honor</b> 8:21 <b>honored</b> 8:20 <b>honoring</b> 5:5 <b>hooked</b> 43:5 <b>hopefully</b> 33:3 34:3 <b>horror</b> 20:24 <b>horse</b> 22:3 <b>hour</b> 27:23 34:11 <b>hudson</b> 1:1,4,7 1:22 2:21 6:14 6:19 8:21 15:1 15:6 16:13,19 16:24 23:12,13 28:21 32:9,19 33:21 34:3,12 35:1,2,15 36:24,25 38:1 44:23 45:9,13 46:16,20 48:8 <b>humiliating</b> 39:4 <b>hundred</b> 26:13 26:14 <b>hundreds</b> 26:13</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>i</b></p> <p><b>i.d.</b> 48:15 <b>ice</b> 15:24 16:12 16:18 17:6</p>
--	---	---	---

18:3 19:11 35:13,14,18,23 36:16,18,21,23 37:11,16,16,18 37:23 40:14 41:5,16 44:7 45:12 46:3 <b>ice's</b> 45:18 <b>idea</b> 13:13 <b>identified</b> 41:2 <b>identify</b> 39:21 43:3 <b>ignorant</b> 29:8 <b>ii</b> 22:7 <b>illegal</b> 22:12 <b>illustrious</b> 18:11 <b>images</b> 40:19 40:20,25 <b>immediately</b> 39:22 43:6 <b>immigrant</b> 14:22 <b>immigrants</b> 19:7 <b>immigration</b> 14:25 15:3 <b>impact</b> 28:17 29:1,18 <b>implore</b> 46:16 <b>important</b> 29:19 36:9 <b>inadvertently</b> 40:13	<b>inauguration</b> 30:19 <b>included</b> 13:7 <b>including</b> 14:18 <b>inclusive</b> 32:12 <b>increased</b> 32:15 <b>indirectly</b> 41:17 <b>individual's</b> 20:14 <b>infinite</b> 33:21 <b>influences</b> 39:24 <b>information</b> 26:11 39:14 41:17 42:8 43:13,21 <b>infraction</b> 20:5 <b>infrastructure</b> 33:22 <b>inquiry</b> 44:5,6 <b>inspiring</b> 34:12 <b>installed</b> 40:21 <b>institute</b> 18:17 <b>insurance</b> 43:10 <b>interest</b> 9:21 23:1 <b>interested</b> 34:14 35:1 <b>intergovernm...</b> 25:2	<b>internet</b> 41:8 <b>introduced</b> 11:22 <b>introduction</b> 11:14 <b>involved</b> 16:4 43:15 <b>issue</b> 13:25 46:17 <b>issued</b> 42:22 <b>issues</b> 18:3 37:1 <b>ita</b> 44:25 45:4 <b>item</b> 9:23 <b>items</b> 9:12,18 9:25 10:2 13:1 <b>j</b> <b>jails</b> 37:19 <b>jake's</b> 32:13 <b>january</b> 1:9 48:9 <b>jenny</b> 15:11,13 17:4 <b>jeremy</b> 44:16 <b>jerry's</b> 13:13 <b>jersey</b> 1:9,9 3:4 3:4 6:2 14:20 14:21 21:13 29:2 30:2 37:9 44:6 48:6,15 <b>jit</b> 25:8 <b>job</b> 39:11 <b>jobs</b> 39:12	<b>john</b> 11:19 <b>join</b> 16:9 <b>jonathan</b> 13:8 <b>judge</b> 30:13,15 31:1 <b>judicial</b> 45:17 <b>july</b> 35:13 <b>jurisdictions</b> 26:25 <b>justice</b> 8:19 39:23 <b>juvenile</b> 8:19 <b>k</b> <b>kay</b> 25:19 <b>kearny</b> 3:7 <b>keep</b> 8:23 9:24 29:5 32:11 33:3,4,5,8 34:2 <b>kennedy</b> 11:19 33:10 <b>kenneth</b> 1:16 <b>kenny</b> 2:2 <b>kevin</b> 39:2 <b>khan</b> 25:16 <b>kids</b> 8:19 32:23 36:9 <b>killed</b> 36:24 <b>kind</b> 43:11 <b>knapp</b> 38:24 39:1,5 <b>knocking</b> 39:17 39:18
--	--	---	--

<p><b>know</b> 7:7 14:6 16:1,5,7,15 17:15,17,23,24 20:12 21:8 24:6,10,17,25 27:5,8,8,12 28:12,23 29:6 29:7,10 30:3 30:23 31:20 32:24 35:17,25 37:12 38:12,12 38:12 39:8 41:5 42:11,25 44:7,10,12 <b>knowing</b> 34:13 <b>knowledge</b> 44:8 <b>knows</b> 21:7 <b>kopacz</b> 1:16 2:10,11 4:10 4:11 7:15,16 10:22,23 12:4 12:17,18 47:2 <b>kristi</b> 46:18</p>	<p><b>lateness</b> 24:16 <b>laudatory</b> 5:3 <b>launched</b> 24:19 <b>laurel</b> 32:4 <b>law</b> 2:2 11:24 14:23 16:15 20:5 30:13 32:13 40:22 42:9 45:7 46:7 <b>lay</b> 46:17 <b>leadership</b> 6:8 9:3 46:17 <b>leave</b> 27:1 28:8 <b>ledger</b> 3:8 <b>legal</b> 20:18 <b>leroy</b> 23:3 <b>letting</b> 32:18 <b>level</b> 16:17 <b>levels</b> 6:17 <b>leveraging</b> 41:17 <b>license</b> 40:19 40:24 42:19,21 43:4,4,7,8,19 43:22,24 48:4</p>	<p><b>list</b> 22:19 25:15 25:19 31:22 35:6 <b>listen</b> 38:17 <b>little</b> 35:11 37:10 <b>live</b> 24:8 <b>lived</b> 36:25 37:17 <b>lives</b> 30:14 33:24 <b>living</b> 21:17 <b>loans</b> 24:2 <b>lobby</b> 36:6 <b>local</b> 14:23 16:15 23:14 25:25 28:25 38:21 40:22 43:15 <b>locked</b> 32:19 33:23 <b>log</b> 33:25 <b>long</b> 8:19 45:23 <b>look</b> 17:23 21:19 38:23 40:12 41:22 <b>looking</b> 32:20 32:21 41:5 <b>lost</b> 46:12 <b>lot</b> 18:5 23:17 27:5,11,11 32:8,16 36:7 38:20</p>	<p><b>low</b> 32:9 <b>luis</b> 46:2 <b>lying</b> 39:2</p>
			<b>m</b>
	<p><b>light</b> 35:10 <b>light's</b> 14:6 <b>likely</b> 45:15 <b>limit</b> 9:17 23:2 <b>limited</b> 9:24 43:11 <b>lipski</b> 1:14 2:4 4:1 8:1,5,10 10:8,10 12:8,9</p>		<p><b>made</b> 8:22 12:1 <b>mails</b> 17:8 18:6 <b>major</b> 6:10 <b>make</b> 3:15 11:7 14:9 37:20 <b>makes</b> 30:24 45:11 <b>making</b> 8:21 25:3 <b>male</b> 43:25 44:1 <b>marching</b> 5:6,9 6:13,22 36:8 <b>marine</b> 39:18 <b>mark</b> 40:5,8 <b>mask</b> 46:6 <b>masked</b> 45:17 <b>matching</b> 39:6 39:7 <b>matter</b> 23:1 <b>matters</b> 9:20 <b>maximum</b> 32:7 32:13 <b>mayor's</b> 38:11 <b>mazza</b> 39:1 <b>md</b> 34:24 <b>mdts</b> 43:17 <b>mean</b> 17:19 30:12 33:23</p>

39:17 <b>measures</b> 45:8 <b>media</b> 18:3 <b>medical</b> 34:23 36:25 <b>meet</b> 39:22 <b>meeting</b> 1:3 3:1 3:10,11,12,13 9:10,19 11:23 13:5,7,18,19,21 24:20 25:6 35:10,20 36:7 38:6 44:16 48:7 <b>meetings</b> 44:25 <b>member</b> 8:25 <b>members</b> 6:21 9:16 10:1 20:13 25:25 <b>men</b> 45:23 <b>mentioned</b> 3:5 23:19,25 35:25 37:11 <b>message</b> 36:16 <b>met</b> 39:21 <b>mewing</b> 33:8 33:15 <b>michael</b> 1:21 34:6 <b>microphone</b> 15:10 <b>mid</b> 32:24 <b>mike</b> 2:1,24 6:9 15:14 22:21	35:4 37:6 40:3 44:19 46:23 <b>mind</b> 29:5 41:7 <b>minneapolis</b> 14:19 16:20 17:1 45:11 <b>minnesota</b> 22:15 <b>minor</b> 20:5,16 <b>minutes</b> 3:10 3:10,22,24 8:7 8:13 9:18,19 9:24 14:5 23:2 <b>misconstrue</b> 38:3 <b>mittell</b> 23:7 <b>mixed</b> 25:10 <b>mo</b> 20:9 <b>moment</b> 2:19 2:22 36:12 <b>moments</b> 21:2 <b>momentum</b> 33:4 <b>monday</b> 45:2 <b>money</b> 24:3 <b>month</b> 45:18 <b>months</b> 17:8 19:21,24 22:16 36:16 44:24 <b>mooney</b> 39:25 <b>morning</b> 17:20 <b>mother</b> 19:22 <b>mothers</b> 45:22	<b>motion</b> 3:9,16 3:22,24 10:3,4 12:4 13:1 33:13 34:4 47:1 <b>move</b> 23:6,10 34:15 <b>movies</b> 22:7,8 <b>mugging</b> 32:9 <b>multiple</b> 5:15 35:16 <b>municipalities</b> 40:15 41:11 <b>murder</b> 46:1 <b>murderers</b> 18:14 <b>murphy's</b> 45:5 <b>music</b> 5:16,22 <b>musicians</b> 6:8 8:24 <b>muslim</b> 25:16 <b>mute</b> 24:23	<b>needed</b> 32:21 <b>needs</b> 24:20 25:7 <b>negativity</b> 38:3 <b>negotiating</b> 26:15 <b>negotiations</b> 23:25 25:4 <b>neighbors</b> 45:13,21 <b>neither</b> 39:12 <b>net</b> 43:14 <b>network</b> 41:4 <b>new</b> 1:9 3:4 6:2 14:19,21 15:22 17:16 22:16,18 23:18 25:21 31:25 32:5 33:11 34:23 37:9 40:11 44:6 48:5,15 <b>newark</b> 20:7 45:20 <b>news</b> 18:2 <b>nice</b> 34:11 <b>night</b> 45:2 <b>nj</b> 43:5 <b>noem</b> 46:18 <b>nonsense</b> 22:20 <b>north</b> 5:5,8 6:4 6:10,12,14,22 7:22 8:21 <b>notary</b> 48:5,14
		<b>n</b>	
		<b>n</b> 1:6,6,20 48:1 <b>name</b> 2:1 15:9 35:8 44:23 <b>need</b> 21:3 22:1 23:24 24:5,21 27:8 32:24 33:13 34:25 36:16,17,20 37:3,14 39:19 39:20	

<p><b>note</b> 3:18 34:16  <b>noted</b> 11:2  <b>notes</b> 48:7  <b>notice</b> 2:25 3:1  11:24 17:6  <b>noticed</b> 26:24  <b>notices</b> 18:5,6  <b>notification</b>  16:3,11 18:4  <b>notified</b> 15:23  <b>npc</b> 32:17  <b>number</b> 18:1  20:23 21:9  26:17 45:15  <b>numbers</b> 46:19</p>	<p><b>october</b> 5:19,25  18:19 23:19  <b>office</b> 15:2 16:4  34:10  <b>officer</b> 35:19  <b>officers</b> 16:16  17:20  <b>offices</b> 38:21  <b>official</b> 42:24  <b>officially</b> 42:11  <b>officials</b> 15:5  38:9  <b>oh</b> 30:22 40:9  <b>okay</b> 3:25 5:2  8:4 9:13,14  11:2,8,13  12:25 13:20  22:21 23:4  24:24 25:18  29:24 36:14  37:2,18,20  38:8,11,22  40:10 46:24  <b>old</b> 19:21,24  20:4 22:5,5  46:2  <b>once</b> 6:3 24:18  <b>ones</b> 18:25 32:5  45:14  <b>open</b> 38:5  <b>operations</b> 15:4  15:25  <b>operator</b> 43:23</p>	<p><b>opportunity</b>  9:7  <b>opposed</b> 19:12  <b>opra</b> 35:23  36:2 38:5  <b>optics</b> 20:25  <b>order</b> 5:3 9:8  <b>ordinance</b>  11:15,16,17,22  12:3  <b>ordinances</b>  11:14  <b>outlined</b> 14:22  <b>outstanding</b>  5:6 43:8,9  <b>overheard</b> 36:9  <b>own</b> 18:16  45:18  <b>owned</b> 46:9  <b>owner</b> 43:18,18  43:22</p>	<p><b>park</b> 32:4,23  35:17  <b>parking</b> 23:17  27:4,10,11  <b>parks</b> 15:5,25  36:19  <b>part</b> 35:2 37:23  45:3  <b>particular</b> 43:6  43:12  <b>parties</b> 41:9  <b>pass</b> 44:25  <b>passed</b> 45:3  <b>passes</b> 13:1  <b>passing</b> 33:15  45:2  <b>passport</b> 36:10  <b>past</b> 17:8  <b>patricia</b> 37:7,8  <b>patterns</b> 41:1  <b>paul</b> 6:9  <b>pavonia</b> 1:8  <b>pay</b> 24:16  <b>paying</b> 24:6,9  25:7  <b>pedestrian</b>  33:14 34:2  <b>pension</b> 24:2  <b>people</b> 7:11  16:12,25 18:18  18:20 19:2,3,5  19:7 20:13,20  21:7,9,10,11,12  21:12,17,20,22</p>
<b>o</b>			
<p><b>o</b> 1:6,6,11,20  48:1  <b>o'dea</b> 1:16 2:12  2:13 3:15,23  4:12,13 7:17  7:18 10:4,24  10:25 11:3,6  12:19,20 15:16  15:20 16:5  17:7,10,19  19:10 23:21  30:18 38:14,16  42:5  <b>observer</b> 3:7  <b>obviously</b>  15:21 28:19</p>			
		<b>p</b>	
		<p><b>p</b> 1:6,20  <b>p.m.</b> 1:10 47:6  <b>package</b> 45:4  <b>paid</b> 28:11  29:22,23  <b>papers</b> 22:9  <b>paperwork</b>  38:8  <b>parent</b> 20:23  <b>parents</b> 21:15  21:16</p>	

22:6,9,16,18,18 26:2,14 32:1 33:16 34:13,25 34:25 36:7,8 37:2,2,21 38:1 38:4 39:4,9 41:19 42:22 45:19 46:6 <b>percent</b> 18:19 18:24 19:3 45:19 <b>percussion</b> 5:17 <b>performers</b> 6:16 <b>performing</b> 6:5 <b>period</b> 24:16 <b>personal</b> 28:5 34:16 41:9 <b>personally</b> 32:3 <b>persons</b> 9:19 22:24 <b>photo</b> 9:7 <b>picked</b> 19:4 <b>pickle</b> 32:4 <b>picture</b> 9:4 39:1 <b>pictures</b> 38:24 <b>pierro</b> 1:22 <b>piggyback</b> 16:14 <b>pirate</b> 34:6,18 <b>place</b> 5:10,15 5:20 6:1 21:13	33:22 37:15 <b>places</b> 20:9 <b>planning</b> 33:1 <b>plans</b> 36:17,19 <b>plate</b> 41:2 42:19 43:4,4,7 43:19,24 <b>plates</b> 40:19,24 <b>players</b> 7:9,9 <b>playgrounds</b> 32:13,19 <b>please</b> 2:16 9:23 14:4 16:21 24:23 39:11 <b>pledge</b> 2:17 <b>point</b> 18:7 <b>police</b> 42:17,24 43:2,15 44:4 <b>policies</b> 46:14 <b>policy</b> 9:15 17:17 33:15 <b>political</b> 37:3 39:24 <b>politicians</b> 39:22 <b>politics</b> 35:1 <b>pollack</b> 31:23 31:24 <b>poor</b> 39:5 <b>populations</b> 21:20,22 <b>portion</b> 14:4	<b>position</b> 19:14 <b>positive</b> 17:9 38:3 <b>possible</b> 24:18 <b>possibly</b> 24:19 <b>posted</b> 11:25 <b>posting</b> 3:1 <b>practicing</b> 30:13 <b>prepared</b> 22:19 35:9 <b>preparing</b> 25:11 <b>present</b> 23:5,9 23:21 24:13 <b>president</b> 18:11 23:15 <b>presses</b> 30:24 <b>pressure</b> 45:6 <b>presumably</b> 43:8 <b>pretty</b> 22:5 <b>pride</b> 6:14,25 <b>primary</b> 46:12 <b>print</b> 41:13 <b>prior</b> 24:2 <b>prioritize</b> 33:14 33:24 <b>privacy</b> 41:14 <b>probable</b> 43:25 <b>probably</b> 17:13 <b>problem</b> 43:9 43:10	<b>problems</b> 20:21 <b>proceeding</b> 47:5 <b>proceedings</b> 1:4 48:6 <b>processing</b> 46:9 <b>program</b> 23:20 24:19 25:9 34:20 <b>progress</b> 32:12 <b>prohibit</b> 14:23 <b>property</b> 11:17 35:16 36:18 46:9 <b>propose</b> 24:10 <b>prosecutor</b> 39:19 <b>protect</b> 46:5 <b>protected</b> 33:12 46:18 <b>protective</b> 45:8 <b>protest</b> 11:1 <b>proud</b> 7:23 8:22,23 <b>proudly</b> 5:23 <b>provide</b> 41:23 <b>provided</b> 3:1 17:21 26:11 <b>pse&amp;g</b> 25:7 <b>public</b> 9:17,21 9:22 10:2 11:16,21 12:2 13:5 18:5 19:16,17 23:1
---	--	---	---

38:6 48:5,14 <b>pull</b> 44:5 <b>pulled</b> 43:2 <b>punished</b> 19:13 <b>pushes</b> 31:14 <b>put</b> 7:11 14:16 21:3,21 23:22 <b>puts</b> 24:4	<b>readers</b> 42:22 <b>readily</b> 41:1 <b>reading</b> 11:15 40:18 <b>reads</b> 5:4 <b>real</b> 39:13 <b>reality</b> 20:11 <b>realize</b> 17:23 31:6 <b>really</b> 35:17 <b>reasonable</b> 42:10 <b>receive</b> 26:6 <b>received</b> 18:4 24:3 26:7 36:5 <b>receiving</b> 6:3 26:10 <b>recognize</b> 27:18 38:2,24 39:11 <b>recognizes</b> 6:21 <b>record</b> 5:12 14:15 21:4 23:22 <b>records</b> 18:24 19:1 38:6 <b>referendum</b> 45:1 <b>reflecting</b> 5:17 <b>refreshing</b> 34:9 <b>region</b> 5:20,23 <b>regional</b> 5:21 6:17	<b>registered</b> 43:7 <b>registration</b> 43:9 <b>regular</b> 1:3 3:11,13 48:7 <b>regulate</b> 11:18 <b>reintegration</b> 23:13 <b>relish</b> 8:20 <b>remarkable</b> 6:6 <b>remember</b> 16:6 16:9,10 17:11 17:11 22:7 <b>reminder</b> 23:1 <b>renee</b> 46:1 <b>rent</b> 24:6 25:7 <b>report</b> 35:24 <b>reported</b> 1:24 <b>reports</b> 36:1,4 <b>representing</b> 6:24 43:1 <b>republic</b> 20:6 20:10,19 <b>reputation</b> 6:4 <b>request</b> 9:20 22:25 36:2 38:5 <b>requested</b> 35:23 36:3 <b>required</b> 11:24 <b>rescheduling</b> 26:3 <b>resident</b> 33:19 44:23 46:3	<b>residents</b> 15:7 16:23 <b>resolution</b> 3:2,6 5:4,4 45:1 <b>resolved</b> 6:18 <b>respect</b> 32:15 <b>respectful</b> 33:6 <b>responders</b> 45:15 <b>result</b> 6:7 <b>retention</b> 26:1 26:1,6 <b>return</b> 20:6 <b>review</b> 41:24 46:15 <b>reviewed</b> 27:3 <b>ride</b> 38:7 <b>ridiculous</b> 22:11,12 <b>right</b> 11:5 13:4 13:22 14:8,19 17:21 29:1 30:23,23 31:21 32:10 34:23 38:4 39:24 44:14,17 <b>risk</b> 32:25 <b>road</b> 34:2 <b>roads</b> 11:16 <b>roadways</b> 40:20 <b>robert</b> 1:14 <b>rodriguez</b> 1:17 2:14 3:19 4:16
<b>q</b>			
<b>question</b> 13:10 15:17,18 27:18 27:19,21 28:11 29:19,25 30:3 31:9,13 42:4,5 42:10,14,14 44:11 <b>quick</b> 39:13 <b>quorum</b> 30:21			
<b>r</b>			
<b>r</b> 1:11,20 48:1 <b>raised</b> 33:12 <b>rapid</b> 45:14 <b>rapists</b> 18:14 <b>rather</b> 45:1 <b>ratification</b> 25:4 <b>raval</b> 2:2 <b>raymond</b> 23:7 <b>read</b> 3:10 14:15 17:13,20 18:2 19:1 <b>reader</b> 42:20 43:24			

4:17,18,20,24 7:19,20 11:9 11:10 12:21,22 <b>roll</b> 2:3 <b>romano</b> 1:13 2:15,16,19,23 3:18,23 4:7,15 4:25 5:1 7:24 7:25 8:2,6,12 8:15 9:2,13 10:9,16,19,21 11:5,11,12 12:15,23,24 13:4,11,15,20 14:3,9 15:11 15:14,18 17:3 22:21 23:5,8 23:16,21 24:22 25:13,17,22 27:20 28:9,13 30:5,8 31:9,15 34:5 35:4 37:5 39:15 40:2,8 42:2,12,21 43:17 44:8,12 44:15,19 46:22 47:2 <b>room</b> 21:7 25:1 <b>rpr</b> 1:24 48:4 48:14 <b>rule</b> 30:9 <b>rules</b> 30:5 <b>running</b> 41:2	<b>ryan</b> 44:23 <b>s</b> <b>s</b> 1:6,6,6,20,20 <b>sabora</b> 23:10 23:12 25:13 <b>sad</b> 38:6 39:6 <b>saddest</b> 21:1 38:18 <b>safe</b> 34:2 <b>safety</b> 13:5 15:6 19:16,17 33:14,21,25 40:18 <b>salary</b> 39:10 <b>salute</b> 2:18 <b>satisfaction</b> 36:3 <b>saving</b> 24:14 33:24 <b>saying</b> 24:25 28:25 29:18 32:22 39:15 <b>says</b> 31:14 38:4 <b>scared</b> 37:2 <b>schedule</b> 13:18 <b>school</b> 5:5,8,12 5:21 6:11,13 6:22 7:22 21:15 34:23 45:22 <b>schools</b> 18:23 21:21	<b>scooped</b> 45:16 <b>score</b> 5:12,21 6:2 <b>script</b> 35:11 37:25 <b>scripted</b> 37:11 <b>search</b> 17:12 <b>season</b> 5:7,10 5:14 27:7 <b>second</b> 3:17,21 10:6 11:15 12:6 <b>security</b> 18:12 <b>see</b> 4:20 16:10 24:11 26:19 27:3 32:17 33:7,10 37:16 39:25 <b>seeing</b> 10:1 16:11 <b>seems</b> 18:4 <b>seen</b> 14:17 18:21 26:5 35:14,18 <b>sehort</b> 33:20 <b>sell</b> 41:8 <b>senate</b> 45:3 <b>sending</b> 16:12 <b>senior</b> 39:20 <b>sense</b> 33:6 <b>sensor</b> 32:14 <b>sent</b> 3:6 28:1 30:2 36:1	<b>separated</b> 36:21 <b>september</b> 35:18 <b>serious</b> 18:25 23:24 37:15 38:17 <b>service</b> 11:4 <b>services</b> 8:18 8:19 23:13 25:8 41:24 <b>set</b> 9:16 25:9 <b>seton</b> 32:2 34:18,21,23 <b>seven</b> 34:20,24 <b>several</b> 35:24 <b>shame</b> 16:17,20 <b>share</b> 41:9 <b>shari</b> 1:24 48:4 48:14 <b>sharing</b> 41:12 41:12,25 42:8 <b>sheriff</b> 15:22 17:16 35:19 <b>sheriff's</b> 15:2 15:23 35:22 <b>shetik</b> 32:5 <b>show</b> 37:3 <b>showcasing</b> 6:15 <b>showing</b> 26:12 <b>shows</b> 18:17 36:18
---	--	--	---

<b>sightings</b> 35:16 <b>sigma</b> 34:2 <b>sign</b> 41:11 <b>signature</b> 45:5 48:13 <b>signed</b> 40:7,16 <b>significantly</b> 20:4 <b>silence</b> 2:20,22 <b>similar</b> 41:7 <b>simone</b> 1:21 2:1 <b>simply</b> 41:2 <b>single</b> 40:20 41:1 <b>sir</b> 46:22 <b>sites</b> 41:8 <b>sitting</b> 22:6 38:21 45:4 <b>situation</b> 27:9 46:15 <b>skivity</b> 33:5 <b>slide</b> 32:24 <b>slow</b> 45:9 <b>small</b> 45:8 <b>snow</b> 27:6 30:15,17 <b>software</b> 42:16 <b>somebody</b> 19:11 44:5,7 <b>somebody's</b> 22:13 <b>someone's</b> 41:2 <b>something's</b> 21:23,24	<b>soon</b> 22:5 <b>sorry</b> 4:1,14,18 24:22 42:23,24 <b>south</b> 29:2 <b>speak</b> 10:2 21:25,25 25:24 26:22 37:22 <b>speaker</b> 23:4 25:14 27:22 34:9,9 37:6 40:3,5 42:18 43:13 44:21 46:23 <b>speaker's</b> 42:14 <b>speakers</b> 9:25 12:2 14:6 18:2 18:6 30:19 <b>speaking</b> 14:4 17:16 27:14 <b>specific</b> 13:25 41:18 <b>specifically</b> 41:11 <b>spent</b> 32:6 <b>spirit</b> 6:16 <b>spit</b> 43:6,21 <b>spoke</b> 19:13 44:24 <b>spoken</b> 14:23 <b>squad</b> 42:17 <b>staff</b> 6:11 13:15 14:12 35:25 39:20	<b>staging</b> 46:9 <b>stand</b> 2:16 9:6 22:20 37:20 <b>standing</b> 15:1 36:6 <b>stands</b> 17:24 42:19 <b>star</b> 3:7 <b>start</b> 35:22 <b>state</b> 6:2,17 15:9 26:24 27:12,24 28:16 28:16 29:13,15 31:8 32:10 45:2 48:5,15 <b>statement</b> 14:15 35:9 <b>states</b> 26:7 37:17 <b>statistics</b> 18:16 19:1 <b>stay</b> 39:23 <b>steadfast</b> 6:10 <b>step</b> 22:13 <b>stood</b> 22:16 <b>stop</b> 22:13 43:12,25 44:1 <b>stops</b> 11:19 41:18 <b>store</b> 45:24 <b>stories</b> 20:24 <b>story</b> 21:5 <b>straight</b> 33:23	<b>streak</b> 6:1 <b>street</b> 33:20 <b>streets</b> 18:15,21 19:6 <b>stripped</b> 19:14 <b>stroke</b> 39:5 <b>strong</b> 36:16 <b>structural</b> 33:6 <b>struggling</b> 25:6 <b>stuck</b> 27:4,9,10 27:11 <b>student</b> 6:8 <b>students</b> 9:4 <b>subjected</b> 37:18 <b>submitted</b> 9:20 22:24 <b>submitting</b> 25:12 <b>success</b> 6:12 7:13 <b>successful</b> 34:22 <b>suggest</b> 40:22 <b>summer</b> 32:6 <b>superior</b> 34:1 <b>supervisor</b> 23:14 <b>supervisors</b> 26:5 <b>support</b> 6:10 36:20 <b>supporting</b> 46:11
--	--	---	---

<b>supposed</b> 28:8	<b>tax</b> 32:12 33:17	<b>third</b> 16:17	<b>tomorrow</b> 40:1
<b>sure</b> 14:9	<b>technology</b>	41:9	<b>tonight</b> 25:24
<b>surprise</b> 41:15	40:17 41:8	<b>thought</b> 28:23	27:14 37:10
<b>survive</b> 24:21	<b>tell</b> 21:5 41:3	<b>three</b> 9:18 14:4	38:2 39:10,21
<b>suspended</b>	<b>text</b> 38:15	17:8,13 23:2	40:11
43:22	<b>texts</b> 38:14	36:1,4 38:1,4	<b>took</b> 19:14 20:5
<b>suspension</b>	<b>thank</b> 2:23 3:25	39:9,11 45:3	36:24 37:15
24:15	5:2 7:14 8:14	<b>thursday</b> 1:9	38:24
<b>swing</b> 33:5	9:13 10:7 11:8	48:9	<b>tool</b> 40:21
<b>swings</b> 32:14	11:13 12:7,25	<b>time</b> 7:10 8:19	<b>top</b> 6:3 16:14
<b>system</b> 37:19	14:2,11 15:7	8:20 9:22	<b>tournament</b>
39:23,25 41:3	15:15 17:3	11:21,25 19:14	5:11
<b>systematic</b>	19:9 22:23	22:24 32:3	<b>towers</b> 37:9
46:11	24:23 25:12,13	46:21	<b>town</b> 7:21
<b>t</b>	25:23 27:14	<b>timely</b> 22:25	11:20 15:22
<b>t</b> 1:20 23:10,12	30:7,10 31:21	<b>times</b> 15:21,22	<b>towns</b> 14:19
48:1,1	32:3 34:4,5,5,6	16:2 18:1,4	<b>township</b> 6:14
<b>take</b> 8:25 9:4	35:5 37:4,5	35:24	<b>trade</b> 20:2,15
18:13 24:2,11	39:25 40:1,2,4	<b>timestamps</b>	20:21
28:9,14 32:3	42:1,2 44:18	38:25 40:25	<b>traffic</b> 33:11
41:19 46:16	44:20 45:2,5	<b>tired</b> 38:11	41:18
<b>taken</b> 18:20,22	46:20,22,24	<b>title</b> 5:23	<b>tragic</b> 14:17
19:5,17 48:7	<b>thankful</b> 24:3	<b>today</b> 11:14	<b>transcript</b> 1:3
<b>takes</b> 7:8 36:21	<b>thing</b> 26:22	14:16 21:17	48:10
<b>talent</b> 5:17 6:15	38:18 41:10	22:10,15 27:15	<b>transfers</b> 25:2
<b>talk</b> 33:18	<b>things</b> 7:9 13:5	35:9,12 36:7	<b>transition</b> 16:6
35:13 38:19	32:21 38:3	37:24 40:11	<b>translate</b> 34:7
<b>talking</b> 31:7	43:14 46:5	41:20	<b>transpired</b>
36:9	<b>think</b> 16:13,19	<b>today's</b> 9:9	35:10
<b>tangling</b> 22:17	17:7,9 19:1	13:2	<b>transport</b> 34:1
<b>target</b> 22:19	20:3,9,13	<b>together</b> 6:20	<b>traveled</b> 41:4
41:18	22:17 26:13	11:24 15:6	<b>tremendous</b>
	32:6 40:6	<b>told</b> 19:4 34:19	6:13 8:24
	42:17 44:9	39:19	

<b>trip</b> 20:5	<b>understanding</b> 42:15 43:1	<b>vehicles</b> 41:18	45:1
<b>trump</b> 20:25	<b>undocumented</b> 16:24 21:8,9	<b>verified</b> 45:14	<b>wanted</b> 26:22
38:19,19,20,20	<b>unfortunately</b> 7:8 24:21,25	<b>verizon</b> 11:3	30:23 32:2
<b>trump's</b> 22:17	<b>union</b> 20:3,15	<b>vibrating</b> 32:8	<b>war</b> 22:7
<b>trumps</b> 38:20	20:16 23:15	<b>vice</b> 19:15	<b>warrant</b> 45:17
<b>trust</b> 14:22	26:16 46:2	<b>videos</b> 18:21	<b>way</b> 17:15,25
<b>truth</b> 23:3	<b>unions</b> 20:21	<b>view</b> 39:18	25:3 27:23
<b>trying</b> 13:23	26:5	<b>villains</b> 22:8	37:21 38:17
20:18,25 26:20	<b>unite</b> 37:22	<b>vintage</b> 22:8	45:11 46:4,11
27:5	<b>united</b> 37:17	<b>violation</b> 43:9	<b>we've</b> 14:23
<b>tung</b> 33:19,19	<b>unwavering</b> 6:7	<b>violently</b> 18:22	18:21 26:2
<b>turn</b> 9:10	<b>urban</b> 33:1	<b>virtually</b> 45:10	<b>weather</b> 27:24
<b>turned</b> 24:4	<b>use</b> 28:20	<b>vis</b> 18:3,3	29:1
<b>two</b> 13:4 19:21	<b>used</b> 19:20 22:8	<b>vision</b> 33:7	<b>week</b> 21:4 37:1
19:24 20:12,20	40:23	<b>visual</b> 5:16,22	46:1
20:22 37:13	<b>using</b> 39:23	<b>vote</b> 7:13,23	<b>weird</b> 30:7
38:7,21	40:16 46:8	11:1 33:2	<b>welcome</b> 36:17
<b>type</b> 24:6 38:8	<b>usual</b> 36:7	<b>voted</b> 19:11	37:13
<b>types</b> 33:13	<b>usually</b> 31:25	<b>w</b>	<b>welfare</b> 38:2
<b>u</b>	35:9	<b>w</b> 34:3	<b>west</b> 5:21
<b>ultimately</b> 29:17	<b>v</b>	<b>waiters</b> 15:8,13	<b>wheelchair</b> 32:14
<b>undeniable</b> 35:15	<b>vacancy</b> 13:13	37:7,8,8 38:16	<b>wholeheartedly</b> 7:12 22:4
<b>under</b> 27:1,2	<b>vacation</b> 28:5	<b>walk</b> 30:20	<b>wider</b> 43:14
32:13	<b>vehemently</b> 19:12	<b>walker</b> 35:6,7,8	<b>william</b> 1:16
<b>undergraduate</b> 34:21	<b>vehicle</b> 40:20	<b>want</b> 7:6,20	<b>winning</b> 6:1
<b>undersheriff</b> 35:21	40:25 41:1,4	8:22 9:3 14:15	<b>winter</b> 27:7
<b>understand</b> 8:18 24:25	43:18,23,24	16:15 19:18	<b>wonderful</b> 9:4
		22:3 23:22	16:25,25
		25:24 31:20,20	<b>wondering</b> 26:9,23 27:3
		32:10 33:4,8	<b>word</b> 33:6
		33:16,21,25	
		34:1 37:25	
		38:2,24 39:12	

<b>work</b> 6:8 15:6 19:20 20:18,18 21:13 27:23 29:3,4 33:4 45:23	<b>year</b> 18:19 19:15 23:19 25:21 26:20 34:20 40:11 46:2
<b>workers</b> 26:4,4 26:9,13	<b>year's</b> 31:25
<b>working</b> 14:6 23:23 26:12	<b>years</b> 19:21,21 19:22,24 20:1 20:3,4,15,16 22:5 34:24 38:7
<b>world</b> 22:7 38:18	<b>yelling</b> 39:4
<b>worried</b> 36:13	<b>yesterday</b> 11:4
<b>worry</b> 32:23	<b>york</b> 22:16,18
<b>worst</b> 18:13,13 19:6,6,7	<b>young</b> 6:16 7:11 20:3 22:6 29:17 31:7 34:13,25
<b>wrap</b> 39:12	<b>youth</b> 32:20
<b>written</b> 9:20 22:25	<b>yraida</b> 1:14 8:2 8:6,13 10:9
<b>wrong</b> 17:14 21:23	
<b>wrongful</b> 37:18	
<b>y</b>	<b>z</b>
<b>y'all</b> 35:14 36:11 37:3,12 38:25 39:8,10 39:13	<b>zero</b> 11:14 39:3
<b>yanez</b> 46:2	<b>zones</b> 32:15
<b>yeah</b> 8:25 10:17 13:20 28:13,22 29:9 29:16,21 30:22 30:25	<b>zoom</b> 3:20 24:23