

Intro 450-A: Age Extension for the Firefighter Exam

Good Morning Chairperson Crowley and Council Members. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you about the Age Extension bill for the firefighter Exam.

My name is Rebecca Wax. I am here today to testify as an FDNY Firefighter candidate. I now work for FDNY Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, but I still want nothing more than to be a New York City Firefighter. Today I am here to make sure everyone understands how important it is that every candidate who took the firefighter exam in 2007 should be given the opportunity to take the next firefighter exam.

I decided I wanted to be a firefighter when I was 21 but had just missed the test given in December 2002. Typically, it would be another four years before another exam would be given, so I waited, went back to college for a 2nd degree in Fire Science, and took firefighter exams in other cities just for practice. I went to all the prep courses and studied on my own time. I took Exam 6019 on January 20, 2007. I scored 103.508, which included the residency credit. My list number was 173 -- out of about 22,000 test-takers -- so, I was virtually guaranteed a spot in the fire academy.

Due to an unfortunate illness and the death of my father, I was unable to take my physical exam when I was called for it. This meant I had to take the physical after the first class from my list entered the academy and would likely be in the 2nd class off our list going into the fire academy. However, that class never happened.

The 2nd class got canceled first because of the economy, and then because of the ongoing litigation. I took and passed my physical exam, and did everything else asked of me to be considered for a spot in the Fire Academy. Since then, FDNY has done no firefighter hiring, and I've since turned 29. I am now too old to take the next exam.

Unless this bill is passed, and passed quickly, I will never get another shot at becoming a New York City firefighter.

Dion, Ahyende and I would be happy to take any questions you might have at this time.

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

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in favor in opposition

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Name: David A. Carcin

Address: 538 Putnam Av.

I represent: myself and 6019 test candidates

Address: _____

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Name: ^{Ryan} Cassandra Colletti

Address: 11 Abingdon Square # 3, NT, NY 10014

I represent: myself & 6019 candidates

Address: _____

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Name: Rebecca Wax

Address: 219 E 69 St NY NY 10021

I represent: 6019 candidates

Address: _____

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Name: Ahyende Sandy

Address: _____

I represent: 6019 Candidates

Address: 1369 East 48th Street, Brooklyn NY

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Name: Dion Hines

Address: 552 St. Marks AVE BKLYN, NY 11239

I represent: 6019 Candidates

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