

New York City Council

Committee on Women & Gender Equity

Date: November 18, 2025

**To: The Honorable Leroy Comrie
New York State Senate, District 14**

**The Honorable Alicia L. Hyndman
New York State Assembly, District 29**

Cc: Governor's Office, NYC Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, Queens Family Justice Center

Subject: Support and prompt passage of **S.2280-A / A.4899-A** (Standardized Lethality Assessment and Warm Handoffs for IPV)

Dear Senator Comrie and Assembly Member Hyndman,

On behalf of the New York City Council Committee on Women & Gender Equity, we write to urge you to calendar, advance, and vote **YES** on **S.2280-A / A.4899-A** this session. This bill closes a dangerous "handoff gap" by pairing a brief, evidence-informed lethality screen at first contact with an immediate warm handoff to trained advocates, so survivors leave with real support, not just a pamphlet.

Why this matters in our district

- Domestic violence remains a persistent source of serious harm citywide, and our precincts/ERs see the day-to-day impact.
- Standardized screening + live connection improves safety planning, increases service uptake, and reduces repeat harm.
- Our local network (Queens Family Justice Center, hospital social work, NYPD, and community providers) is prepared to receive warm referrals now.

Our request to Albany

1. **Calendar and pass S.2280-A / A.4899-A** in the relevant committees and bring the bill to a floor vote.

2. Pair passage with implementation resources targeted to frontline needs in high-volume districts like ours:

- Brief training for police, ED staff, and social workers on the screening tool and referral steps;
- Referral capacity for community-based providers to handle increased warm handoffs.
- A simple data feedback loop (no burdensome system) to confirm that referrals occur and to troubleshoot gaps.

Our commitment locally

- We will host a public briefing within 30 days, bringing together precinct leadership, the Queens FJC, hospital partners, and DV providers to finalize a day-one referral flow, a live contact list, and a basic follow-up process.
- We will share implementation feedback with your offices to support continuous improvement.

Thank you for your leadership on survivor safety.

Respectfully,

NYC Council Committee on Women & Gender Equity

Opening Statement of Council Member Shahana Hanif
**Committee of Contracts Jointly with the Committee on Women and
Gender Equity and the Committee on Small Business**
November 18, 2024, City Hall - Council Chambers, 10AM

Thank you, Chair Won, for convening today's important oversight hearing and for including my bill, Intro 1076, on the agenda. I'm proud that 15 of my colleagues have already signed on as co-sponsors, and I want to extend special thanks to Contracts Chair Won, Consumer and Worker Protection Chair Menin, and Small Business Chair Oswald for their leadership and support.

Intro 1076 takes an essential step toward ensuring that Middle Eastern and North African (MENA)-owned businesses can finally be considered for the City's Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) program. The bill requires the City's next M/WBE disparity study to determine whether MENA-owned businesses are underrepresented in City contracting. If a disparity is found, they would become eligible for M/WBE certification—opening access to the very opportunities this program was designed to address.

I've heard directly from MENA small business owners—from grocers and restaurants to construction firms and creative studios—who want nothing more than a fair chance to compete, yet feel invisible under the current system. Their experiences aren't captured in City data, leaving them shut out of M/WBE certification and the contracting opportunities that could help them grow.

MENA Americans are currently classified as “White” under the U.S. Census, an outdated categorization rooted in a [complicated history](#) of racial classification. But this label does not reflect the lived realities of discrimination many in the MENA community face in housing, employment, and daily life.

Last year, the City announced a record-breaking \$6 billion in spending with M/WBE firms. Yet MENA business owners remain unseen in this data because they are grouped under “White.” Their participation cannot be measured, their barriers cannot be identified, and their exclusion goes unaddressed.

Intro 1076 is fundamentally about data accuracy. When the City misclassifies an entire community, it cannot design fair policy or close real disparities. This bill ensures we collect the data necessary to understand MENA participation—and, if needed, to act.

To be clear: M/WBE eligibility for MENA-owned businesses would occur only if a disparity is documented. If it is, they would receive distinct contracting goals—just as Black-owned, Latino-owned, Asian-owned, and Native American-owned businesses do now. They would not compete against these groups for the same goals; they would simply be recognized as a community with its own distinct needs.

Since this bill was introduced, Governor Hochul signed Senate Bill S6584B, sponsored by Senator Mike Gianaris and Assembly Member Jessica González-Rojas, requiring State agencies to separately collect demographic data for White, Middle Eastern, and North African groups. This is a major step forward for data equity at the State level. Intro 1076 builds on that momentum by ensuring New York City also collects accurate data to inform fair and effective policy solutions.

For far too long, MENA communities have been misclassified and overlooked—denied equal access to contracting opportunities that help businesses grow and participate fully in our local economy. Ending this exclusion is long overdue. Let’s be the Council that rights this injustice and ensures MENA communities are finally recognized, counted, and included in our City’s M/WBE program.

BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY TESTIMONY

**TO COMMITTEE ON CONTRACTS AND COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY
AND COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS**

**OVERSIGHT HEARING: STATUS OF MINORITY AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS
ENTERPRISE (M/WBE) CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

LYNNSIE AUGUSTIN, BUSINESS & CAREER CENTER PROJECT MANAGER

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

Thank you Chair Farah Louis, Chair Julie Won, Chair Oswald Feliz, and members of the Committees for your steadfast advocacy of public libraries and for the opportunity to submit testimony on Brooklyn Public Library’s (BPL) M/WBE certification programs. My name is Lynnsie Augustin, and I am a Project Manager in the Business & Career Center Department at BPL, where I support the Library’s flagship programs including PowerUP, our annual business-plan competition, and a portfolio of small-business and career-readiness services used by thousands of Brooklyn entrepreneurs every year.

Across Brooklyn Public Library’s 62 branches, our Business & Career team provides free, year-round support for job seekers and entrepreneurs. We work with our partners in City Government and in the community to offer one-on-one business counseling, multilingual small-business support, licensing and permitting guidance, financial coaching, résumé and interview support, and programs designed specifically for immigrant entrepreneurs, Black women professionals, and New Yorkers returning from incarceration. Our Business & Career team, working across BPL’s 62 branches throughout the borough, serves more than ten thousand residents annually, delivers hundreds of free programs each year, and has become a trusted gateway to business formation and economic opportunity in neighborhoods where early-stage entrepreneurs often face the steepest barriers.

PowerUP—our flagship entrepreneurship program—has trained nearly 11,000 aspiring founders, produced more than 1,800 business plans, and helped launch over 100 businesses across industries from food to fashion to tech. These programs form the ecosystem that prepares entrepreneurs for next steps like M/WBE certification, procurement readiness, and long-term business growth.

Brooklyn Public Library’s Business & Career team delivers targeted programs to help small business owners navigate M/WBE certification requirements. Focus areas include:

- City and State certification processes
- PIP registration and NIGP codes
- Documentation preparation

- One-on-one counseling

Since March 2022, BPL has hosted 58 M/WBE certification programs at more than 10 branches and online, reaching over 655 attendees in both in-person and virtual formats. These sessions are intentionally designed as accessible entry points for early-stage entrepreneurs—especially those from communities that have historically been excluded from procurement pipelines or who operate on tight margins.

Our work is made possible through collaborations with:

- NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS)
- Staten Island Business Outreach Center (SIBOC)
- Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
- New York State Division of Minority & Women’s Business Development (DMWBD)

Each month, we also host one-on-one M/WBE counseling at Central Library in partnership with the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, providing tailored guidance for entrepreneurs preparing certification applications.

PowerUP, BPL’s flagship entrepreneurship program since 2003, complements M/WBE efforts by supporting diverse entrepreneurs through free training, counseling, and structured business-planning support. Key outcomes include:

- Over 10,900 participants, primarily women and racial or ethnic minorities
- More than 1,800 business plans completed
- Over 100 businesses launched, strengthening cultural and economic vibrancy borough-wide

PowerUP directly supports M/WBE readiness through office hours, virtual clinics, and workshops on eligibility and the application process. Stacey Toussaint—who founded Inside Out Tours, now a certified Black- and woman-owned cultural tourism company—illustrates the impact of this model. Through PowerUP’s training and mentoring, she moved from concept to launch, built a sustainable enterprise, employs local residents, and is a leader in Brooklyn’s cultural and economic landscape.

Across branches, BPL’s M/WBE sessions help entrepreneurs verify eligibility, complete initial steps, and begin applications. Libraries continue to function as no-cost, community-based gateways to the City’s M/WBE ecosystem, particularly in high-need neighborhoods such as East Flatbush, Bushwick, East New York and Starrett City, Coney Island, Williamsburg, and Sunset Park.

The work and efforts of BPL and its Business & Career Department are part of a multi-pronged, long-term investment made by this body of government into Brooklyn and New York City's economic diversity. For more than two decades, via PowerUP And other initiatives, we have been laying the groundwork for women and minority founders to access entrepreneurial pathways. By anchoring M/WBE readiness at our branches, we strengthen the ecosystem from idea to business to procurement.

We could not do this work without our partners on the New York City Council. From ensuring our branches have the capital improvements necessary to be safe and comfortable locations to host M/WBE workshops across Brooklyn to directly supporting programs and library operations, we truly value your partnership. We look forward to partnering with the Council to ensure our efforts reach the communities that need them most.

Thank you very much for your attention and for your ongoing support of these programs.



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11.18.25 - Bronx Chamber of Commerce Testimony – Committee on Contracts

Chair Won and Members of the Committee on Contracts,

The Bronx Chamber of Commerce stands in full support of expanding MWBE participation and outcomes. The Chamber is a critical resource for Bronx entrepreneurs, particularly first-generation business owners, and often the first point of contact for support.

We support:

- Expansion of MWBE participation, including streamlining certification processes and enhancing outreach to underrepresented communities.
- Increased allocation of funding and improved program oversight to maximize MWBE engagement and results.
- Strategies to address delays and barriers currently impacting applicants.

The Chamber partners closely with the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) to provide hands on guidance to small businesses through the M/WBE certification process. Many owners face barriers due to language, limited staff capacity, and complicated digital systems.

The current M/WBE application is overly complex and burdensome, often requiring six to eight hours to complete. This time commitment severely hinders the participation of micro and small businesses.

To ensure City contracting reflects the diversity and talent of the Bronx, we urge the City to:

- Simplify the application process significantly, aiming for completion in under one hour.
- Expand participation by bringing more Bronx-based MWBEs into the contracting pipeline.

The businesses of the Bronx are ready to compete. The process should not be the barrier.



Testimony for the New York City Council Contracts Committee October 23, 2025

Good afternoon, Chair Won and members of the Contracts Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Valerie Barton-Richardson, and I serve as the President and CEO of CAMBA, Inc. and CAMBA Housing Ventures, Inc.

CAMBA, Inc. is proud to serve nearly 80,000 individuals and families across New York City each year—offering over 180 programs at more than 100 locations throughout the five boroughs, delivering comprehensive, client-centered services to help New Yorkers achieve stability and self-sufficiency. Our ability to deliver these life-changing services is closely tied to receiving timely and reliable City contract payments.

CAMBA is solution-focused and offers this testimony in support of working with government partners to improve processes and advance effective implementation.

We recognize and appreciate the efforts of most city agencies to ensure timely distribution of 50% FY26 advances and 30% advances on the Department of Homeless Services' (DHS) contracts. However, we still have uneven experiences with city agencies' abilities to work across outstanding fiscal years and are concerned about the extensive back log of actions required for past fiscal years for budget modifications and invoice reviews. These delays are not just administrative burdens—they are existential threats to our ability to operate. The unpredictability in payments jeopardizes our ability to pay staff, compensate vendors, and run essential programs that thousands of vulnerable New Yorkers depend upon.

Support for Int. 1392 – Quarterly Advance Payments for DHS Shelter Contracts

CAMBA strongly supports Intro 1392, which would codify quarterly advance payments for DHS shelter contracts. This legislation is a vital step toward ensuring the financial stability of nonprofit shelter providers like CAMBA, Inc. through regular, predictable payments.

However, the success of this initiative hinges on the implementation details—particularly during the rulemaking process. Factors such as:

- A fair and transparent recoupment schedule
- Clear timelines for both agencies and providers
- The thoughtful phasing out of the Care Days payment model

...will be critical to achieving the Council's stated goals.

We urge the Council to remain vigilant and to continue advocating for a final rule that upholds the spirit of Intro 1392—one that brings lasting change and financial consistency to the nonprofit shelter sector.

Additional Recommendations

We commend the Council for your continued leadership in supporting the nonprofit sector. We also strongly support Intro 0514-2024, introduced by Council Member Brannan, which would require interest

payments on late contracts. This common-sense accountability measure would provide a meaningful incentive for city agencies to meet their contractual obligations.

We encourage the Council to consider all available enforcement mechanisms that promote timeliness, transparency, and fairness in the city's contracting process.

Conclusion

At CAMBA, Inc., our mission is to connect people with opportunities to enhance their quality of life.. We can only do that if we are aligned with our partners to support solutions result in the sector being paid on time. Thank you again for your time, your leadership, and your commitment to solving the contracting crisis that so deeply affects New York City's nonprofit organizations.

If you have any further questions, please contact Drew Gabriel, Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs, at Drew.Gabriel@camba.org



**The Arab American
Association of
New York**

Testimony of the Arab American Association of New York

6803 5th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11220

Support for Intro 1076

November 18, 2025

My name is Mousa Tous, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Arab American Association of New York in support of Intro 1076, which would require the inclusion of MENA business owners in disparity studies moving forward.

AAANY both serves and is from the largest MENA community in New York City. For over twenty years, we have supported our local businesses through strategic partnerships and community services. The challenges our community members face in opening new businesses and accessing support to grow those businesses stem directly from their erasure in state and federal census data and their lack of inclusion in opportunities other marginalized communities have historically been able to access. With the recent passage of the state MENA bill, New York City now has an incredible opportunity to take meaningful steps to address and understand the challenges faced by New York's diverse MENA communities.

With the passage of Intro 1076, you will ensure equitable representation for MENA business owners within NYC in future disparity studies. You will guarantee they receive equitable treatment as business owners of other identities when being considered for government contracting and that they can access small business grant opportunities, including M/WBE opportunities, to support the growth and sustainability of their businesses.

This bill serves as a logical counterpart to ensuring the data disaggregation of MENA residents of NYC from other groups for City and State agencies that collect ethnicity and race information to ensure equality in NYC, as was the case in Intro 1134 that was most recently passed in City Council. We're grateful to Councilmember Shanif and the other sponsors of this bill for bringing it to the Council's attention, and we strongly encourage the Council to support its passage.

May 25, 2025

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn

New York State Assembly

District 42

RE: Equity in Access for MWBE Contractors – Gowanus/Wyckoff Proposal Experience

Dear Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to share my recent experience as a certified MWBE and licensed General Contractor in pursuing a subcontracting opportunity under the Mega Technico joint venture for the modernization of Wyckoff Gardens and Gowanus Houses. Given your esteemed leadership as Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs), I believe this account may offer valuable insights into the challenges faced by MWBE contractors.

Upon attending a town hall at LaGuardia Community College, I anticipated a comprehensive discussion on the bidding process. Instead, the event consisted of distributing flyers with general project descriptions and a website link that provided only apartment renderings, lacking substantive procurement instructions or contact information.

Subsequent attempts to obtain necessary documents were met with delays and confusion. Technico promised to send a PLA but did not follow through. A call to Mega resulted in a misunderstanding, with the receptionist mistaking my inquiry for a housing application. After persistent follow-ups over two weeks, I received architectural drawings without the PLA, leaving only two weeks before the proposal deadline.

Seeking a site walk-through, I visited the location in person. A staff member in the staging area contacted project managers who were aware of a 1 PM walk-through that day but did not inform me during my 11 AM visit. Shortly after this call, I received an email from one of the managers requesting references for projects over \$20 million—a threshold that seems misaligned with the scope of subcontracting work in painting, plastering, flooring, and carpentry.

Despite these obstacles, I attended the walk-through and engaged professionally with the team. However, this experience highlights systemic barriers that hinder MWBE contractors from accessing opportunities effectively. The lack of transparent communication, delayed responses, and disproportionate qualification requirements create an environment where small, capable firms struggle to compete.

I share this not to assign blame but to shed light on the need for more inclusive and supportive procurement processes. Your continued advocacy for MWBEs is invaluable, and I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns further at your convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

With respect and determination,

Nancy Pierre

CEO, BLU CONSTRUCTION LLC

Licensed General Contractor

MWBE Certified – NYC & Nassau County

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



November 18, 2025

Anita Pierce, Founder, Eleven3seven5

Certified NYC & NYS M/WBE, DBE

Business Advisor, LDCENY Women's Business Center, Entrepreneurial Assistance Center

Submitted to: New York City Council – Committee on Women and Gender Equity

Regarding: Resolution 281 – Reducing Barriers for Women Business Owners in Public Contracting

To Chair, Council Members, and esteemed stakeholders,

My name is Anita Pierce, founder of Eleven3seven5, a certified NYC and New York State M/WBE, and a proud Brownsville, Brooklyn native. For more than a decade, I have supported small businesses – especially micro-businesses earning under \$250,000 annually – along with nonprofits and community organizations across New York City, and a hyper-focus on East Brooklyn. My work includes coaching, compliance, technical assistance, procurement readiness, and economic empowerment.

My relationship with the Local Development Corporation of East New York (LDCENY) began when I was a client seeking support during the early stages of my business. Today, I have come full circle as a Business Advisor with their Women's Business Center and Entrepreneurial Assistance Center, helping other entrepreneurs navigate the very systems I once struggled to understand.

I am also:

- An alum of Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses
- A coach for Columbia University's CU Grow Program
- A mentor with Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women in Business
- Host of the "Real Journey of Entrepreneurship" podcast
- Founder of a workforce development pipeline supporting justice-involved families

Across my work, I have supported over 1,000 entrepreneurs with M/WBE certification, contracting readiness, access to capital, and business stabilization. Through webinars, workshops, procurement clinics, and technical assistance, we have helped women and micro-business owners understand the procurement landscape and prepare for real contracting opportunities.

My decision to pursue M/WBE certification was sparked by an experience deeply rooted in my community. I curated an MWBE informational event in Brownsville in partnership with Community Board 16 and Mount Ararat Church, where I first learned that the City actively does business with service-based businesses, not just developers and construction firms.

Until that moment, like many entrepreneurs, I believed procurement was designed only for large-scale construction companies because the public messaging overwhelmingly centered on developers and general contractors.

That event changed everything.

It showed me that the City was, in fact, contracting with consultants, trainers, strategic planners, educators, social service providers, digital companies, and more. But the pathways were not well-

publicized — and certainly not accessible.

This realization led me to pursue M/WBE certification. My journey involved attending City workshops, meeting with agency representatives, gathering extensive documentation, submitting and resubmitting forms, and navigating unclear processes across multiple agencies. But through persistence, I became certified — and eventually secured over \$750,000 in government contracts.

With that knowledge, I expanded my mission.

I began creating and leading procurement accelerators, including:

- The Brooklyn Community Collaborative Health Enterprise Small Business Accelerator
- The HVADC Agriculture & Food Business Accelerator
- The Eleven3seven5 Contract Readiness Program

These programs create real contracting pipelines, providing entrepreneurs with hands-on coaching, readiness support, and individualized guidance that participants refer to as “business therapy.”

Participants have:

- Secured healthcare sector contracts,
- Strengthened internal compliance systems,
- Accessed capital, in partnership with CDFI's
- Improved operational readiness, and
- Successfully completed the M/WBE certification process at high rates.

These outcomes demonstrate the power of culturally responsive, community-rooted procurement support.

Based on both my personal journey and the more than 1,000 entrepreneurs I've supported, systemic challenges remain:

1. Need for Right-Sized Contracting Opportunities

Most scopes are too large for micro-businesses — creating built-in exclusion.

2. Messaging Misalignment

City procurement messaging still heavily centers construction, not service-based or emerging industries.

3. Insufficient Post-Certification Support

Certification alone does not translate into contracts.

4. Outdated NIGP & NAICS Codes

Many service-based, digital, and hybrid businesses do not fit outdated codes.

5. M/WBE Application Process Needs Updating

The current application does not reflect modern business models or emerging industries.

6. Payment Delays Harm Businesses and Nonprofits

Late payments destabilize MWBEs and the nonprofits that rely on them to fulfill City-funded contracts.

7. Limited Access to Capital

Micro-businesses lack cash flow to sustain long payment cycles.

8. Inadequate Data Transparency

Micro-business participation is not accurately captured in procurement data or disparity studies.

9. Limited Local Stakeholder Input in Research

Firms conducting disparity studies often lack proximity to NYC's small business ecosystem.

Specific Recommendations & Policy Considerations for Resolution 281

To ensure Resolution 281 drives meaningful change, I respectfully request the following actions and considerations:

1. Establish Right-Sized Contracting Pathways for Micro-Businesses

- Micro-contracts and pilot scopes under \$250,000
- Micro-business procurement track
- More multi-award micro-purchase opportunities

2. Implement a Standardized Post-Certification Onboarding System

- Citywide onboarding for M/WBEs
- Navigation, proposal support, compliance assistance
- Quarterly agency matchmaking

3. Modernize NIGP & NAICS Codes

- Add service-based, digital, hybrid, and emerging industry codes
- Correct classification for accurate solicitations and reporting

4. Update the M/WBE Application Process

- Reflect current business models and emerging industries
- Remove outdated requirements
- Improve transparency and clarity

5. Strengthen Payment Timelines *and enforce penalties for non-payment*

- Mandatory penalties/interest fees for late payments
- Payment tracking dashboard
- Ensure nonprofits receive timely payments
- Prime contractor proof of payment to subcontractors

6. Expand Access to Capital

- Contract financing and bridge loans
- City-backed micro-bridge capital fund

7. Build a Citywide Procurement Literacy Infrastructure

- Expand webinars and procurement accelerators
- Standardize procurement training across agencies

8. Improve Data Collection & Reporting

- Publish disaggregated micro-business participation data
- Track payment timelines and award outcomes
- Improve disparity study methodology

9. Hire New York State-Based Firms for Authentic Stakeholder Research

- Contract NYS-based firms — including MWBEs — to conduct interviews and qualitative research
- Engage community organizations like Eleven3seven5, LDCENY and WBCs in data collection
- Capture real experiences of service-based, micro, and emerging businesses

Government contracts change lives. They grow businesses, create a pathway for increasing community wealth, hire local residents, stabilize families, and strengthen communities like Brownsville, East New York, and East Flatbush.

But the pathways must be visible, modernized, and accessible.

Thank you for your leadership and for the opportunity to support this process.

I appreciate your commitment to equitable procurement reform and look forward to continuing this work together.

Anita Pierce

Founder of Eleven3seven5,

Member of Goldman Sachs 10,000 small businesses

Business Advisor of Local Development Corporation East New York (LDCENY)

Contact Details

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Testimony of Kamla Karina Millwood
President, Palatial Publishing LLC (M/WBE Certified)
Oversight Hearing: Status of the M/WBE Certification Program
November 18, 2025

Dear Chairpersons and Members of the Committees on Women and Gender Equity, Contracts, and Small Business,

My name is Kamla Karina Millwood, and I am the President of Palatial Publishing LLC, a proudly certified M/WBE business that has served New York and New Jersey for over a decade. As a woman of color leading a certified firm, and as someone whose company has helped more than 170 small businesses obtain M/WBE certification, I deeply appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony at today's joint oversight hearing.

Every day, my company works directly with entrepreneurs—many of them women, Black, Hispanic, Asian, immigrant, and first-generation business owners—who are striving to survive, grow, and access the opportunities that the M/WBE program was designed to provide. The recurring concerns we hear reveal systemic shortcomings that urgently require attention.

The application process remains one of the greatest barriers. Far too many small business owners feel defeated before they even begin. The current process can take many hours to complete, requires extensive documentation that many microbusinesses do not possess, and includes questions about stocks, shareholders, and corporate structures that simply do not apply to sole proprietors or small partnerships. For many hardworking entrepreneurs who are already stretched thin, this complexity alone is enough to discourage them from pursuing certification at all.

This is where my company steps in—we “hold their hand,” guiding them step-by-step through a process that should not require such extensive assistance in the first place. While we are proud to support them, the system should not be so complicated that a small business feels it cannot navigate it independently.

I strongly recommend the development of a shorter, simplified certification form with fewer unnecessary requirements, especially for the smallest and most vulnerable businesses. A streamlined process—one that could realistically be completed in 60 minutes or less—would improve access, reduce disparities, and help ensure that the businesses most in need are not pushed out by bureaucracy.

I also want to express my full support for Resolution 281, which calls on the Mayor's Office to identify and implement concrete measures to reduce the disparities faced by women-of-color-owned businesses in securing and fulfilling public contracts. This bill acknowledges what many of us see every day—that despite the city's diversity and the enormous contributions of M/WBEs, systemic inequities remain embedded in the procurement process. Addressing these inequities is not only necessary—it is long overdue.

I commend the Committees for convening this important hearing and for bringing together the Mayor's Office of Contract Services, the Department of Small Business Services, the Mayor's Office of M/WBEs, the Comptroller's Office, small business advocates, and community stakeholders. These conversations are vital as we work toward a system rooted in equity, transparency, and genuine access.

Thank you for your commitment to strengthening opportunities for M/WBEs and for giving a voice to small business owners throughout our city. I look forward to continuing to support efforts that make the certification process more accessible, more efficient, and more reflective of the realities faced by the entrepreneurs who keep New York moving.

Sincerely,
Kamla Karina Millwood
President, Palatial Publishing LLC
M/WBE Certified Business

Testimony of Geri Stengel

CEO & President, Ventureneer

Before the New York City Council Committees on Contracts, Small Business, and Women and Gender Equity

November 19, 2025

Chairpersons and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is **Geri Stengel**, founder and CEO of Ventureneer and author of *The 2025 Wells Fargo Impact of Women-Owned Businesses series*, a national study that measures the economic power of women entrepreneurs and the systemic barriers that constrain their growth. My company has also oversee the NYC Small Business Services M/WBE Mentor program for the past 5 years. I have benefited from NYC and corporate contracting.

Women-owned businesses are a driving force in the U.S. economy. In 2024, they represented **39.2% of all U.S. firms—14.5 million businesses employing 12.9 million people and generating \$3.3 trillion in revenue**

Yet their share of employment (9.6%) and revenue (6.2%) remains far below their share of firms, revealing persistent inequities in scaling and access to opportunity.

Women of color are powering much of this growth.

- **Black/African American women own 2 million businesses**, up 9.5% since 2019, employing 647,000 people and generating \$118.7 billion. Their revenues surged 80.8% over five years
- **Hispanic/Latina women lead 2.1 million firms**, employing 873,000 and generating \$225 billion, with revenues up 61.7%
- **Asian American women operate 1.4 million firms**, employing 1.6 million workers and earning \$306.5 billion—a 41% rise in revenue since 2019

Despite this momentum, women entrepreneurs remain underrepresented in high-revenue tiers and government contracting. Among women-owned employer firms, only **272,000 generate more than \$1 million in annual revenue**, yet they collectively contribute **\$2.2 trillion to the economy and 9.4 million jobs**

These high-growth businesses show what's possible when women have access to capital and contracts.

However, women represent just **13.7% of all \$1 million-plus employers**, and that share drops to **2.4% of firms above \$20 million**

Closing this gap requires targeted interventions—especially in public procurement. Contracting is one of the most effective tools government can use to help women-owned businesses grow.

But women still face delays in payment, complex bonding requirements, and contracting thresholds that disadvantage smaller firms.

If women-owned businesses achieved revenue parity with men-owned businesses, the U.S. economy would gain **\$10.2 trillion annually**

For New York City—a global hub of talent and diversity—closing that gap would mean more jobs, more innovation, and stronger local economies.

Thank you for your leadership and for the opportunity to share this data. I look forward to working with you to ensure that New York City remains a national model for inclusive growth and equitable contracting.



November 17, 2025

RE: Regarding MENA Inclusion in the M/WBE Disparity Study

Dear New York City Council,

The Yemeni American Merchants Association (YAMA) respectfully submits this testimony in strong support of legislation requiring the inclusion of Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) owned businesses in the City's next M/WBE disparity study.

For decades, New Yorkers of MENA descent have been placed into a racial classification that does not reflect our lived experience or economic reality. This misclassification has produced a significant blind spot in the City's procurement data. As a result, MENA owned firms remain ineligible for M/WBE certification and are excluded from the targeted supports, capacity-building tools, and contracting opportunities designed to correct historic inequities.

YAMA works with thousands of Yemeni-American and MENA small-business owners across all five boroughs. These are the grocers, retailers, and service providers who anchor commercial corridors and sustain communities. Yet despite their essential role in the City's economic ecosystem, they operate without access to a program that was explicitly created to address systemic barriers faced by minority entrepreneurs.

Including MENA businesses in the next disparity study is a simple, data-driven step that aligns with the principles of fairness and accuracy. The legislation does not grant automatic certification and does not reduce opportunities for any other group. It merely ensures that the City collects the information necessary to determine whether inequities exist. If the study confirms measurable disparities, then and only then MENA-owned firms can be considered for inclusion in the M/WBE program.

Accurate data is the foundation of equitable policymaking. Without it, longstanding disparities remain hidden, and communities remain unsupported. This legislation closes a critical gap in visibility and allows the City to make informed decisions about how to create a procurement system that reflects the full diversity of New York.

On behalf of YAMA and the thousands of MENA small-business owners we serve, we urge the Council to adopt this legislation and ensure that our communities are finally counted, recognized, and given a fair opportunity to compete.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joel Feliciano
Chief Operating Officer
Yemeni American Merchants Association

Testimony on the Inclusion and Recognition of MENA Communities in New York City Services

Good morning Council Members, and thank you for the opportunity to speak.

My name is Abdessamad Elyajouri, Founder and Executive Director of the Elyajouri Association, a nonprofit that serves immigrants—including Middle Eastern, North African, and many other communities—through education, economic opportunity, and language access programs. We strongly support Intro. 1076.

Today, MENA New Yorkers are still classified as “White” due to outdated federal standards, even though our communities are linguistically, ethnically, and culturally distinct. Because of this misclassification, MENA-owned nonprofits and businesses like ours cannot qualify for the City’s M/WBE program, despite facing real barriers to capital, contracting, discrimination, and economic mobility.

As a nonprofit founded, run, and serving MENA and immigrant families, we see daily how exclusion from M/WBE limits access to resources and restricts the ability of our community to compete fairly. Many MENA-owned interpretation services, childcare providers, small contractors, community programs, and social-service organizations are natural fits for City contracts—but remain locked out simply because the City has no accurate category for them.

Intro. 1076 is urgent. We urge the Council to pass it by the December 18th Stated Meeting so that MENA New Yorkers can finally be recognized and included in economic opportunities that already support so many others.

Thank you for your time. Full written testimony is submitted for the record.

Sincerely,

Abdessamad Elyajouri

Abdessamad Elyajouri, Founder & Executive Director, Elyajouri Association

November 17, 2025

Dear Department of Transportation,

I am writing as a long-time Boerum Hill resident of nineteen years to express my strong opposition to the proposal to restore year-round outdoor dining structures in our neighborhood. I urge the Department to reconsider this measure, which would impose yet another burden on the quality of life, safety, and mobility of local residents.

While the Department of Transportation's mission to promote safety and sustainable transportation is commendable, the cumulative impact of recent street-design decisions in and around Boerum Hill has already produced substantial strain on our community. For example:

- The redesign of Schermerhorn Street has resulted in persistent congestion spilling onto Bond and Livingston Streets.
- The Court Street one-lane configuration has created daily, and often extreme, slowdowns.
- The Open Streets program on Hoyt Street between State Street and Atlantic Avenue has repeatedly produced gridlock, with drivers trapped for extended periods—sometimes up to 30 minutes—simply trying to move between Fulton Mall and State Street. These situations create frustration, unsafe driving behavior, and hazardous conditions for pedestrians.

Given these existing challenges, allocating additional street space for expanded outdoor dining would worsen already severe congestion, further reduce scarce parking, and introduce new safety concerns for pedestrians navigating narrower, more cluttered sidewalks and curb lanes.

The recent experience with the outdoor dining installation at Grand Army is an instructive example. The structure quickly became an attractor for rodents, with nesting activity and sightings at all hours. More significantly, the nightly noise levels from outdoor diners have been a constant disturbance to nearby residents—often continuing late into the evening. The combination of amplified sound, loud conversations, and overcrowded seating has created an ongoing nuisance for neighbors who have repeatedly attempted to address these concerns. Reintroducing large-scale outdoor dining setups will only deepen these problems, creating environments that are noisier, less sanitary, and less safe for those who live adjacent to them.

Boerum Hill residents, including children who walk these streets daily, are already living with the direct consequences of recent DOT decisions. We respectfully ask that the Department weigh the lived experience of local residents, who must navigate the

congestion, diminished street access, noise, sanitation issues, and safety hazards that these policies have created.

This proposed year-round outdoor dining expansion does not improve safety, mobility, or street cleanliness. Instead, it imposes disproportionate burdens on those who reside in the neighborhood year-round—taxpaying residents who simply wish to live in a cleaner, quieter, and safer community.

Thank you for your consideration and for taking into account the perspective of those directly affected by this proposed measure.

Alex Guillot

Local resident of State Street in Boerum Hill

□ MyHungryWorld Testimony (In-Person – November 18, 2025)

Delivered by: **Donnatella C., Founder & CEO, MyHungryWorld Inc.**
929-423-4822, lifestyle@myhungryworld.com

Oversight Hearing: Status of M/WBE Certification Program

Before the NYC Council Committees on Contracts, Small Business, and Women & Gender Equity

Good morning, Council Member Farah N. Louis, Chair Julie Won, Chair Oswald Feliz, distinguished Council Members, agency leaders, and fellow New Yorkers.

My name is **Donnatella C.**, Founder & CEO of **MyHungryWorld Inc.**, a minority- and woman-owned small business based in District 43, proudly serving entrepreneurs, families, and emerging enterprises across Brooklyn and the entire city. I am grateful for the opportunity to testify today in full support of strengthening the M/WBE program and in strong alignment with **Resolution 281**, led by Council Member Farah Louis.

1. Why I'm Here Today

I am here today as:

- **A Black woman business owner**
- **A survivor of domestic violence** rebuilding her life through entrepreneurship
- **A small-business advocate** who has helped more than **70 families facing housing instability**

- A consultant who has helped generate **\$4.3 million in funding** for small businesses nationwide
- And a proud participant in New York’s economic ecosystem who believes deeply in the promise of the M/WBE program

I’m also here because, like thousands of women of color in New York City, I have personally experienced the very barriers that today’s hearing seeks to address.

2. The Disparities Are Real — and the Data Proves It

The **Committee Report** for today’s hearing confirms what many of us have lived:

Women of color remain the *least likely* to obtain, sustain, or scale through public contracts.

Some of the most striking data includes:

- Only **1.03%** of contract value under M/WBE participation went to women of color
- Black women-owned firms received just **0.39%**
- Hispanic women-owned firms: **0.11%**
- Only **20%** of certified M/WBEs received *any* contract in FY24
- The average M/WBE contract is valued at **just 11%** of a non-certified firm’s contract value
- Emergency procurement excluded M/WBEs almost entirely, with less than **4%** of emergency dollars reaching us

These statistics are not abstract—they translate to real consequences for my clients, my community, and my own business.

3. My MWBE Journey — and Why It Matters Now More Than Ever

For years, I supported MWBE education inside major corporations.

During the pandemic, I shifted my energy directly into **grassroots support**—traveling to Albany with the New York Women’s Chamber of Commerce to advocate for MWBE extension and expansion.

Standing on the **Million Dollar Staircase** during Advocacy Day—surrounded by Senator Sanders, Assemblymember Bichotte Hermelyn, Assemblymember Septimo—was a turning point for me. I realized that policy is only powerful when the people it is meant to serve can feel it.

This year, after attending TruFund’s 2025 Impact Awards and shaking hands with **Francilia Wilkins Rahim** and **Melba Wilson**, I recommitted to ensuring that women who look like me are not left behind. I began aggressively helping clients pursue certification—and today I am completing **nine MWBE applications**, including New York State, SBS, and the Port Authority.

I am also completing my own business’s MWBE certification.

I believe deeply in this program.

But belief alone does not close disparities.

4. The Barriers Are Systemic — Not Personal Failures

As a survivor of domestic violence rebuilding from multiple forms of loss—financial, emotional, and professional—entrepreneurship was not a choice; it was a lifeline.

Yet:

- Delayed contracting
- Underutilization
- Lack of access to contracting officers
- Limited outreach
- Inconsistent post-certification support
- Retroactive registrations that delay cash flow
- Requirements that fail to accommodate micro-business realities

...all place additional burdens on women of color, who are often operating without generational wealth or a financial cushion.

We need a system that **does not punish resilience** or require women to perform miracles without adequate support.

5. What I'm Asking the Council to Consider

Aligned with Resolution 281, I respectfully urge the Council and the Mayor's Office to explore the following measures:

A. Post-Certification Navigation Support

Certification is step one — not the finish line.

Businesses need human support — not just portals.

B. A Dedicated M/WBE Women of Color Procurement Track

A fast-track within the procurement ecosystem designed specifically to reduce disparities that the data already confirms.

C. Standardized Agency Accountability

Agencies should be measured by outcome — not just effort.

D. A Rapid-Response Payment System

Delayed payments disproportionately harm micro-businesses owned by women of color.

E. Required Pre-Solicitation Visibility

Before an RFP is published, MWBE women-owned firms should already know the opportunity is coming.

F. A Citywide Micro-Contracting Pilot

Contracts under \$250,000 should be earmarked for micro-businesses led by women of color.

G. Inclusive Disparity Studies

Including unrecognized groups prevents entire communities from being erased in policy.

6. Why This Work Is Personal — And Urgent

If the MWBE program is strengthened, women like me — fighting to rebuild, to grow, to employ others, to stabilize their families, and to reinvest in their communities — will finally have access to the economic opportunity this city *claims* to offer.

My clients — Black, Caribbean, immigrant, Latina, Asian American — are ready to serve this city.

We simply need the pathways cleared.

7. Closing

To Council Member Farah Louis: Thank you for your leadership and for championing women of color.

To the Committees: Thank you for holding this hearing at a critical moment.

New York has an opportunity not just to certify more businesses — but to **transform lives**, strengthen communities, and close generational gaps through equitable contracting.

I stand ready to support this mission — for myself, for my clients, and for the women who come after us.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

I welcome any questions you may have.

I am a public health researcher and Master of Public Health student at CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy. I am testifying, alongside two of my classmates, to discuss support for Int. 1303-2025, a proposal to make information on fertility treatment in New York City more accessible. Fertility treatment is extremely expensive and often seen as a service only available to those on private insurance plans. Thankfully, New York State is one of the few states across the country to require Medicaid coverage for certain fertility treatments. However, as you can imagine, very few people are aware of these services and there are persistent racial, ethnic, and socio-economic disparities in who is accessing fertility treatment across the city. This piece of legislation, proposed by Councilmember Shahana Hanif, will require that the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene create an educational campaign on fertility treatment and coverage in New York State. The campaign will be displayed in public hospitals and clinics and will explain the types of fertility treatment available, how to access this care, covered under New York State Medicaid and many private insurance plans offered in New York City.

Access to fertility treatment is a glaring health equity issue that we have an imperative to mitigate.

Kai Purnell

From: [Kai Purnell](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Committee on Contracts Jointly with the Committee on Women and Gender Equity and the Committee on Small Business - Int. 1305-2025
Date: Monday, November 17, 2025 3:44:00 PM
Attachments: [Kai Purnell-Testimony Brief.docx](#)

Hi there,

This is my testimony about Int. 1305-2025. See below for a testimony video transcript as requested, and a brief with more information.



Kai Purnell-Testimony Video.mp4

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT:

I'm Kai Purnell, a Master of Public Health student in the Health Policy and Management program at CUNY SPH. Did you know that Infertility is pretty common? 1 out of every 5 people of reproductive age deal with infertility. Luckily, New York is the first state to require Medicaid to cover fertility treatments. It's been covered since 2019. But most people still think they'd have to pay out of pocket for expensive procedures and treatments. So they figure that getting pregnant is too expensive, and don't pursue treatment at all. Luckily, there's proposed city hall legislation called Introduction 1303-2025. It would require the NYC health department to educate the public about fertility treatment. This would include how Medicaid is only one of the *many* insurance options in the state that covers it. This bill could increase access to fertility treatments for Black and Hispanic women, who are the least likely to access them. It could also increase access to fertility treatment for tons of LGBTQ+ New Yorkers who also think that the treatments are out of reach. This legislation makes it clear that parenthood is not a privilege reserved for the wealthy, Not in New York City.

Thank you,
Kai

--

pronouns in use: they/them

Public Information on Affordable Access to Fertility Treatment in New York City

Int. 1303-2025

The Situation

Infertility affects about 1 out of every 5 people ages 15 to 44 in the US.^{1,2} However, only 1 out of every 4 *couples* are actually able to get medical treatment for their infertility.³ Perception that high out-of-pocket costs make treatment for infertility inaccessible has been persistent, including in New York.^{3,5} Non-Hispanic white women remain the most likely to access these treatments.^{1,3}

Meanwhile, Hispanic women and non-Hispanic Black women were 70% less likely than non-Hispanic white women to receive *any* fertility treatment.¹ Hispanic women and non-Hispanic Black women are the least likely to access these treatments.¹

Taken together, all this could indicate that many New Yorkers remain unaware of health insurance, including Medicaid, coverage for fertility treatment.

The Solution

Int. 1303-2025 is a proposed New York City local law intended to require the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH) to provide information on fertility treatment and that there is coverage of these treatments to increase their affordability.⁷ It would increase access to fertility treatment information for New Yorkers, by making the information more widely available. Medicaid enrollees and others who could benefit from infertility treatment could access this information without having to schedule with healthcare providers as potential information gatekeepers. Information

New York Stands Apart

New York was the first state to include New York Medicaid options⁴ among health insurance policies required to cover fertility treatment and diagnosis.³ Selected clinics have seen increases to Medicaid patients coming in for fertility treatment once Medicaid began to cover treatment,⁶ including in New York state.³

would be provided not only in hospitals and clinics, but on TV, internet, on the radio, and using print media, including public transportation advertisements.⁷

This legislation is one way to address continued racial, ethnic,^{1,4} and income disparities⁶ among those who access fertility treatment in our state³ and city.

Food for Thought

Even with these efforts to increase access to fertility care mitigated, Hispanic and Black patients may still face barriers to care.^{6,8,9} Int. 1303-2025 will not change segregation in socializing that may lead to higher uptake of fertility treatments among white women compared to Black women,^{1,9} or change the racial makeup of healthcare workers in fertility.⁸ However, it may be one major step to breaking down these barriers for New Yorkers, by presenting a novel source of information⁹ about treatments that is targeted to New Yorkers.

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Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Marcia Collier, an MD and MPH student from Jamaica, NY. I'm asking you to support New York State bill S2280A, which requires a standardized lethality assessment and an immediate warm handoff from police or hospitals to trained advocates based on the results of that assessment, connecting survivors with resources during that immediate incident.

Why should we act now? Domestic violence is a persistent driver of serious harm in our city. From 2010–2022, DV victims accounted for about 17% of all NYC homicides and intimate partner homicides have risen in recent years. In a review of recent cases, 8% of intimate partner homicide victims had an active order of protection at the time of the incident, underscoring gaps at first contact.

What is proposed we do about it? The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), the model S2280A draws on, has been evaluated in multiple jurisdictions and is linked to reduced frequency and severity of repeat IPV and higher rates of safety planning and help-seeking. Pairing screening with a warm handoff significantly increases clients' receipt of services compared with referral-as-usual. These are practical, low-burden steps that save lives.

Why does this matters here? Our local precincts, ERs, and the Queens Family Justice Center see these cases daily; the City's FJC system is built to take warm referrals and already tracks service quality and access. S2280A would document and assess the first interaction the moment when survivors actually need that help.

Today I'm asking for three quick actions so our community adds its voice to the push for S2280A:

1. *Pass a Resolution of Support*. The Council already has a citywide resolution pending so let's add our committee's voice. Please calendar a vote at the next meeting and send the resolution to our State Senator, Assembly Member, and the relevant Albany committees.
2. *Co-sign a joint letter*. I've brought a ready-to-sign draft. Please authorize the chair to send it this week urging Albany to calendar and pass S2280A and to pair it with training and referral resources so we're ready on day one.
3. *Host a one-hour public briefing next month*. Please set aside 60 minutes for precinct leadership, the Queens Family Justice Center, hospital social work, and DV providers. Goal: finalize a simple 'warm handoff' flow, a live contact list, and a basic feedback loop so referrals don't fall through the cracks.

S2280A turns first contact into first support ---the moment when a life can change course. I urge you to back this bill and help our community be ready on day one. Thank you.

Riya Varadhachary
EMGAGE Action

Good morning. My name is Riya Varadhachary, and I'm speaking on behalf of Emgage Action, an organization that advocates for Muslim American civic and political empowerment. Thank you, Chair Won and members of the Committee, for the opportunity to testify today.

I'm here in strong support of Intro 1076, a bill that would pave the way for Middle Eastern and North African owned businesses to become eligible for the City's Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise program.

The most damaging impact is that MENA-owned businesses are locked out of the M/WBE program entirely, not because they lack capacity, but because they are still misclassified as 'White' under outdated federal standards. This misclassification means these businesses have zero access to the over \$6 billion in City contracts reserved for certified minority and women-owned firms. It is a structural exclusion baked into the system, and it will continue unless this Council acts now..

We see this exclusion clearly in MENA communities. Many MENA-owned small construction, catering, bodega, and professional-services businesses would be excellent matches for City contracts. They are deeply rooted in neighborhoods, they employ local workers, and they have the expertise. But without M/WBE status, they lack visibility in procurement databases, cannot access small business set-asides, and miss out on capital and mentorship programs tied to certification.

This bill is also urgent. The next M/WBE disparity study is approaching, and if MENA businesses are not included now, they will be excluded for another full study cycle, likely several years. We urge the Council to pass Intro 1076 so that this critical study captures the reality facing these communities.

I will be submitting more detailed written testimony, and I want to thank the Council for considering this long-overdue step toward economic equity for MENA-owned businesses.

Thank you.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 11/18/25

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Steve H. Bari, JPB Enterprises Inc

Address: 4939 Van Dusen St NY 11101

I represent: JPB Enterprises Inc

Address: 4939 Van Dusen St LLC, NY 11101

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

1076

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: NOV-18-2025

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ararat El-Kawi

Address: _____

I represent: CAE Little Armenia

Address: 1035 Manhattan Ave R.K

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 4317

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/18/25

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Camille Newman

Address: _____ BROOKLYN NY 11206

I represent: LDCE NY

Address: 80 Jamaica Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11207

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

S 2280A

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 11/18/25

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Marcia Collier

Address: [redacted] Lenoxton NY 11756

I represent: ~~Curt New York~~ School of Public Health

Address: 55 W 125th street NY, NY 10027

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

1076

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 11/18/2025

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mousa Najji

Address: [redacted] Bronx NY

I represent: Yemeni American Merchants Association

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

1076

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 1076

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dwight Flynn

Address: 253 Broadway

I represent: OMWBE

Address: 253 Broadway, NY NY

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

1076

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 281

in favor in opposition

Date: 11/18/2025

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Kamla Millwood

Address: 553 East 84th St, Brooklyn, NY 11236

I represent: Palatial Publishing LLC

Address: 553 East 84th St, Brooklyn, NY 11236

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. ~~4317~~ Res. No. 4317

in favor in opposition

Date: 11/18/25

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Donnatella Craig

Address: [REDACTED] NY NY 10150

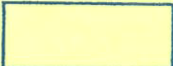
I represent: Myhungryworld / self

Address: [REDACTED] NY NY 10150

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card



I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 1076 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 11/18/2025

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Piya Varadachary

Address: [Redacted] 10029

I represent: EMBAE Action

Address: _____

◆ Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms ◆

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card



I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 11/18/25

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

Address: [Redacted]

I represent: SEJ

Address: _____

◆ Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms ◆