



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Malcolm Smith

## Senate President Pro Tempore's Statement on passing of City Councilman Thomas White Jr.

MALCOLM A. SMITH August 27, 2010

### NEWS FROM SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE MALCOLM A. SMITH

*"Today Southeast Queens lost an iconic advocate, and I lost a dear friend. City Councilman Thomas White Jr., served his community with great pride and distinction for over three decades, fighting to keep our streets safe and drug free, and improve the quality of life for seniors, children, and small business owners.*

*"As Chair of the Council's Economic Development Committee, Tom White understood that to get New York working again, we had to get New Yorkers back to work. His support for the commercial revitalization of economically distressed areas, and expansion of opportunities for minority and women owned businesses created countless jobs and helped families struggling to get by put food on their tables and pay their bills.*

*"Tom also understood that no community was safe from the dangerous affects of drugs and alcohol without comprehensive treatment and community engagement initiatives. His work creating effective alcohol and substance abuse residential treatment programs saved the lives of tens of thousands of young men, women, and families whose lives were torn apart by the affects of drug and alcohol addiction and abuse.*

*"The thing I will most remember about Tom, is he was a man of active compassion. He didn't just care, he did something about it. Tom never sat on the sidelines, he rolled up his sleeves and fought for our community every day. For that, we will forever be in his debt, as he will always be in our memories. On behalf of the State Senate, my thoughts and prayers go out to Tom's family."*

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