



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jeffrey D. Klein

## Senator Klein Hosts First Annual Throggs Neck Houses Basketball Tournament

JEFFREY D. KLEIN August 3, 2015

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*Local basketball tournament works to build stronger community, lift up future generations*

**BRONX, NY - State Senator Jeff Klein (D-Bronx/Westchester),** together with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), Throggs Neck Houses Residents' Council, 45th Precinct, New York City Fire Department, Police Service Area #8, and New York City Transit Police, hosted the first annual Throggs Neck Houses Basketball Tournament at Ferry Point Park this past

weekend.

“By working together to transform police-community relations from the ground up, we are making a lasting investment in The Bronx that will transform our communities and lift up future generations. I’m proud to host the Throggs Neck Houses Basketball Tournament in partnership with the New York City Housing Authority and the NYPD,” **said Senator Klein.**

“This year’s event was a slam dunk — bringing together local residents and encouraging people of all ages to get out and have some fun. Congratulations to our championship teams and everyone who participated.”

The two-day tournament focused on fostering a greater understanding between local residents and those sworn to protect them. A total of 16 youth and adult teams participated in the tournament, with players hailing from both city agencies and the local community.

Championship games were played on Sunday where winners were presented with trophies and certificates by Senator Klein. Throughout the weekend, families, kids and adults enjoyed music, games, snacks and drinks.

“By hosting our first ever Throggs Neck Houses Basketball Tournament, we are encouraging local residents and their families to get involved and make a difference right here at home,” **said Monique Johnson, president of the Throggs Neck Houses Residents' Council.** “The simple fact is, a unified community creates a stronger community, and a loving community. Thanks to Senator Klein, the 45th precinct and everyone who participated.”

“Developing trust and understanding does not happen overnight. It takes time. Community events like the Throggs Neck Houses Basketball Tournament are a great way to bridge the gap and encourage local residents to collaborate with law enforcement and work together towards shared goals. We would like to collaborate on many more events to break down

barriers and bridge gaps between the community and police moving forward. Thank you Senator Klein, the New York City Housing Authority, and all our local law enforcement for putting together this great event," **said Officer John Souhrada, community affairs officer at the 45th Precinct.**

"By encouraging Bronxites to come together to work towards a common goal — while having a little fun — we are building lasting bonds in the community. This event was all about breaking down barriers between local residents and law enforcement to build trust and create long-term partnerships. The first annual Throggs Neck Houses Basketball Tournament was a huge success and I'm proud to have played a role in helping it come together. Thank you to Senator Klein, the Throggs Neck Houses Residents Council and the 45th precinct for continuing to invest in The Bronx," **said John Marano, first vice chair Community Board #10.**

"Thank you Senator Klein for continuing to invest in our community and allowing various agencies across the city to collaborate on this great event and build up our borough. The Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club looks forward to working together for many years to come as we fight to build a brighter future for our children," **said Sinclair Hollingsworth, Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club director.**