



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Velmanette Montgomery

Joint Legislative Hearing on the Crisis Facing Homeowners In Brooklyn

VELMANETTE MONTGOMERY March 19, 2019

| ISSUE: NYC HPD THIRD PARTY TRANSFER PROGRAM AND THE HDFC CRISIS. PROTECTING NY HOMEOWNERS, REDLINING AND PREDATORY FORECLOSURES PRACTICES, DEED THEFT AND EQUITY THEFT, IMPACT OF WATER AND SEWAGE LIENS



Senator Velmanette Montgomery, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and Assemblywoman Tremain Wright were joined by Senator Robert Jackson, Senator Brian Kavanagh, Senator Kevin Parker, Assemblyman Nick Perry, Assemblyman Al Taylor for the **Joint Legislative Hearing to Examine The Crisis Facing Homeowners** in Brooklyn and throughout

New York City.

Over 300 attendees heard testimony from homeowners, legal experts, foreclosure prevention advocates and stakeholders on issues such as the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development's Third Party Transfer (TPT) Program and its impact on Housing Development Fund Corporations (HDFCs), redlining and predatory lending practices, deed theft and equity fraud, the devastating impact of municipal water and sewer liens, and the court system.

Testimony was provided by:

- Michael Barbosa - Assistant Attorney General In Charge Brooklyn Regional Office, **NYS Attorney General**
- Yolande I. Nicholson, Esq. - President, **New York State Foreclosure Defense Bar**
- Dr. John Flateau – Executive Director, **DuBois Bunche Center for Public Policy at Medgar Evers College**
- Sarah Ludwig – Founder & Co-Director, **New Economy Project**
- Catherine Isobe - Senior Staff Attorney, **Brooklyn Legal Services**
- Ivy Perez – Senior Policy & Research Associate, **Center for NYC Neighborhoods**
- Julie Howe – Senior Staff Attorney Foreclosure Prevention Project, **New York Legal Assistance Group**
- Ali Naini – Senior Staff Attorney, **Mobilization for Justice**
- Demetrice Mills – President, **Brooklyn Queens Land Trust**
- Judge Jeffrey Arlen Spinner, **Attorney & Counsellor at Law**
- Lurie Daniel Favors – General Counsel, **Center for Law & Social Justice at Medgar Evers College**

- Brenda Stokely – Co-Chair, **Brooklyn HDFC Coalition**, Lori Kelley – **111 Linden Street HDFC** & Ayo Harrington - **LES HDFC Alliance**
- Allyson Martinez – Co-Chair of Land Use Committee, **Community Board 17**
- Enid Braun & Patrice M. Laing-Ejuwa – **Brooklyn Homeowners**
- Richard Flateau - Chair, **Community Board 3**
- Sarah A. Filcher – Senior Staff Attorney, **Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project**
- Patrick Pyronneau – Supervising Attorney Foreclosure Prevention Program, **CAMBA Legal Services**
- Scott Kohanowski – Project Director Home Stability Project, **City Bar Justice Center**

The hearing was co-sponsored in partnership with State Senator Brad Hoylman, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, State Senator Robert Jackson, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Cities, State Senator Kevin Parker, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy & Telecommunications, State Senator Brian A. Benjamin, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Revenue and Budget, State Senator Brian Kavanagh, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Housing, Construction & Community Development and Assemblymember Al Taylor, Chairman - Assembly Subcommittee on Regulated Mortgage Lenders.