



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

George M. Borrello

Statement by Senator George Borrello on the Attorney General's Report on COVID Nursing Home Deaths

GEORGE M. BORRELLO January 28, 2021

| ISSUE: **COVID, NURSING HOMES, NYS HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TRANSPARENCY**



“The calls for truth and transparency from grieving families were finally answered today with the release of the Attorney General’s report on the undercounting of deaths of nursing home residents from COVID-19. After months of stonewalling, blame-casting and diversion by the Governor and Health Commissioner, we have confirmation that COVID deaths in nursing homes were undercounted by as much as 50 percent.

“While this news cannot undo the damage and precious lives that were lost through reckless decisions, including the deadly March 25, 2020 order to send COVID-positive patients into nursing homes, these revelations will help ensure better oversight and vigilance going forward.

“While I echo the call of Leader Ortt and my colleagues for the resignation of the Health Commissioner, this in no way absolves the Governor of any wrongdoing. Nothing in the Cuomo administration happens without his knowledge and consent. We, as a legislative body, need to hold him accountable for this horrific tragedy and the bad decisions that led up to it.”