



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Stephen T. Chan

## Senator Chan on Sunday's Attack in Bensonhurst

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**BROOKLYN, NY** — This morning, the Bensonhurst community was shaken by a horrific and deeply distressing act of violence. Four young girls—just 8, 11, 13, and 16 years old—were brutally attacked inside their home by a relative reportedly suffering from severe mental illness.

The tragedy unfolded shortly after 10 a.m. when an 11-year-old girl, herself injured, managed to hide and courageously call 911. Though she did not know her address, NYPD dispatchers were able to pinpoint the location using emergency technology. Responding officers were led inside by an uninjured child, heard screams, and quickly forced entry into the apartment.

Inside, they discovered four young victims suffering from serious stab wounds. A large blood-covered meat cleaver and a second bloody knife were recovered from the scene. All four children were transported to the hospital and are expected to survive.

A fifth child escaped the apartment and sought help from a neighbor, who provided him with warmth, food, and comfort as emergency responders arrived. Witnesses described the child as shaking, scared, and in shock.

Senator Chan, who was alerted to the emergency and was quickly onsite, praised the heroism of the 11-year-old girl who made the life-saving 911 call, the young boy who sought help despite the chaos, and the numerous first responders who were there to render assistance.

I want to commend the brave girl who made the 911 call. I want to thank the NYPD for a quick response and there is no doubt that the young lady and the two officers saved lives today.

Said Senator Chan

The suspect, a 49-year-old man related to the children, has a documented history of mental illness. Authorities are still working to determine a motive. Senator Chan

emphasized the urgent need for expanded access to mental health care and early intervention services.

It's another tragic event reminiscent of an event that happened in Sunset Park a number of years ago. Mental illness affects all communities and must be addressed.

Said Senator Chan

Senator Chan asks for local neighbors and community members to help each other and encourage those who need help to reach out. The office of Senator Chan has reached out in-person and offered the resources of the office as assistance.

Anyone in need of **mental health support** is encouraged to contact NYC Well by calling **1-888-NYC-WELL**.

You can watch the [press conference](#) held by New York City Police commissioner Jessica Tisch following the incident:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/video/nypd-update-on-4-children-stabbed-in-brooklyn-press-conference/>

For more information:

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