

Statement by Senator David Carlucci on the Hudson River Boating Tragedy

DAVID CARLUCCI July 29, 2013

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"Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families of those involved in this devastating boating tragedy. Every New Yorker has been affected by this unimaginable loss.

"While there is nothing we can do to change the course of events that transpired over this past weekend, we have an obligation to do everything in our power to try to prevent similar tragedies from occurring. It is clear that more education and public awareness is sorely needed. Mandatory boat safety education will go along way toward informing boat operators and their passengers about the importance of safe operating procedures on New York's waterways.

"New York must get serious about making sure that boaters understand the proper rules, regulations, and procedures of operating these powerful machines. This includes strengthening our BWI laws and enforcing stronger punishments for those who consume alcohol and operate a vessel. Commuter safety does not end on paved roadways. I strongly urge the Governor to sign the comprehensive boating safety legislation into law to make sure that all New Yorkers can be protected on our waters."