



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Gustavo Rivera

Statement from State Senator Gustavo Rivera on Tragedy in Charleston, South Carolina

GUSTAVO RIVERA June 18, 2015

| ISSUE: **CRIME**

"Make no mistake; the atrocious act of violence rooted in hate that took place last night at the Emanuel AME Church was an act of domestic terror against the very heart of the African-American community and our country. We sadly lost nine souls who were gathering together in a prayer service, including pastor and state senator Clementa Pinckney, who had dedicated his life to serving and improving his community. While I commend law enforcement for securing the suspect and working to ensure justice is served, as a country, we must come together to send a clear message that this type of hatred and intolerance will not be tolerated. My thought and prayers are with the victims, their families, the Emanuel AME Church and all of South Carolina."