



June 9, 2023

Commissioner Keechant Sewell
New York City Police Department
1 Police Plaza Path
New York, NY 10038

Dear Commissioner Sewell:

We are writing to you as elected officials who represent the West Side of Manhattan. As you know, our neighborhoods have recently seen a disturbing trend of robberies, druggings and attacks on patrons enjoying LGBTQ bars and clubs in our districts.

In April, we held a meeting with the Manhattan District Attorney, elected officials, LGBTQ bar owners, social service providers, experts in harm reduction and the NYPD to discuss how can better respond to these incidents. There was widespread concern about closing times, in particular, when bar owners have witnessed patrons being targeted upon leaving establishments or their employees being attacked when on their way home from a shift.

We are grateful for the recent arrest and indictment of five individuals in connection with the deaths of Julio Ramirez and John Umberger. The druggings and assaults have continued, however, so additional steps should be taken to ensure the safety of all who want to enjoy the city's nightlife. Therefore, we urge the NYPD to increase foot patrols at LGBTQ bars and clubs in our districts for the next several months during closing times (approximately 1 a.m. to 5 a.m.) to discourage these assaults and provide safety and security for our constituents and small business owners.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman-Sigal
State Senator, District 47



Jerrold Nadler
Congressman, District 12



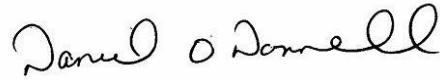
Daniel Goldman
Congressman, District 10



Deborah Glick
Assemblymember, District 66



Linda Rosenthal
Assemblymember, District 67



Daniel O'Donnell
Assemblymember, District 69



Tony Simone
Assemblymember, District 75



Gale Brewer
Councilmember, District 6



Erik Bottcher
Councilmember, District 3