



**State Senator  
Velmanette Montgomery**



**Brooklyn Borough President  
Eric Adams**



**Assemblymember  
Tremaine Wright**

**In Partnership With (list in formation)**

**State Senator Brad Hoylman**  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

**State Senator Kevin Parker**  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Energy & Telecommunications

**State Senator Robert Jackson**  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Cities

**State Senator Brian A. Benjamin**  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Revenue and Budget

**State Senator Brian Kavanagh**  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Housing, Construction &  
Community Development

**Assemblymember Al Taylor**  
Chairman  
Assembly Subcommittee on Regulated Mortgage  
Lenders

**NOTICE OF JOINT HEARING TO EXAMINE THE CRISIS FACING  
HOMEOWNERS IN BROOKLYN**

**Friday, March 15, 2019  
2 PM – 6 PM**

**Brooklyn Borough Hall  
209 Joralemon Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201**

**ORAL TESTIMONY WILL BE BY INVITATION ONLY.**

This legislative hearing will examine the crisis facing homeowners, particularly homeowners of color, in neighborhoods throughout Brooklyn. As New York City becomes less and less affordable, seniors and homeowners of color in rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods are especially vulnerable. The loss of these homes, often owned generationally, have also helped fuel the homeless crisis in our city. It not only impacts the owner, but also tenants who reside in the buildings.

There are many ways homeowners have lost their property and equity beyond missing a mortgage payment. This hearing will focus specifically on Brooklyn and the systemic barriers and practices that have led to this crisis including:

- ◇ **Continued practice of redlining in minority communities**
- ◇ **Deed theft**
- ◇ **Equity theft**
- ◇ **Impact of municipal liens and properties lost due to sewer and water charges**
- ◇ **Predatory foreclosures practices**
- ◇ **Reverse mortgages and its impact on senior homeownership**

We will hear testimony from impacted homeowners and foreclosure experts on issues such as New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development's Third Party Transfer (TPT) Program, the unique needs of Housing Development Fund Corporations (HDFCs), lending practices, deed fraud, municipal liens, and the court system. While we continue to address the affordability crisis in New York City, it is extremely important that we consider the displacement of homeowners who find themselves caught in the middle and without support.

## JOINT PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

If you are a homeowner who:

- was denied mortgage modifications or other financing that you qualified for
- lost your deed unjustly
- encountered someone who attempted to manipulate you into signing over your deed
- found yourself underwater due to a municipal debt
- is part of a Housing Development Fund Corporation (HDFC) that was foreclosed on
- lost your home through the Third Party Transfer program

**We want to hear from you! We encourage you to submit testimony or RSVP for the Joint Public Hearing on the Crisis Facing Homeowners in Brooklyn.**

Please mail, email or fax it with your testimony if applicable to:

Shakti Robbins-Cubas  
Office of State Senator Velmanette Montgomery  
30 Third Avenue, Suite 207  
Brooklyn, NY 11217  
Email: cubas@nysenate.gov  
Phone: (718) 643-6140 Fax: (718) 237-4137

- ☐ I plan to attend the following public hearing on the Crisis Facing Homeowners in Brooklyn on Friday, March 15, 2019.
- ☐ I would like to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be **limited to 3 minutes**, and I will answer any questions which may arise.
- ☐ I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement. I will address my remarks to the following subjects: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I do not plan to attend the above hearing. I would like to be added to the mailing list for notices and reports.
- ☐ I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. Please specify the type of assistance required: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_