

NEW YORK STATE SENATE

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****PRESS RELEASE****

Skoufis Hosts Virtual Legislative Roundtable for First Responders

Senator James Skoufis (D-Hudson Valley) hosted a virtual roundtable last week for first responders across the 39th Senate District to discuss their experience on the ground throughout the pandemic, this year's legislative session, code enforcement, what they need from the state, and other key issues. All fire companies and EMS agencies in the Senate District were invited to participate.

"I extend my sincere gratitude to the many volunteer first responders who took the time to join our roundtable," **said Senator James Skoufis.** "I am so grateful for their service, especially throughout the pandemic where first responders continue to put their health and lives at risk for the safety of our communities. I'm deeply committed to ensuring our first responders have the resources and laws needed to most effectively serve our community and will continue to fight for them."

Alan Horowitz, Director of Special Projects for the Stony Point Ambulance Corps said, "I thank Senator Skoufis for having the insight to host this timely roundtable. It was helpful to hear from other first responders across the district about what the past several months have been like for them as well as have an opportunity to share our thoughts and needs with Senator Skoufis. I look forward to continuing to work together for the safety of all our constituents."

Last year, Skoufis, Chair of the Senate Investigations and Government Operations Committee, released his investigative report on code enforcement in New York State. Among many findings and recommendations, the report found a severe lack of resources and support available to code enforcement officers and first responders. As a result, in February, the State Senate passed a package of bills based on recommendations in Skoufis' report.

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