



New York State
Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic
and Asian Legislative Caucus



1917-2014

A Look at
the History of the
Legislators of Color

NEW YORK STATE
BLACK, PUERTO RICAN,
HISPANIC AND ASIAN
LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS



1917-2014

A Look At The History of The Legislature

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The New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus would like to express a special appreciation to everyone who contributed time, materials and language to this journal. Without their assistance and commitment this would not have been possible.

Nicole Jordan, Executive Director
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The 1977 Black and Puerto Rican Caucus Journal
New York State Library
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DEDICATION:


Dear Friends,

It is with honor that I present to you this up-to-date chronicle of men and women of color who have served in the New York State Legislature.

This book reflects the challenges that resolute men and women of color have addressed and the progress that we have helped New Yorkers achieve over the decades. Since this book was first published in 1977, new legislators of color have arrived in the Senate and Assembly to continue to change the color and improve the function of New York State government.

In its 48 years of existence, I am proud to note that the Caucus has grown not only in size but in its diversity. Originally a group that primarily represented the Black population of New York City, the Caucus is now composed of members from across the State representing an even more diverse people. In order to stay constant in our vision, we must reflect on our past. I commemorate this publication to our forerunners. This is the beginning of our effort to formalize a history. This book will serve as a continued formulated document, so all comments and feedback to this publication are welcome.

Sincerely,

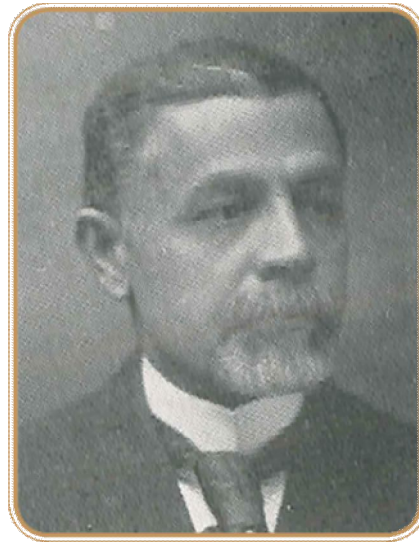
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karim Camara". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karim" and the last name "Camara" clearly distinguishable.

Karim Camara
43rd Assembly District
Chairman

Distinction: “The Firsts”

Whenever we take a new step, a new direction or reach a new goal, there is always one individual, one circumstance, or one group who has made their mark in history; and so it was with the elections of the following Blacks, Latinos, and Asians to the New York State Legislature. This section we devote to those forerunners, who were the first men and women of color elected to the New York State legislature.

First Black Legislators



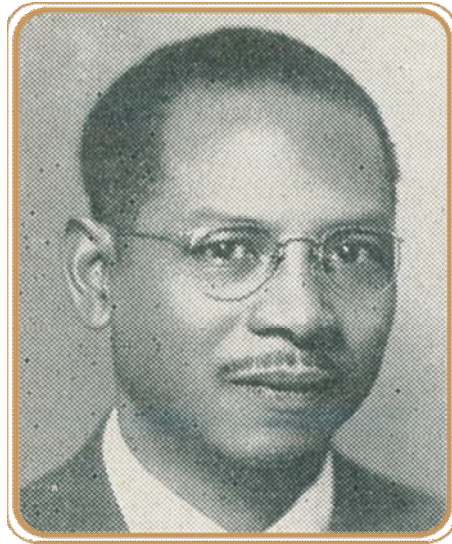
Edward A. Johnson

First Black Man Elected to the New York State Assembly

Tenure: 1917

Represented the 19th Assembly District (New York County)

Born a slave in North Carolina in 1860, Johnson spent the early part of his career as an educator, author and historian. He disagreed with Booker T. Washington’s position that African-Americans should not become involved in politics and became an active member of the North Carolina Republican Party. Eventually, he earned a law degree and moved to New York during the early part of the 20th century to escape the violent racism he encountered in the South. In 1907, he opened a law firm in Harlem and became involved in New York Republican politics. His practice and success grew and, in 1917, he was elected to the State Assembly. While in the Assembly, he helped pass laws dealing with civil rights and the establishment of the State Employment Bureau. After leaving the Assembly, Johnson continued to work on behalf of African-Americans by advocating for a more just society through his law practice. Johnson died in 1944.



Julius A. Archibald

First Black Man Elected to the New York State Senate

Tenure: 1953-1954

Represented the 21st Senate District (Kings County)

Archibald was the first Black State Senator. He was born in Trinidad, British West Indies in 1901 and moved to New York in 1917. He attended City College and later earned his law degree from New York Law School. Archibald became a social studies and English teacher while also practicing law. He also served as a law clerk to Municipal Court Justice James Watson. In 1952, he ran for the State Senate on a civil rights platform. As a member of the New York City NAACP chapter, he received a great deal of support through their grassroots network. After being elected, he introduced several civil rights pieces of legislation. His outspokenness as an elected official cost him his Senate seat in the next election. He then returned to the practice of law and continued to advocate for an end to discrimination. The former State Senator died in 1979.



Bessie Allison Buchanan

First Black Woman Elected to the New York State Assembly

Tenure: 1954-1962

Represented the 21st Assembly District (New York County)

Bessie Allison was born on March 7, 1902. She grew up in New York City with her five sisters and one brother. The first Black woman elected to the New York State Legislature, Bessie became active in politics while working for Governor Herbert A. Lehman.

Buchanan actively promoted civil rights legislation to end discrimination in private housing and in the assignment of police officers to their specific duties. Buchanan even composed a song and pushed for its adoption as the state anthem; it was unsuccessful.

During her tenure in the Assembly, Buchanan was assigned to a number of committees, including Cities, Public Institutions, Printing and Social Welfare. She also served on the Joint Legislative Committee on the Problems of the Aging and was designated by Governor Nelson Rockefeller as a state delegate to the White House Conference on the Aged.

In 1962 Buchanan chose not to run for re-election. Also in 1962 she was appointed by Rockefeller as Commissioner of the Human Rights Division. After five years in this position, Buchanan resigned, remaining active in local volunteer organization. Buchanan remained active in community activities after she left public office. She died in 1980 at the age of 78 after a short illness.



Constance Baker Motley

First Black Woman Elected to the New York State Senate

Tenure: 1964-1965

Represented the 21st Senate District (New York County)

Constance Juanita Baker was born on September 14th, 1921 in New Haven, Connecticut. Constance Baker Motley argued before the U.S. Supreme Court and won the landmark decision allowing James Meredith to attend the University of Mississippi. As principal trial attorney for the N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense and Education Fund, Motley argued a total of ten cases before the Supreme Court.

In 1964 she became the first Black woman elected to the New York State Senate. She immediately began a campaign to extend civil rights legislation and for laws creating additional low and middle income housing.

In 1965 Motley was elected by the Manhattan members of the New York City Council to fill a vacancy as Manhattan Borough President. She also served on the city's Board of Estimate. Later that year, Motley was elected to serve a four-year term as Manhattan Borough President.

In 1966 Motley was appointed by President Johnson as a judge of the U.S. bench. In 1982 she was appointed Chief Judge of the same court. In 1986 she assumed senior status on the United States District Court. Motley received her bachelor's degree from New York University and graduated from Columbia University School of Law. Motley died of congestive heart failure on September 28, 2005 at NYU Downtown Hospital in New York City. Her funeral was held at Saint Luke's Episcopal Church in New Haven, Connecticut where she was married years earlier.

First Latino Legislators



Oscar Garcia-Rivera

First Latino Elected to the New York State Assembly

Tenure: 1937

Represented the 17th Assembly District (New York County)

Oscar was born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico on November 6, 1900 to a well-to-do family. After graduating from high school in 1925, he visited New York City and was deeply affected by the plight of the poor and working class. He returned the following year and worked at the Boerum and Pease Binder factory in Brooklyn. He later became a postal clerk at the City Hall Post Office, where he organized Latino employees and was responsible for integrating them into the Postal Clerks Union of America.

In 1930, Garcia graduated St. John's University with a degree in law. He practiced in federal and state courts, eventually establishing offices on Wall Street, midtown-Manhattan and Spanish Harlem, home to 20,000 Latinos at the time who often received free legal services from him. The Great Depression hit Spanish Harlem very hard. Relief programs offered to other areas never reached the Puerto Rican community. Schools were overcrowded, housing was substandard and in short supply. Unemployment and high crime ravaged residents, while police brutality further enraged the community which had no voice. Oscar ran for Assemblyman of the 17th Assembly District in the borough of Manhattan and was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1937.

Drawing on his community and a broader city-wide base, Garcia became the first Latino to hold an elected office in the continental United States. Assemblyman Garcia pursued protective laws for children and labor. His Unemployment Insurance Bill was accepted by the Assembly on February 3, 1939. He served two terms in the New York State Assembly, leaving an outstanding record of service. In 1969 Oscar Garcia Rivera died in his hometown of Mayaguez.



Robert Garcia

First Latino Elected to the New York State Senate

Tenure: 1967-1978

Represented the 29th/30th Senate District (Bronx)

Robert Garcia was born on January 9, 1933 in the Bronx, New York. He attended public schools and graduated in 1950 from Haaren High School in the Bronx. That same year he joined the U.S. Army and served in the Third Infantry Division. After the war he attended City College of New York and New York Community College.

In 1964 Garcia was elected to the New York Assembly; two years later he became the first Latino elected to the New York State Senate, and by 1975 he had risen to deputy minority leader. In 1978 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in a special election to fill a vacant seat previously held by Representative Herman Badillo, who had resigned to become deputy mayor of New York City. Garcia won his first election with fifty-five percent of the vote, and was reelected with high percentages of the vote in six successive elections.

In 1979 Garcia gained national attention with a bill to establish a national holiday in honor of the slain civil rights leader, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Garcia. Four years later Garcia's version of the bill was enacted into law. During his first term in Congress, the first panel he served on the Housing and Community Development Subcommittee, and in the second panel he served on the Census and Population Subcommittee, which he later chaired. These were useful assignments for Garcia, who, according to the 1980 census, represented the poorest district in the country. He resigned his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives on January 7, 1990.



Olga Mendez

First Latina Woman Elected to the New York State Senate
Tenure: 1978-2004
Represented the 30th/28th Senate District (New York County)

Olga A. Mendez was the first Latina woman elected to a State Legislature in the United States mainland. Senator Mendez is also the longest serving Latina in the history of the New York State Legislature. Senator Mendez represented the 28th Senate District, encompassing parts of the South and West Bronx, East Harlem, and Roosevelt Island.

Senator Mendez was first elected to the Senate in 1978, winning a special election with 89% of the vote. She served 12 consecutive terms. Born in the City of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Senator Mendez received her B.S. from the University of Puerto Rico. In 1960, she was awarded her Master's Degree in Psychology from the Teacher's College at Columbia University and in 1975 she successfully defended her doctoral dissertation in Educational Psychology from Yeshiva University.

Prior to her election to the Senate, Senator Mendez devoted her time and energy to volunteer work with organizations that promoted good government and fair and sound public policy. The Senator was well known for her active leadership in the area of voter registration drives throughout the Nation.

A full-time legislator, Senator Mendez devoted herself to supporting and promoting legislation which fights discrimination and removes many of the existing barriers faced by minorities and women. Her deep commitment to good government had been in the promotion of the highest standard of ethics in public elected officials. In 2009, Senator Mendez died of cancer, at the age of 82, in her East Harlem, New York apartment.



Carmen Arroyo

First Hispanic Elected to the New York State Assembly

Tenure: 1994- Present

Represents the 84th Assembly District (Bronx County)

Looking to build a better future for her family, Carmen moved to New York alone in 1964. She worked long hours in a factory and saved money until she was able to bring her seven children from Puerto Rico. In 1965, she sent for her children, but unable to find day care services, she was forced to receive Public Assistance. Carmen was on Public Assistance for nine months, during which time she organized the welfare mothers of her community and founded the South Bronx Action Group in 1966. The South Bronx Action Group received funding and Carmen served as the Executive Director. She expanded the notion of tenant advocacy to include the interrelated services of employment, health, adult education, and welfare. The SBAG is still in existence today.

Carmen has demonstrated that it is never too late to obtain your college education, graduating from Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College with an Associate of Arts degree in 1978. The Assemblywoman also graduated from the College of New Rochelle with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1980 at the age of 44.

In a special election in February 1994, Carmen E. Arroyo became the first and only Hispanic elected to the NYS Assembly. Carmen is also well known for her talent as a passionate poetry reciter and poetry writer. Because of Carmen's extensive track record of community involvement, as well as her many accomplishments, Assemblywoman Carmen E. Arroyo is one of the most highly respected female leaders in the state and nation.

First Asian Legislators



Jimmy K. Meng

First Asian Man Elected to the New York State Assembly

Tenure 2005-2006

Represented the 22nd Assembly District (Queens County)

Jimmy Meng was elected in 2004 to represent the 22nd Assembly District, which included parts of Flushing lying east of the Van Wyck Expressway, from the Long Island Expressway to several blocks north of Northern Boulevard. Winning over 70 percent of the vote, Meng made legislative history by becoming the first Asian-American elected to the New York State Assembly.

Born in the Shandong Province in China, Meng received his bachelor's degree from the National Taiwan Normal University. He came to the United States in 1975. He later entered Audrey Cohen College, where he received his master's degree.

Meng long worked to improve the Flushing community by serving as the President of the Flushing Business Association, a member of former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's Small Business Advisory Council, and the chairman of the Asian American Coalition of Queens. He partnered with the Community Board 7 to hold the Lunar New Year parade in Flushing to celebrate and unify diverse cultures.

Meng supported after-school programs, worked with the Queensborough Community College to provide scholarship for disadvantaged students, and served as a Board Member of the Queens Public Library. In recognition of his contributions to the community, Meng was awarded the Outstanding Community Service Award from former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani; the Person of 1998 Award from Governor George E. Pataki; and the Outstanding Community Award from the Queens Borough President's office. He, his wife and three children have lived in Queens for over 25 years.



Ellen Young

First Asian Woman Elected to New York State Assembly
Tenure 2007-2008
Represented the 22nd Assembly District (Queens County)

Ellen Young made New York State history when she was elected in 2006 as the first Asian-American woman to serve in the legislature. Months later, Young set another important milestone when she passed a total of four bills, making her the first Asian-American to pass a law in New York State.

Her district encompassed the 22nd Assembly District, which included parts of Flushing lying east of the Van Wyck Expressway, from the Long Island Expressway to several blocks north of Northern Boulevard.

An immigrant from Taiwan who came to the U.S. at the ripe age of 25 with limited resources, Ellen immediately fell in love with the endless possibilities of America. Among her achievements, she co-founded the Chinese-American Women's Association and was named as the first female Asian Auxiliary Police Officer in Queens County.

A single mother who raised her daughter, Coral, in public schools, Ellen believed education is the key to success and overcoming cultural misunderstandings. She has dedicated her public service career to helping families achieve their American Dreams. Over the past three decades, she has fought passionately for human rights and racial harmony in New York City, and she has committed herself to serving the community, from helping domestic violence victims to hosting fund raisers for Hurricane Katrina victims.

History of the Caucus

In 1917, the New York State Assembly elected its first Black American legislator, Mr. Edward A. Johnson, and in 1937 Assemblyman Oscar Garcia Rivera was the first American of Puerto Rican heritage to be elected in the State Assembly. From those small victories, slowly, two became three, three became four, and four became many. Presently, the Caucus has a total of 43 members within the State Assembly and Senate.

Yet, it was not until the 1966 legislative session that the formal beginnings of the New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus took place, when the Black and Puerto Rican legislators of the NYS Legislature, joined together and paid a visit to the office of the then-Speaker of Assembly, Anthony J. Travia. This meeting was later christened “The Midnight Walk,” because it took place during the wee hours of the morning. It was then that the Black and Puerto Rican legislators, through their spokesman, Percy E. Sutton; began as a unit to systematically negotiate more power in the legislature, in return for their continued support of the leadership, by demanding an equal share of power and position in the leadership structure and assignments on the major committees within the legislature. As a result, the Black and Puerto Rican legislators were given: the Majority Whip position, Chairmanship of two committees, representation on the powerful Assembly committees of Ways and Means and Banks and Codes. They were also able to hire people of color on their staffs. Later that same year, through the efforts of the Caucus, the Legislature approved the historic program, “Search for Education, Elevation, and Knowledge”, commonly referred to as the “SEEK” program. This was and still is a program designed to assist educationally and economically deprived students at the City University of New York, by providing services and activities which would help them achieve.

Since the “Midnight Walk” of 1966, the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus has continued as the only effective political alliance which has consistently given “minorities,” the poor, and working people a real voice in State government.

In 1975, a defining moment came when the members of the Caucus successfully held up passage of the State Budget until they received increased benefits for African American and Hispanic New Yorkers. Also during that year, the Caucus opened the first Caucus office and hired Caucus staff, for the purpose of conducting research, monitoring legislation and handling programmatic development within State agencies. In an effort to be more inclusive, the Caucus changed its name in the June of 1997 to “NYS Black, Puerto Rican, and Hispanic Legislative Caucus”, having welcomed its newest member, Adriano Espallat, the first Dominican American elected to the New York State Legislature.

In 2004, the Caucus changed its name to the Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus to support and encourage the continued diversity of people in the New York State Legislature.



Working Together – *Leading State Democrats were hosted to an off-the record dinner given by Negro members of the Legislature in Albany last week in appreciation of significant new assignments given minority legislators.*



Brooklyn Contingent- *Six Brooklyn members of the Council of Elected Negro Democrats attended a recent Council meeting in Albany with Democratic party and legislative leaders*

Founding Members of 1966



Bertram Baker



Kenneth N. Browne



Shirley Chisolm



Dennis Coleman



David N. Dinkins



Arthur Hardwick



Basil Paterson



James H. Shaw



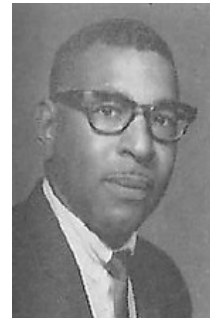
Mark T. Southall



Edward Stevenson, Jr.



Percy E. Sutton



William C. Thompson



Samuel Wright

Mission Statement

As an organization, the Caucus is a body whose members are united by a common interest in the purpose and function of the legislative process, and the manner in which that process affects the lives and well-being of the people, in general, and in particular, those persons with ties in the Black, Latino, Hispanic and Asian communities. Its deliberations and programs are directed towards:

1. Participating in the legislative effort so as to maintain a constitutional balance among the three branches of government;
2. Inquiring into, identifying, studying, analyzing and describing those conditions, circumstances and events that undermine, threaten, weaken and put in jeopardy the people's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness;
3. Promulgating, fostering, advocating, championing, and pursuing public enactment that will complement and supplement private efforts to support the economy, to ensure social and scientific progress, to rehabilitate the nation's communities, to strengthen family life, and to make the legislative process responsive to the needs of all the people;
4. Seeking the association of and exchanging information with other like-minded organizations; and
5. Engaging in such other activities as will warrant the public's trust, confidence, support, appreciation and respect.

The Caucus has undertaken an ambitious and important program. The degree of the program's success depends, in a large measure, upon the kind of response the Caucus receives from the public to whom its service is dedicated.

Present and Former Members

<u>Assembly</u>	<u>Tenure</u>	<u>County</u>
Almeida, Salvatore	1966	Bronx
Alvarez, Eugenio A.	1973-1974	Bronx
Andrews, William T.	1935-1949	New York
Arroyo, Carmen	1994-Present	Bronx
Aubry, Jeffrion L.	1994-Present	Queens
Baker, Bertram L.	1949-1971	Kings
Barron, Inez	2009-2013	Kings
Bea, Samuel	1997-2001	Kings
Benjamin, Michael	2003-2013	Bronx
Billups, Pope B.	1925-1927	New York
Boyland, Thomas S.	1977-1981	Kings
Boyland Jr., William F.	2002-Present	Kings
Boyland Sr., William F.	1983-2002	Kings
Beatty, Vander	1970-1972	Kings
Brewer, Guy	1969-1977	Queens
Browne, Kenneth N.	1965-1968	Queens
Buchanan, Bessie Allison	1955-1963	New York
Burrows, Daniel L.	1939-1945	New York
Castro, Nelson L.	2009-Present	Bronx
Camara, Karim	2004-Present	Kings
Chisolm, Shirley	1965-1968	Kings
Clark, Barbara M.	1986-Present	Queens
Cook, Vivian	1990-Present	Queens
Crespo, Marcos A.	2004- Present	Bronx
Crump, Elijah Lemair	1949-1953	New York
Daniels, Geraldine	1981-1992	New York
Davis, Gloria	1981-2003	Bronx
Del Toro, Angelo	1975-1994	New York
Diaz, Hector L.	1983-1997	New York
Diaz, Luis M.	2003-2008	Bronx
Diaz Jr., Ruben	1997- 2011	New York
Diaz Sr., Ruben	2003- Present	Bronx
Dickens, Thomas	1948-1951	New York
Dickens, Lloyd E.	1959-1965	New York
Diggs, Estella B.	1973-1980	Bronx
Dinkins, David N.	1966	New York
Espaillet, Adriano **	1997-2010	New York
Espinal Jr., Rafael	2010-2013	Kings
Eve, Arthur O.	1967-2001	Erie
Farrell Jr., Herman	1974-Present	New York
Fortune, Thomas R.	1969-1981	Kings
Gadson, Jeannette	1975-1977	Kings
Gantt, David F.	1982- Present	Monroe
Garcia-Rivera, Oscar	1939-1941	New York
Garcia, Robert**	1965-1969	Bronx

Gibson, Vanessa L.	2009- 2013	Bronx
Gladwin, Walter H	1953-1957	Bronx
Gordon, Diane	2001-2008	Kings
Gray, Jesse	1973-1974	New York
Green, Roger L.	1981-2006	Kings
Greene, Aurelia	1981-2009	Bronx
Griffith, Edward	1973-2001	Bronx
Hamilton, Charles T.	1973-1975	Kings
Hardwick Jr., Arthur	1965-1966	New York
Hawkins, John C.	1919-1921	New York
Heastie, Carl	2001-Present	Bronx
Hooper, Earlene H.	1988-Present	Nassau
Jack, Hulan E.*	1941-1954,1968-1972	New York
Jeffries, Hakeem	2007-2012	Kings
Jenkins, Andrew	1979-1981	Queens
Jenkins, Cynthia	1981-1994	Queens
Johnson, Edward A.	1917-1919	New York
Johnson, Charles R.	1977-1982	New York
Jones, Thomas R.	1963-1965	Kings
Justice, Robert W.	1937-1939	New York
Kim, Ron	2012- Present	Queens
Lewis, Woodrew	1973-1982	Kings
Linares, Guillermo	2011-2013	New York
Marshall, Helen	1983-1991	Queens
Martinez, Israel	1988-1991	Bronx
Martinez, William	1968-1971	Bronx
Meeks, Gregory	1993-1998	Queens
Meng, Grace	2009-2013	Queens
Meng, Jimmy	2005-2007	Queens
Mosley, Walter T.	2012-Present	Kings
Montano, Armando	1969-1984	Bronx
Moya, Francisco	2010-Present	Queens
Miller, George W.	1971-1975,1977-1980	New York
Norman Jr., Clarence	1983-2007	Kings
Nine, Louis	1971-1985	Bronx
Ortiz, Felix	1994-Present	Kings
Patton, Barbara A.	1983-1987	Nassau
Peoples-Stokes, Crystal D.	2002-Present	Erie
Perkins, Lamar	1931-1933	New York
Perry, N. Nick	1992- Present	Kings
Phipps, Kenneth M.	1955-1959	New York
Pickney, Joseph	1951-1953	New York
Powell, Adam Clayton, IV	2001-2011	New York
Pretlow, J. Gary	1992-Present	Bronx
Rangel, Charles B.	1967-1971	New York
Ramos, Manuel	1967-1970	Bronx
Ramos, Phil	2002- Present	Suffolk
Ramos-Lopez, Jose	1947-51, 1959-67	New York
Ramirez, Gilbert	1967-1969	Kings
Ramirez, Roberto	1991-2000	Bronx

Rhodd-Cummings, Pauline	1998-2003	Queens
Rios, Carlos M.	1963-1965	New York
Rivera, Jose	1983-87, 2001-Present	Bronx
Rivera, Naomi	2005-2013	Bronx
Rivera, Peter	1979-2013	New York
Rivera- Garcia, Oscar	1937-1940	New York
Rivers, Francis E.	1931-1933	New York
Roberts, Samuel D.	2010, Present	Onondaga
Robinson, Annette	2002- Present	Kings
Robles, Victor	1978-1984	Kings
Rodriguez, Eugene	1967-1969	Bronx
Rodriguez, Robert J.	2010-Present	New York
Rosa, Gabriella	2012-Present	New York
Rosado, David	1990-1993	Bronx
Rozic, Nily	2012-Present	Queens
Scarborough, William	1994-Present	Queens
Seabrook, Larry	1985-1995	Bronx
Sepulveda, Luis	2012- Present	Bronx
Serrano, Jose E.	1975-1991	Bronx
Shields, Henri W.	1923-1925	New York
Solages, Michaelle	2012-Present	Nassau
Southhall, Mark T.	1963-1974	New York
Stephens, James E.	1931-1935	New York
Stephenson, Sr., Edward A.	1966-1971	Bronx
Stevenson, Eric	2011-2013	Bronx
Sutton, Percy E.	1965-1966	Bronx
Thomas, James C.	1953-1959	New York
Torres, Felipe N.	1953- 1963	Bronx
Torres, Frank	1963-1965	Bronx
Towns, Darryl C.	1993-2012	Kings
Titus, Michele	2002-Present	Queens
Turner, Leslie T.	1953-1955	New York
Vann, Albert	1975-2001	Kings
Waldon Jr., Alton R.	1983-1987	Queens
Warner, Ivan**	1959-1961	Bronx
Wright, Keith L. T.	1992-Present	New York
Wright, Samuel D.	1967-1973	Kings
Williams, Calvin	1971-1975	Kings

<u>Senators</u>	<u>Tenure</u>	<u>County</u>
Adams, Eric L.	2007-Present	Kings
Andrews, Carl	2003-2007	Kings
Archibald, Julius A.	1952-1954	Kings
Beatty, Vander L**	1973-1982	Kings
Bogues, Leon	1981-1987	New York
Brown, Byron	2001-2007	Erie
Coleman, Dennis R.	1967-1969	Bronx
Diaz Sr., Ruben	2003-Present	Bronx
Dilan, Martin M.	2002-Present	Kings
Espada, Pedro**	1993-2003, 2009-2013	Bronx
Espaillet, Adriano**	2010-Present	New York
Galiber, Joseph L	1969-1997	Bronx
Garcia, Robert**	1967-1979	Kings
Gonzalez Jr., Efrain	1989-2008	Bronx
Hassell-Thompson, Ruth	2000-Present	Westchester
Huntley, Shirley	2007-Present	Queens
Jefferson, Anna V.	1983-1984	Kings
Jenkins, Andrew**	1983-1990	Queens
McCall, H Carl	1975-1981	New York
Mendez, Olga	1979-2005	New York
Montgomery, Velmanette	1984-Present	Kings
Monserrate, Hiram	2009-2011	Kings
Motley Baker, Constance	1964-1965	Kings
Owens, Major	1975-1982	Kings
Parker, Kevin S.	2002-2013	Kings
Paterson, Basil A.	1967-1971	New York
Paterson, David A.	1986-2006	New York
Perkins, William	2006-Present	New York
Peralta, Jose R.	2010-Present	Queens
Rivera, Gustavo	2010-Present	Bronx
Rodriguez, Eugene	1965-1967	Bronx
Ruiz, Israel	1975-1991	Bronx
Sanders, James	2012-Present	Queens
Santiago, Nellie	1992-2002	Kings
Seabrook, Larry B.**	1997-2001	Bronx
Serrano, Jose M.	2004-Present	New York
Sampson, John L.	1996-Present	Kings
Shaw Jr., James H.	1967-1969	Kings
Smith, Ada L.	1989-2003	Queens
Smith, Malcolm A.	2000-Present	Queens
Stewart-Cousins, Andrea	2006-Present	Westchester
Stewart, Waldaba	1969-1973	Kings
Thompson, Antoine	2007-2013	Erie
Thompson, William C.	1965-1969	Kings
Waldon Jr., Alton R.**	1991-2001	Queens
Warner, Ivan*	1961-1969	New York
Watson, James L.	1955-1961	Kings
Williams, Calvin	1971-1975	Kings
vonLuther, Sydney A.	1971-1975	New York

*served two separate terms, in the same house

**served in both houses of the legislature

Past & Present Chairpersons

Percy E. Sutton	1966-1967
Guy Brewer	1968-1970
Thomas R. Fortune	1970-1971
Samuel D. Wright	1972-1974
Joseph Galiber	1974-1975
Arthur O. Eve	1975-1977
Albert Vann	1977-1978
Arthur O. Eve	1978-1980
Albert Vann	1981-1983
Angelo Del Toro	1984-1985
Roger L. Green	1986-1988
Albert Vann	1989-1992
Gloria Davis	1993-1995
Larry B. Seabrook	1995-1997
Jeffrion L. Aubry	1997-1998
Keith L.T. Wright	1999-2000
Roger Green	2001-2005
Adriano Espaillat	2005-2007
Darryl C. Towns	2007-2008
Ruth Hassell-Thompson	2009-2011
Karim Camara	2011- Present

Each Chairperson of the Caucus has had a dedicated Executive Director serving under them to help fulfill the vision. Without these people the Caucus would never have been able to carry out its mission.

Tenure of Past & Present

John Flateau

1977-1978, 1981-82

Carol White

1978-1980

Hosea Givan

1980-1981

Meredith Henderson

1993-1995

Michele Titus

1995-2001

Eric Ford

2001-2005

Tyrone Benton

2005-2008

Jamar Hooks

2009-2011

Benita Leigh-Lewis

2012

Nicole J. Jordan

2013-Present

2014 MEMBERSHIP

OFFICERS



Karim Camara, Chairman

Kings County, 43rd A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2004. Leadership Position: Chair of Commission on Skills and Development and Career Education. Member of Standing Committees on: Banks, Consumer Affairs and Protection, Education, Housing, Mental Health, Small Business.



Jeffrion L. Aubry, 1st Vice Chairperson

Queens County, 35th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1994. Leadership Position: Speaker Pro Tem. Member of Standing Committees on: Governmental Employees, Rules, Social Services, Ways and Means, Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force.



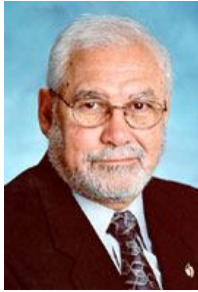
Walter T. Mosley, 2nd Vice Chairperson

Kings County, 57th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2012. Member of Standing Committees on: Banks, Cities, Codes; Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions; Housing.



Michaelle Solages, Secretary

Nassau County, 22nd A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2012. Member of Standing Committees on: Consumer Affairs and Protection; Governmental Employees; Libraries and Education Technology; Racing and Wagering; Social Services; Member of: Legislative Women's Caucus.



Jose Rivera, Treasurer

Bronx County, 78th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2001. Leadership Position: Assistant Majority Whip. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging; Agriculture; Insurance, Small Business; Hispanic/ Puerto Rican Task Force.



Francisco Moya, Parliamentarian

Queens County, 39th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2010. Leadership Position: Chair of Subcommittee on: Renewable Energy. Member of Standing Committees on: Economic Development, Job Creation, Commerce and Industry; Committee on Energy, Housing, Insurance, Labor. Member of: Hispanic/ Puerto Rican Task Force.



Michele Titus, Chaplain

Queens County, 31st A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2002. Leadership Positions: Chair of: Committee on Social Services; Women's Legislative Caucus. Member of Standing Committees on: Children and Families; Codes; Education; Ethics and Guidance; Judiciary; Member of: Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force; Member of Subcommittees on: Criminal Procedure; Foster Care.

ASSEMBLY MEMBERS



Carmen E. Arroyo

Bronx County, 84th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1994. Leadership Position: Chair of Majority Program. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging; Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; Children and Families; Education; Member of: Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force;



William F. Boyland, Jr.

Kings County, 55th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2002. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging; Banks; Economic Development, Housing; Local Governments; Member of: Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force



Barbara M. Clark

Queens County, 33rd A.D. Elected to the New State Assembly in 1986. Leadership Position: Deputy Majority Whip. Member of Standing Committees on: Children and Families; Education; Health; Labor; Libraries and Education Technology; Rules; Member of: Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force; Task Force on Legislative Women's Caucus.



Vivian E. Cook

Queens County, 32nd A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1990. Leadership Position: Chair of Committee on Committees. Member of Standing Committees on: Codes; Corporations, Authorities and Commissions; Housing; Insurance; Rules; Ways and Means; Member of: Legislative Women's Caucus, Secretary; Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force; Task Force on Women's Issues.



Marcos Crespo

Bronx County, 85th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2004. Leadership Position: Chair of Task Force on: New Americans. Member of Standing Committees on: Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; Cities; Energy; Environmental Conservation; Transportation; Member of: Hispanic/ Puerto Rican Task Force.



Herman D. Farrell

New York County, 71st A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1974. Leadership Position: Chair of Committee on Ways and Means; Member of Standing Committees on: Rules; Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force.



David F. Gantt

Monroe County, 133rd A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1982. Leadership Position: Chair of Committee on Transportation. Member of Committees on: Economic Development; Local Governments; Rules; Ways and Means



Carl Heastie

Bronx County, 83rd A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2000. Leadership Position: Chair of Standing Committee on Labor. Member of Committees on: Corporations, Authorities & Commissions; Education; Housing; Ways & Means; Member of: Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force.



Earlene Hooper

Nassau County, 18th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1988. Leadership Position: Deputy Speaker. Member of Standing Committees on: Education; Rules; Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force; Ways and Means; Member of: Legislative Women's Caucus



Ron Kim

Queens County, 40th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2012. Member of Committees on: Children and Families; Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions; Governmental Operations; Housing; Social Services; Member of: Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force.



Felix Ortiz

New York County, 51st A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1994. Leadership Positions: Chair of Standing Committees on Cities, Chair of Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force. Member of Standing Committees on: Correction; Labor; Rules; Ways and Means



Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes

Erie County, 141st A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2002. Leadership Position: Chair, Majority Conference. Chair, Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women Owned Women and Business Enterprises (MWBEs). Member of Standing Committee on: Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; Environmental Conservation; Governmental Operations; Health; Health ; Higher Education; Insurance; Member of: Legislative Women's Caucus.



N. Nick Perry

Kings County, 58th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1992. Leadership Position: Deputy Majority Leader. Member of Standing Committees on: Banks; Codes; Insurance; Labor; Transportation; Ways and Means.



J. Gary Pretlow

Westchester County, 87th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1992. Leadership Position: Chair of Committee on Racing and Wagering. Member of Standing Committees on: Codes, Insurance, Rules, Ways and Means.



Phil Ramos

Suffolk County, 6th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2002. Leadership Position: Co-Chair of Task Force on: Demographic Research and Reapportionment. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging; Economic Development; Job Creation, Commerce and Industry; Education; Local Government. Member of: Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force.



Samuel D. Roberts

Onondaga County, 128th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2010. Leadership Position: Chairman, Task Force on University- Industry Cooperation. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging; Labor; Libraries and Education Technology; Small Business; Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Development; Transportation.



Annette M. Robinson

Kings County, 56th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2002. Leadership Position: Chairwoman, Committee on Banking. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging; Children and Families; Housing; Oversight, Analysis and Investigation; Hispanic Task Force; Real Property Taxation; Small Business and Legislative Women's Caucus.



Robert J. Rodriguez

New York County, 68th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2010. Member of Standing Committees on: Banks; Corporations, Authorities and Commissions; Health; Housing; Labor; Mental Health; Member of: Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force.



Gabriela Rosa

New York County, 72nd A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2012. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging, Banks, Correction, Higher Education, Real Property Taxation; Member of: Legislative Women's Caucus, Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force.



Nily Rozic

Queens County, 25th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2012. Member of Standing Committees on: Children and Families, Corporations, Authorities and Commissions, Correction; Environmental Conservation; Labor; Legislative Women's Caucus and Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force.



William Scarborough

Queens County, 29th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1994. Leadership Position: Chair, Committee on Small Business. Member of Standing Committees on: Banks; Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions; Ways and Means.



Luis Sepulveda

Bronx County, 87th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 2012. Member of Standing Committees on: Aging; Agriculture; Banks; Correction; Housing and Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force.



Keith L.T. Wright

New York County, 70th A.D. Elected to the New York State Assembly in 1992. Leadership Position: Chair, Committee on Housing. Member of Standing Committees on: Codes; Correction; Ways and Means and Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force.

SENATE MEMBERS



Martin M. Dilan

Kings County, 17th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2002. Member of Standing Committees on: Transportation (Ranking Minority); Civil Service and Pensions; Elections; Finance; Judiciary, Labor and Rules.



Adriano Espaillat

Parts of Bronx and New York Counties, 31st S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2010. Leadership Position: Chair, Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Task Force; Member of Standing Committees on: Codes; Environmental Conservation; Finance; Higher Education; Housing, Construction and Community; Development; Insurance and Judiciary.



Ruth Hassell-Thompson

Parts of Bronx and Westchester Counties, 36th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2000. Leadership Position: Chair of Standing Committee on: New York State Conference of Black Senators; Member of Standing Committees on: Commerce, Economic Development, and Small Business; Crime Victims, Crime and Correction; Finance; Health; Judiciary; Rules; State-Native American Relations.



Velmanette Montgomery

Kings County, 18th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 1984. Member of Standing Committees on: Agriculture; Children and Families; Crime Victims, Crime, and Correction; Education; Finance; Health; Libraries; Rules.



Kevin S. Parker

Kings County, 21st S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2002. Member of Standing Committees on: Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; Banks; Budget and Tax Reform; Energy and Telecommunications; Finance; Higher Education; Insurance; Rules.



Jose R. Peralta

Queens County, 13th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2010. Leadership Position: Minority Whip. Member of Standing Committees on: Crime Victims, Crime and Correction; Finance; Health; Insurance; Labor; Member of: Puerto Rican/ Hispanic Latino Caucus.



Bill Perkins

New York County, 30th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2006. Member of Standing Committees on: Budget and Tax Reform, Civil Service and Pensions, Codes; Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions; Finance, Judiciary, Labor, Libraries, Rules, Transportation. Member of Subcommittee on: New York City Education.



Gustavo Rivera

Bronx County, 33rd S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2010. Member of Committees on: Crime Victim, Crime and Correction; Ethics, Finance, Health, Higher Education, Labor, Libraries, State-Native American Relations.



John L. Sampson

Kings County, 19th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 1996.



James Sanders, Jr.

Queens County, 10th S. D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2013. Member of Standing Committees on: Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; Banks; Civil Service and Pensions; Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business; Labor; Racing, Gaming and Wagering; Science, Technology, Incubation, and Entrepreneurship; Social Services; Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs.



Jose M. Serrano

Bronx and New York Counties, 28th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2004. Member of Standing Committees on: Agriculture, Consumer Protection, Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks & Recreation, Environmental Conservation, Higher Education, Libraries; Science, Technology, Incubation and Entrepreneurship.



Malcolm A. Smith

Queens County, 14th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2000.



Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Westchester County, 35th S.D. Elected to the New York State Senate in 2006. Leadership Position: Democratic Conference Leader. Member of Standing Committees on: Rules.

Legislative Record:

NYS Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Caucus

The Caucus has many a time proven to be the critical power bloc around historic legislation which has affected the lives of people throughout the State of New York.

Some of the actions for which the Caucus had earned high respect, were:

- South African Anti-Apartheid Bill
- more effective regulation of shared health facilities (Medicaid mills)
- deinstitutionalization of mental patients to community based facilities
- four year extension of rent control and rent stabilization
- funds for neighborhood preservation and housing rehabilitation
- extension of temporary release program for prisoners approaching parole
- opposition to reinstatement of the death penalty
- mandated filling of prescriptions with less expensive generic drugs
- guaranteed disability benefits during pregnancy
- increased unemployment and disability benefit levels
- more effective regulation of nursing home industry
- development of crime control programs to protect Senior citizens
- property tax exemptions for home owners and businesses who utilize energy conservation measures
- authorizing New York City to increase payments to public pension funds to compensate for previous underfinancing
- court reforms: calling for appointment of judges, more effective administration and a system of judicial discipline
- more effective regulation of governmental and private lobbyists
- Sunshine legislation: to make government records and proceedings more accessible
- Medicaid reimbursement for care of Senior Citizens in the home
- Two (2) year extension of 1976 pension reform measures
- A residency law for care of Senior Citizens in the home
- the addition of consumer representatives to each of the State's licensing boards which regulate the professions
- required writing of lease and loan agreements in layman's language
- modifications in no-fault auto insurance
- citizen protection against the gathering and misuse of credit information
- A diversity hiring initiative with respect to recruitment, hiring, training, placement and promotion of minorities within State agencies
- Encouraging programs with respect to letting an equitable share of State contracts to minority businessmen
- Established funding to create the NYS SEEK/ Educational Opportunity Program (1975)
- Sat on the 1978 Medicaid Reimbursement Evaluation Committee
- Proposed that March 10th is Harriet Tubman Day
- Established a foundation that fought for money to help pay for tutoring underrepresented schools.
- Authorized the Dormitory Authority to finance certain construction, reconstruction, improvement, design, expansion and equipping of the African American Cinema, Inc. (2006)

- Increased the combined household income eligibility for local laws, implemented the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Program and a municipal tax abatement for rent-controlled and rent regulated property occupied by senior citizens. (2006)
- Negotiated for affordable housing, affordable health care, and better education.
- Founded Medgers Evers College and the African American Teachers Association
- Extended the Senior Citizens Employment Opportunities Pilot project to run till 2002 (1997)
- Increased the NYS Medical Care Facilities Finance Agency's authorization to issue hospital and nursing home project bonds and notes to \$12 billion from the present level of \$10.75 billion (1999)
- Provided for a simplified Advance Health Care Directive Form for persons receiving mental retardation and developmental disabilities services (2007)
- Designated the State Office Building at 55 Hanson Place in Brooklyn, New York as the "Shirley Chisholm State Office Building" (2010)
- Prison-Based Gerry-Mandering Reform (2010)
- Established the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (2012)
- SAFE Act (2013)
- Raising the minimum wage (2013)

Members of the Caucus have not only made history in the Legislature, but throughout the State of New York.

Did You Know...

- The first Black Manhattan Borough President was former Assemblyman
Hulan E. Jack

- The first Black Bronx District leader
Ivan Warner (former Assemblyman and Senator)

- The first Black Speaker Pro Temp
Jeffrion L. Aubry

- Election of the first Latinos from the Boroughs were
Manhattan Oscar Garcia-Rivera 1937
Bronx Felipe N. Torres 1953
Brooklyn Gilbert Ramirez 1965

- The first three (3) members of the Caucus to serve in both houses of the NYS
Legislature were
Ivan Warner, Robert Garcia and Vander Beatty.

- The first two (2) Black individuals to serve two separate terms in the same house of
the Legislature
Hulan E. Jack (Assembly) and Ivan Warner (Senate)

- The first Latino elected from Suffolk County was
Phil Ramos

- The first two (2) upstate individuals elected to the Legislature were:
Arthur Hardwick, Jr. and Arthur O. Eve.

- First Black appointed as:
Assistant United States District Attorney- James C. Thomas (1921)
Full Assistant District Attorney- Francis E. Rivers
Supreme Court- Harold A. Stevens
United State District Court Southern District Judge- Constance Baker Motley

- First Black elected as:
General Session Judge- Harold A. Stevens

- First Black elected to the Legislature of any State by the Democratic Party- Henri W.
Shields (1922)

- First Black elected official to represent a predominately white constituency was
Francis E. Rivers

- Second Black Senator was son of one of the first 2 elected Black judges
James L. Watson
- First Brother-Father-Son Legislative Team- they represented the same district
Thomas Boyland, William F. Boyland Sr., and William F. Boyland Jr
- First Latino Father- Son Legislative Team
Ruben Diaz Sr. and Jr.
- First Asian Father-Daughter Team- they represented the same district
Jimmy K. Meng and Grace Meng
- What Counties have produced the most legislators of color?
 - New York County- 52
 - Kings County- 49
 - Bronx County- 45
 - Queens County- 25

Past members have gone on to become:

Eric Adams	Brooklyn Borough President
David N. Dinkins	Mayor of New York City
Hakeem Jeffries	Congressman
Helen Marshall	Queens Borough President
H. Carl McCall	NYS Comptroller
Gregory Meeks	Congressman
Grace Meng	Congresswoman
Constance Baker Motley	Manhattan Borough President, District Court Judge
Basil A. Paterson	Lieutenant Governor
David A. Paterson	Lieutenant Governor, Governor
Charles Rangel	Congressman
Peter Rivera	Commissioner of Labor
Jose Serrano	Congressman
William C. Thompson Jr.	NYC Comptroller
Alton R. Waldon Jr.	Congressman, Judge
James L. Watson	Federal Court Justice

Justices of NYS Supreme Court, Appellate Division and Other Courts:

Harold A. Stevens, Thomas Dickens, Walter H. Gladwin, Ivan Warner, Jose Ramos-Lopez, Thomas R. Jones, Gilbert Ramirez, Kenneth N. Browne, Manuel Ramos, James H. Shaw, Jr. and William C. Thompson

-Members who had the longest years of service in the Legislature (over 20 years)?

- Herman “Denny” Farrell	40 years
- Arthur O. Eve	36 years
- Velmanette Montgomery	28 years
- Aurelia Greene	28 years
- Edward Griffith	28 years
- Joseph Galiber	28 years
- Albert Vann	26 years
- Earlene Hooper	26 years
- Barbara Clark	26 years
- Vivian Cook	28 years
- Gloria Davis	26 years
- Felix Ortiz	24 years
- Clarence Norman	24 years
- Angelo Del Toro	22 years
- Jeffrion Aubry	22 years
- Keith L.T. Wright	21 years
- Carmen Arroyo	20 years

- How many Latinos have served in the legislature?
57 (44 Assemblypersons, 13 Senators)
- How many Blacks have served in the legislature?
125 (89 Assemblypersons, 36 Senators)
- How many Asians have served in the legislature?
4 (4 Assemblypersons)

First Legislators of Color in Leadership Roles

Assembly

First Latino Child Care/ Children and Families Committee Chair
Jose E. Serrano

First Black Chair of Committee on Child Care / Children and Families
Al Vann

First Black Chair of the Committee on Banks
Herman D. Farrell

First Black Chair of Ways and Means
Herman D. Farrell

First Black Chair of Committee on Ethics and Guidance
Edward Griffith

First Black Chair of the Social Services Committee
George W. Miller

First Latino Chair of the Social Service Committee
Angelo Del Toro

First Latino Chair of Aging
Armondo Montano

First Latino Chair of Consumer Affairs and Protection
Jose E. Serrano

First Black Chair of Committee on Social Services
Woodrew Lewis

First Black Deputy Speaker
Arthur O. Eve.

First Latino Chairman of the Democratic Conference
Lewis Nine

First Secretary of the Democratic Conference
Estella Diggs

First Black Assistant Speaker and Chairman of Committee on Committees
Edward Griffith

First Latino Chair of Education
Jose E. Serrano

First Black Chair of Consumer Affairs and Protection
William F. Boyland, Sr.

First Black Vice Chairman of Majority Conference
William F. Boyland, Sr

First Black Secretary of Majority Conference
Aurelia Greene

First Black Chairman, Science and Technology Commission
Roger L. Green

First Latino Chair Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and
Reapportionment
Angelo Del Toro

Senate

David Paterson, First Black Minority Leader of the New York Senate

Leon Bogues, Chairman of Minority Conference

Olga A. Mendez, First Latina Secretary of Minority Conference

Andrew Jenkins, First Black Assistant Minority Whip Minority Conference

Vander L Beatty, First Black Chair of the Election Laws Committee