

# NYSFRW 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference Event Speaker Biographies (in speaking order - subject to change)

## Ann Schockett, NFRW Immediate-Past President



Ann Schockett, a proud New Yorker, is Immediate Past President of the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW), the largest grassroots Republican women’s organization in the nation. She is former President of the New York State FRW and Nassau County FRW.

Ann attended Vassar College and then Sarah Lawrence College receiving her BFA and MFA, and returned to Belle Harbor, Queens where began her 43 years of public service as the youngest GOP State Committeeperson then in NYS history. Before her NFRW Presidency, she also served as a GOP Executive Leader in Queens and Nassau, and headed and advised in 43 election campaigns, oversaw NYGOP special fundraising efforts, elections and events and worked with government and non-profit entities on all levels.

Ann is a sought-after speaker and recognized for activism on local to national issues. She has been “Executive GOP Leader of the Year,” “Woman of the Year” and “Republican Woman of the Year.” Ann leads by example in fostering Republican Party values and is dedicated to empowering women to become more active and fulfill leadership roles. She is a member of the NYGOP Empire Club and numerous Republican organizations.

Ann is a businesswoman turned consultant and has advised in public relations, campaigns, multi-media and business performance. She was honored as “Business Advisor of the Year”, and has received local, national and international media awards.

Ann is deeply committed to country, community and faith. She is NFRW’s second president from NYS and the first Jewish president in the organization’s 83-year history, is a founding Board member of Save the Persecuted Christians, serves on the Board of Regents for the Center for Security Policy and was a delegate to the World Zionist Congress. Ann was NYS’ first Congressional District Leader for the Humane Society of the U.S. One of her favorite endeavors was creating the Community Enrichment Mini-Center in NY to enhance the lives and careers of people of all backgrounds, providing for 13 non-profit and start-ups and serving as an independent Hurricane Relief Center during Superstorm Sandy.

During a term beset by the global COVID pandemic and civil unrest throughout the nation, Ann pivoted NFRW to new technology, keeping the membership connected and engaged. Highlights included the creation of a multi-media broadcast studio in Headquarters where she hosted over 100 new virtual and live series; thousands of local, state and national meetings, virtually and in person; original online educational training, fundraising and social media; the first virtual National Board of Directors Meeting and online and hybrid Campaign Management Schools. Ann streamlined business practices and introduced corporate fundraising, financial oversight, and monthly financial and membership transparency reports. Achievements encompassed dramatic proactive measures culminating in striking financial growth, the largest percentage membership increase in thirty years to over 65,000 members and the highest number of new clubs in history; coalition building for efforts such as supporting Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett; and an unprecedented number of NFRW strike forces and campaign efforts resulting in an historic 8.2 million advocacy hours.

Ann’s utmost joys and achievements are her three children and five grandchildren. She is grateful to Peter for his unconditional support as she devotes her time and energies to help secure their families’ and friends’ rights, safety and freedoms in the greatest nation in the world.

## Marc Molinaro, 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Candidate



Marc Molinaro was elected as Dutchess County's 7th County Executive in November 2011. At 36, he took office as the youngest County Executive in county history. He was re-elected for a third term in 2019.

Marc Molinaro was first elected to public office at the age of 18 in 1994, serving on the Village of Tivoli Board of Trustees. In 1995, he became the youngest mayor in the United States. In 2006, he brought his passion for public service to Albany when elected to represent the 103rd District in the New York State Assembly.

In 2018 Marc ran for governor against Andrew Cuomo, receiving 2.2 million votes; More than any republican candidate since George Pataki in 2002. He called out Cuomo on his corruption, mishandling of state policies, and covering up of sexual assault and harassment.

In 2019, Marc won re-election with 60% of the vote, having been challenged by a former Cuomo administration employee with all the financial and political backing of the Governor. Statewide Democrats put in a lot of energy in ending Marc's political career and he beat them back handedly.

Now, in 2022 Marc is challenging 2 term incumbent Antonio Delgado in the new NY-19 congressional district. Based on 2018 results (the worst year for republicans in 40 years), Marc won this district by 3% despite being outspent by over \$25 million.

Over the past 10 years, Marc has cut Dutchess County taxes every year, reduced spending and the size of the county workforce, balanced the county finances, all while maintaining quality services. During the same period he worked with law enforcement on major criminal justice reforms that have reduced violent crime 50% (until bail reforms out of Albany).

Marc lives in Red Hook with his wife Corinne and children Abigail, Jack, Eli, and Theo.

## Pamela Helming, New York State Senator, 54th District



Pam Helming is the New York State Senator for the 54th District, representing all of Wayne and Seneca counties, parts of Ontario and Cayuga counties, the Town of Lansing in Tompkins County and the Town of Webster in Monroe County.

Prior to elected office, Pam worked over three decades in the private sector, including commercial property management, regulatory affairs, and land use planning. She also worked with individuals with developmental disabilities and managed several group homes, which is where she developed her passion for advocating for those who deserve to be heard. Pam then decided to dedicate her life to serving others.

Pam began her public service as a Canandaigua Town Board member and was then elected as Canandaigua Town Supervisor. As Supervisor, she was successful in making local government more efficient, transparent and accountable to taxpayers. She cut property tax rates, curtailed unnecessary expenses, oversaw critical infrastructure improvements, preserved vital farmland, and grew jobs by attracting new business investment.

Pam was elected to the New York State Senate in 2016 and began her first term in office on January 1, 2017. She is the first woman elected to the 54th Senate District, home to the birthplace of the women's rights movement.

Throughout her career, Senator Helming has been a vocal advocate for law enforcement and first responders, veterans, seniors, farmers, small business owners, children and families, and taxpayers. In a district surrounded by the beautiful Finger Lakes, she has been a longtime champion for the protection of local lakes and watersheds, clean drinking water, and the area's abundant natural resources.

One of Senator Helming's most significant legislative accomplishments was passage of the Finger Lakes Community Preservation Act to prohibit incinerators and protect the region's vast water and land resources and essential tourism economy.

Senator Helming has advanced measures providing tax relief to middle class families, increasing tax credits for small businesses, growing opportunities for local farmers, expanding mental health and other resources for veterans, boosting volunteer firefighter recruitment and support for rural EMS, and protecting seniors. She has also led the fight against policies that make New York less affordable and less safe.

As the daughter of a steelworker and elementary school employee, Senator Helming is a strong advocate for manufacturing and American-made products, the skilled trades and a quality education for all children.

Pam is especially proud to support U.S. service members and their families. Her father was a Korean War veteran and her son-in-law a West Point graduate and Green Beret. In 2021, Senator Helming helped achieve Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery's designation as New York's first state veterans cemetery.

As the first woman elected to represent the 54th Senate District, Pam is dedicated to mentoring young women, and encouraging and recruiting women to run for office and get involved in local and state government.

Senator Helming serves on the Cornell AgriTech Advisory Council; is a New York State representative on the National Conference of Insurance Legislators; a member of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus Task Force on Nutrient Management; and a member and active volunteer with the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association.

Senator Helming says it is the greatest honor of her life to serve as a New York State Senator and advocate for her constituents.

Pam and her husband, Gary have been residents of Canandaigua for more than 30 years. They raised two children, Catherine and Evan, and are now the proud grandparents of two grandchildren.

## Sue Serino, New York State Senator, 41st District



Senator Sue Serino started working at age 15 and never stopped. She learned early on the value of being able to capitalize on her incredible work ethic and that understanding has served to shape her entire adult life. Sue began as a waitress in a small, local restaurant, quickly working her way up to become a manager. After the birth of her son Anthony, she opened her first successful business as a childcare provider.

Having grown up in Dutchess County, Sue developed a distinct appreciation for the uniqueness of the area and its homes. The daughter of a hardworking immigrant, Sue was taught that homeownership was a critical component of achieving the “American Dream.” Hoping to make that dream a reality for her neighbors in the community, Sue took an interest in the real estate industry. She began working in the industry in 1996 and opened her own office in the City of Poughkeepsie shortly thereafter. In 2003, she moved her office to Hyde Park to accommodate her growing team of 26 sales associates.

As a small business owner, Sue has had to deal with the harsh realities of doing business in New York. Like so many New Yorkers, she was frustrated with high taxes and bureaucratic red tape that always seemed to stand in the way of real progress. It was that frustration that drove her determination to make a difference in her local communities.

Sue was elected to the Hyde Park Town Board in 2010 and then to the Dutchess County Legislature in 2011. As a county legislator, she was a vocal advocate for hardworking taxpayers and consistently resisted efforts to raise taxes and fees at the local level. Sue firmly believes that like so many hardworking families in our communities, our government needs to learn to do more with less and needs to prioritize measures that will directly benefit our local communities.

Having spent her life in Dutchess, Sue cares deeply about ensuring our communities remain places where our young people can afford to start their lives and our seniors can afford to stay and enjoy the lives that they worked so hard to build. Residents of the 41st District should know that Sue will fight tirelessly in Albany to achieve that goal.

## Daphne Jordan, New York State Senator, 43rd District



Daphne Jordan was re-elected in November of 2020 to continue serving, representing, and delivering real results for taxpayers, small businesses, and local communities.

Senator Jordan is a strong, outspoken, and fearless voice for taxpayers, leading the fight for a better New York State, one with more affordability, opportunity, and security for everyone. Senator Jordan has delivered real tax relief for hard-working families, advocated for economic development to create good-paying jobs, and grow New York's economy, cut Albany's wasteful government spending and job-killing red tape, opposed unfunded state mandates that drive up local property taxes, supported first responders, and honored military veterans. Senator Jordan has stood strong for the rule of law and proudly stands with the courageous men and women of law enforcement Senator Jordan earned a 100% rating – twice – from the

Conservative Party of New York State for her strong pro-taxpayer voting record. Senator Jordan was also named a 2022 State Legislator of the Year by the American Red Cross and is the 2020 recipient of the prestigious Lincoln Award from the Columbia County Republican Committee.

Senator Jordan serves as the Ranking Republican Member on the Senate's Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee, the State-Native American Relations Committee, the Libraries Committee, and the Women's Issues Committee, respectively. Senator Jordan also serves on the Senate Agriculture Committee, the Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs Committee, the Procurements and Contracts Committee, and is a member of the Legislative Women's Caucus. As a successful, bipartisan legislator, Senator Jordan has sponsored and co-sponsored over 70 state laws and had over 160 of her sponsored and co-sponsored bills pass the Senate. Prior to her election to the New York State Senate in the fall of 2018, Senator Jordan started two successful small businesses from scratch, employing 14 individuals. As a proven job creator, Senator Jordan understands the serious challenges facing small businesses and is a recognized pro-business champion within the New York State Legislature.

Before her election to the New York State Senate, Daphne Jordan also served as a member of the Halfmoon Town Board. As Town Councilwoman, she preserved and protected resident's special quality of life, and ensured that Halfmoon remained a great place for families by growing the Town's General Fund balance from \$70,000 to almost \$4 million, attracting new businesses, expanding recreational trails, and open spaces, and creating a Veteran's Memorial. In recognition of her many successes and dedicated service, Councilwoman Jordan was overwhelmingly elected to the Halfmoon Town Board in 2014 and re-elected in 2015 with no opposition.

Senator Jordan volunteered her time and talents serving as a Trustee, Member of the Executive Committee, and Treasurer for the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library. In these capacities, Senator Jordan successfully managed a \$3 million operating budget and \$15 million construction budget for the new library that was completed on budget.

Also, she developed the first template for the library's five-year budget plan and served as liaison to facilitate and procure a \$408,000 grant for a Green and LEED Certified Library. Senator Jordan currently serves as a Director of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library Foundation.

Senator Jordan graduated from Lehigh University in 1981, earning her B.A. in Government and English, and graduated from Penn State Dickinson School of Law in 1984, earning her Juris Doctor Degree. A USA Certified Swim Official, Senator Jordan is a proud, long-time "swim mom." Senator Jordan resides in the Town of Halfmoon with her husband Phil, and is the proud Mom to her two grown sons, Lane and James.

## Marjorie Byrnes, Assemblywoman, 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District



Marjorie Byrnes was elected to the New York State Assembly on November 6, 2018. Her district is comprised of Livingston County and parts of Monroe and Steuben counties.

As an Assemblywoman, Marjorie will advocate for increases to state-funded infrastructure programs such as CHIPS, PAVE-NY, and BRIDGE-NY. She plans to partner with infrastructure and transportation stakeholders to address New York's crumbling infrastructure. Marjorie believes the people of New York State are overly burdened by taxes, regulations, and red tape, and will fight for economic relief. She strongly supports term limits.

Marjorie has been an attorney for 32 years, and for ten years she served as a Rochester City Court Judge. During her time as a judge, she presided over thousands of criminal and civil cases. She was also Court Attorney to Livingston County Court Judge Dennis S. Cohen from 2006-2017. In January of 2017, she retired from the New York State court system and then served as a Caledonia Village Trustee.

Marjorie is a member of the Mt. Morris Sportsmen's Club, the Conesus Lake Sportsmen's Club, Rochester-Brooks Sportsmen's Club, S.C.O.P.E., GOA-NY, and the NRA. She is an avid outdoor enthusiast and a strong advocate for the 2nd Amendment. Marjorie will also push for increased school safety, specifically state-funded armed School Resource Officers in schools.

Marjorie has resided in Caledonia for 12 years, and is eager to use her experiences to make a difference in the lives of her constituents in the 133rd District.

## Mary Beth Walsh, Assemblywoman, 112th Assembly District



Mary Beth Walsh was elected to the New York State Assembly on November 8, 2016. She proudly serves the 112th Assembly District, which includes parts of Saratoga and Schenectady Counties.

Mary Beth's experience as an attorney, advocate for children and families and small business owner provides her with a unique perspective and background when dealing with pieces of legislation and initiatives. Throughout her first years in office, Mary Beth has fought for real ethics reform that would rid corruption from our state's capitol, advocated on behalf of direct care workers and New Yorkers with disabilities, worked to protect small business, middle-class families and seniors, stood up for upstate values and supported the importance of quality education for our children and alternative pathways upon graduation. In 2018, Mary Beth was named one of the National Federation of Independent Business' (NFIB) 'Guardians of Small Business' because of her staunch advocacy throughout the Legislative Session. She has worked across the aisle to pass bi-partisan legislation, and understands the importance of working as a team to get the best results for New York residents.

As one of only four female members of the Minority Conference, Mary Beth is passionate about encouraging young women to get involved in government and public service. Whether it's when local schools come to visit the capitol or she is being shadowed by girl scouts or female students, Mary Beth always takes the opportunity to stress the need for more women to take on leadership roles in their communities.

Back in the district, Mary Beth has toured countless businesses, not-for-profits, schools, military institutions and community centers. She has also hosted events that aim to provide important services and information to the residents of the district, including a Heroin & Opioid Addiction Informational Forum to help individuals navigate the dangers of the epidemic. She partnered with the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office to offer Drug Take-Backs and has sponsored several events encouraging the communities of the 112th Assembly District to ThinkDIFFERENTLY by creating a more inclusive environment for individuals with special needs. Mary Beth spearheaded a ThinkDIFFERENTLY Day at the Saratoga County Fair offering a sensory-friendly environment to ensure that individuals of all abilities are able to enjoy the fair. Saratoga County is the second county in the country to adopt an event of this kind.

Mary Beth is the Assistant Minority Leader Pro Tempore and sits on the Assembly Education, Judiciary, Libraries & Education Technology and Mental Health Committees. Walsh is also an active member American Irish Legislators Society and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair of the Legislative Women's Caucus.

Mary Beth continues to maintain her own private practice in Ballston Spa. She has been a practicing attorney for 30 years, and has practiced almost exclusively representing children in Family Court for the last decade. She is the municipal attorney for the Town of Edinburg and previously served as Saratoga Assistant County Attorney.

Prior to being elected to the Assembly, Mary Beth served in a variety of leadership positions in local and county government, including two terms as a Councilwoman in the Town of Ballston and as a member of Saratoga County IDA, Saratoga County Ethics Advisory Council and Saratoga County Autism Council.

Mary Beth and her husband Jim live in Burnt Hills, and they have six children in their blended family.

## Ashley Walukevich, RNC Regional Director



Ashley Walukevich is currently the Northeast Regional Political Director for the Republican National Committee.

In 2020, Ashley served as the Midwest Regional Political Director for the Republican National Committee overseeing 7 states with victories including winning Iowa for President Donald J. Trump, reelecting Senator Joni Ernst and flipping 4 congressional districts. Prior to joining the RNC in 2020, Ashley was a Regional Director for Delegates and Party Organization for President Donald J. Trump's Re-Election Campaign overseeing 19 states for ballot access, delegate selection, and state party relations.

In 2018, Ashley served as the New Hampshire State Director for the Republican National Committee. Before joining the RNC, Ashley worked as a Regional Field Director for the New Hampshire Republican State Committee; spent several years working for Senator Susan

Collins in her DC and Maine Offices and assisted with securing her reelection in 2014; and in 2012, worked for the Florida Republican Party as a Field Director for Mitt Romney's Presidential Campaign. Ashley is originally from New Hampshire and is a graduate of Saint Joseph's College of Maine.

## Liz Joy, 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Candidate



I grew up in the gorgeous foothills of the Adirondack Mountains in Upstate New York. While attending college, I met the love of my life, and now husband of 32 years. I am the proud mother of four adult children and a grandmother.

It was while my husband was Active-Duty Medical Corps that I began to fully appreciate the magnitude of freedoms we have in this great country called America. As we moved from military base to military base, I witnessed first-hand the sacrifices military men and women endured to maintain these freedoms on a daily basis. They selflessly gave and sacrificed with unparalleled patriotism for a land they proudly defended and protected.

Since that time, I've actively spoken and written about the importance of fighting for our constitutional freedoms and amendments. I've also worked on campaigns and done whatever I could to help strong candidates get into public office.

Aside from writing and speaking, I enjoy spending time with our family and day hiking in the beautiful mountains whenever possible. We truly have a gorgeous state, and it's worth fighting for!;

## Claudia Tenney, Congresswoman 22<sup>nd</sup> District

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Claudia Tenney was first elected to serve as a member of the United States House of Representatives in 2016, after winning one of the most expensive races in the nation. She won her second term in yet again among the most expensive and competitive congressional races in the country, winning by 109 votes after an over 3 month ballot canvassing process. Prior to her election Congress, Claudia served as a member of the New York State Assembly, where she led the charge holding Governor Cuomo accountable. Prior to public service, Claudia was an accomplished attorney and longtime small business owner. Claudia was the co-owner and legal counsel to Mid-York Press, Inc., a commercial printing and manufacturing firm started by her grandfather in 1946. Claudia is the daughter of the late Honorable John R. Tenney, who served as a Justice of the Supreme Court of New York in the Fifth Judicial District from 1969 through 2003, and the mother of U.S. Naval Academy graduate Trey Cleary, who serves as a Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps.

## Elizabeth Lupo Tesoriero, Children's Book Author



Elizabeth Lupo Tesoriero is the author of the children's book, *When You Stand For Me, I'm Alive*. Elizabeth holds a Master's degree in Literacy and Bachelors in Elementary Education, with a concentration in history. She has been teaching children for over a decade.

## Will Barclay, State Assembly Republican Minority Leader



Will Barclay was first elected as a member of the New York State Assembly on November 5, 2002. He currently represents the 120th Assembly District, which includes the Oswego County towns of Albion, Amboy, Boylston, Constantia, Granby, Hastings, Mexico, New Haven, Orwell, Palermo, Parish, Redfield, Richland, Sandy Creek, Schroepfel, Scriba, Volney, West Monroe, and Williamstown; the cities of Oswego and Fulton; the Onondaga County town of Lysander; and the Jefferson County town of Ellisburg.

In January 2020, he was elected unanimously by his colleagues as the Leader of the Assembly Minority Conference.

During his career in the Assembly, Leader Barclay has served as the Ranking Minority Member on the Assembly Ways and Means Committee and held roles including Deputy Minority Leader, Assistant Minority Leader, Chair of the Minority Joint Conference Committee, and Vice Chair of the Minority Program Committee.

In addition, Leader Barclay formerly served as the Chair of the Minority Hunting and Fishing Task Force as a member of the Assembly Minority Task Force on Manufacturing, and the Assembly Minority Task Force on Small Business.

An attorney and a businessman, he is a partner in the Syracuse law firm of Barclay Damon, LLP, where he specializes in business law. Because of his experience in business and law, Leader Barclay knows firsthand the challenges the business community faces in New York and he has focused his

legislative agenda on policies that will benefit the upstate economy and the working men and women of his district.

Leader Barclay is a graduate of St. Lawrence University and Syracuse University College of Law. After graduating from law school, he served as a law clerk for Roger J. Miner, a judge of the United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, in Albany and New York City.

Born in Syracuse, Leader Barclay is a lifelong resident of Central New York and represents the eighth generation of his family living in Pulaski, New York. He and his wife, Margaret, have two sons.

## David DiPietro, Assemblyman 147<sup>th</sup> District



David DiPietro was elected to serve the constituents of the 147<sup>th</sup>. Assembly District on November 6, 2012. DiPietro is the State Ranker on the Small Business Committee and in 2020 was chosen State Republican Minority Whip. DiPietro has won the prestigious New York State Conservative Party “Conservative of the Year” Award 5 times! In 2020 DiPietro was the Only State elected official to receive a Perfect “100” ranking. David’s district includes the southern portion of Erie County and all of Wyoming County.

DiPietro is the State leader for all 2<sup>nd</sup>. Amendment protection issues and leads the fight to restore all Constitutional Freedoms. David is the leader in New York State ensuring individuals medical freedoms! DiPietro is working hard in Albany to cut taxes and reduce the size of our bloated Government, so that small business leaders can invest in their companies and hire more workers to improve our economy. David is also fighting to protect our local family farms and agriculture. DiPietro is also a champion for the Pro-Life movement.

A dedicated public servant, DiPietro brings valuable local government experience to the State Assembly. He has served as Trustee and Mayor of the Village of East Aurora. David was recognized at the state of Erie County as the leader in New York State in Mergers and Consolidations for government departments and services. As Mayor of East Aurora, DiPietro cut taxes 3 consecutive years. David reduced the actual size of government and saved taxpayers millions of dollars.

As a small business owner, DiPietro has firsthand experience dealing with the taxes and fees that kill economic development and force businesses to leave New York. In 1989 he took over the family business, Sparkle Cleaners in Amherst, and within three years tripled sales and doubled the number of employees. David added two locations and a number of corporate accounts and routes. David also worked at M & T Bank in Buffalo in the Trust Division and worked as a computer and accounting consultant to small businesses in Western New York.

DiPietro attended East Aurora High School and graduated with a B.S. Degree in Business Administration from Wittenberg University. Active in his community, he was a member of the East Aurora Moose Lodge 370, American Legion Post 362, East Aurora Rotary Club, Six Towns Youth Court, Allied Sportsman Gun Club, Civil Air Patrol Auxiliary and the Boys and Girls Club of East Aurora.

David and his wife, the former Theresa M. Pimpo, are members of Grace and Truth Church. They reside in their hometown of East Aurora with their three children, Daniel, Ryan and Ava.

## Robert Ortt, State Senate Republican Minority Leader



Robert G. Ortt was sworn into office as a New York State Senator for the 62nd District in January of 2015. From January 1st, 2010 to December 31st, 2014, Rob served as Mayor of North Tonawanda. In that role, he developed executive experience with an in-depth understanding of local government. Prior to becoming Mayor, he served as the City Treasurer and then, Clerk-Treasurer of North Tonawanda. On April 3rd, 2007, Rob was appointed as City Treasurer by the Common Council. On November 6th, 2007, he was elected to serve a four-year term by his fellow citizens, which began on January 1st, 2008, after he was officially sworn in at City Hall. On November 4th, 2008, the people of North Tonawanda voted to eliminate the position of City Clerk and combine the offices of the City Clerk and City Treasurer to form one position of Clerk-Treasurer, making Rob the first-ever City official to hold that title.

Rob enlisted in N.Y. Army National Guard in October 2001 in direct response to the attacks on September 11th. He is a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, where he served from March 2008 until December of the same year. His mission was to serve as a combat mentor/advisor to the Afghan National Police in Kandahar City, the second-largest city in Afghanistan. As the Executive Officer /Unit Movement Officer for an infantry company, he was responsible for ensuring that all the logistical needs of the company were met to facilitate operational readiness, coordinate and run all company meetings, and act as the commander in his absence. He successfully

moved \$10 million worth of equipment to Afghanistan and back to the United States.

He is the recipient of the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation Medal, the Afghan Campaign Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge in recognition of his service.

Prior to entering public service, Rob served as an independent personal financial analyst with Primerica Financial Services. There, he held multiple licenses, including the series 6 & 63 investment licenses, mortgage broker license, and NYS life insurance license. He specialized in assisting middle-income families to reduce their debt and save enough to be able to retire with dignity.

At the start of the 2019 Legislative session, Rob became the Ranking Member of the New York State Senate Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security, and Military Affairs. One of the accomplishments he is most proud of was introducing and expanding the Joseph P. Dwyer Program across western New York. The program provides peer-to-peer support program for veterans facing the challenges of post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injuries, and reintegration into civilian life.

In June of 2020, Rob was elected the Minority Leader by his colleagues in the Republican Conference.

Rob lives in North Tonawanda with his wife, Meghan.

## Rob Astorino, 2022 Gubernatorial Candidate



Rob Astorino is a former two-term Westchester County Executive who currently works as a business and media consultant, and serves as an independent director on two company boards. Previously, Astorino was a National and Political Affairs contributor for CNN, and was appointed by Cardinal Timothy Dolan as his delegate to the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

In 2014, Astorino was the Republican nominee for Governor of New York. Written off by the media and political class and thoroughly outspent by a popular governor in a heavily Democratic state, Astorino stunned everyone by holding Andrew Cuomo to only 54%, the closest election of Cuomo's career. Astorino's impressive 40% and 500,000 vote deficit was by far the best GOP performance since Gov. George Pataki won re-election in 2002. Astorino painted the state red, sweeping 46 of 62 counties and winning the state outside of NYC.

A Wall Street Journal editorial called Astorino's economic blueprint at the time, "A Plan for New York's Revival." Astorino famously challenged Cuomo in their one and only debate to "look voters in the eye" and tell them he wasn't under federal investigation for corruption. Cuomo declined. Astorino then called on voters to help him end "Cuomo's cesspool of corruption." Astorino was years

ahead of his time in calling out Cuomo's corruption and incompetence.

Astorino was twice elected Westchester County Executive by 13-point margins in a county with almost three times as many Democrats as Republicans. He won the Hispanic vote, captured more than a quarter of the Black vote and pulled in more than 20% of Democrats.

His record as a strong executive is unmatched. In his eight years, Astorino built a bipartisan coalition that reduced property taxes, held spending flat, decreased the workforce by 16%, grew the economy, reached ground-breaking labor contracts, and negotiated major public-private partnerships for Playland Amusement Park, Westchester County Airport and the \$1.2 billion North 60 Biotech complex. He also gained national attention by standing up to and defeating HUD in its attempt to dismantle local zoning. And despite his record of bipartisan governance, Astorino would use his veto pen when necessary to stop tax hikes or when he vetoed legislation that would have made Westchester a "Sanctuary County."

Before taking office as County Executive on Jan. 1, 2010, Astorino had a long career in the TV and radio industry. He was the station manager and program director of The Catholic Channel on Sirius-XM Satellite Radio and hosted a weekly radio show from St. Patrick's Cathedral with the Cardinal-Archbishop of New York. In 2001, he helped launch Disney's ESPN Radio in New York and became the station's senior producer, as well as executive producer of "The Michael Kay Show."

Astorino earned a BA degree in Communications at Fordham University, where he also minored in Spanish and Political Science. In 2001, he studied in Barcelona, Spain, and received a Spanish Immersion Diploma from the Enforex School of International Studies and speaks Spanish to this day.

Astorino is a lifelong resident of Westchester. He and his wife, Sheila, are the parents of three children: Sean, 18, Kiley, 17, Ashlin, 12, and two dogs, Bella and Luna.

## Andrew Giuliani, 2022 Gubernatorial Candidate



Andrew Giuliani is a lifelong New Yorker who was born and raised in Manhattan. He achieved academic All-ACC honors at Duke University before graduating in 2009 and then turning professional in golf where he won eight tournaments. During that time, Andrew interned in finance and real estate at CapRok Capital, Brownstone Investment Group, and Jones Lang Lasalle. In 2016, Andrew volunteered on the Trump Campaign in surrogate relations, traveling to the Republican and Democrat National Conventions and all three Presidential debates.

He then joined the Trump administration as Associate Director of the Office of Public Liaison in 2017. In 2019, he was promoted to Special Assistant to the President. His role consisted of working with high-level business leaders and CEOs to help President Trump and his Cabinet Secretaries craft policy, specifically including the 2017 tax cuts, the deregulation of businesses of all sizes, and was proud of his work on the Opioid task force.

In his final year at the White House, Andrew was directly involved with several initiatives that saved millions of American jobs amid the coronavirus pandemic. He collaborated with the Department of Treasury and business leaders to craft the Paycheck Protection Program and worked to vet and shape President Trump's Great American Reopening Committee.

For New Yorkers, Andrew helped to preserve thousands of MTA jobs by facilitating CARES Act funding. He also worked with the Treasury Department and Health and Human Services to

ensure that the \$3.9 million that had been inadvertently taken out of the 9/11 First Responders Fund over thirteen years and three administrations was completely refunded.

After leaving the White House, Andrew worked as an on-air contributor and political analyst for Newsmax Television. He is currently on the board of the United States Holocaust Museum and has been involved in helping Tunnel 2 Towers, Heart of a Lion Foundation, The First Tee, City Meals on Wheels, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, The Maurer Foundation, and United Cerebral Palsy. He is married to his best friend in the world, Zivile. They met at Yankee Stadium on September 25, 2014, Derek Jeter's last home game as a New York Yankee. They were married on July 14, 2017, at Saint Joseph's of Greenwich Village and celebrated 100 yards from where Andrew's great grandfather first stepped foot in America, in Battery Park.

## Harry Wilson, 2022 Gubernatorial Candidate



Harry grew up in a working-class, Greek immigrant family in Johnstown, NY, the son of a bartender and a seamstress. Harry became the first in his family to go to college, working his way through by cleaning bathrooms, bartending, driving the shuttle van and a variety of other jobs. Harry met his wife, Eva, in college, and they will be celebrating their 25th anniversary in June. They have four wonderful daughters, ages 21, 18, 17 and 13.

Harry has spent his career turning around underperforming companies as one of the leading turnaround experts in the country. Through this work, he has helped save hundreds of thousands of American jobs.

In 2010, Harry ran for state comptroller as an outsider with the most fiscally conservative platform in decades, identifying tens of billions of dollars of misspent taxpayer money. His first and only campaign was the most successful run, by far, by a statewide Republican candidate in the last 20 years. Harry lost by 4%, while the average Republican who has run statewide in the last twenty years has lost by 27 points. In the year Harry ran, the top of the ticket lost by 32 points -- and no one else has come within 13 points since 2002.

Through his business success and family life, Harry has been blessed to live the American Dream. Now, he wants to Turnaround New York to make sure all New Yorkers get the same opportunities he has had. All New Yorkers desperately need a governor with the proven executive, leadership and turnaround skills to truly fix our broken state, and Republicans need a nominee with the proven ability to win enough crossover votes statewide to ensure we win in November.

## Alison Esposito, 2022 Lieutenant Gubernatorial Candidate



Following in the footsteps of her father, NYPD Chief Michael Esposito, proudly serving New York City, Alison has served in the New York City Police Department since 1997, rising to the rank of Deputy Inspector. Alison joined the NYPD because she believes that New Yorkers, especially those who need help, are in danger, and cannot protect themselves, have the right to be protected.

After joining the NYPD, she started off on patrol in Manhattan's Midtown South precinct. From there, she went on to join the Anti-Crime team, a plain clothes unit targeting violent street crime, and after taking down some of the worst criminals, she joined the NYPD's Emergency Services Unit. Alison then served in the Bronx and on the NYPD's Gang Unit and on many other assignments, which brought her to the 70th precinct in Brooklyn where she served as Deputy Inspector.

For too long, Alison has witnessed the state and city she loves deteriorate in a spiraling decline. Fatally flawed liberal policies like cashless bail, defund the police, the Less is More Act, DAs like Alvin Bragg who won't enforce the law and so much more have surrendered our streets to criminals. Alison has fought crime her whole adult life and is more than ready to tackle the rampant crime and violence facing our state. Now more

than ever, New York needs capable, determined, and courageous leadership that will protect everyday New Yorkers, drive down their cost of living, and restore our state to glory.

Not too long ago, New York had the reputation as the greatest state in the greatest country in the world. It's about time we get back to acting like it. She is ready to fix Albany alongside Congressman Lee Zeldin on day one.

Raised in Highland Mills, New York, in Orange County, Alison Esposito attended the State University of New York at Delhi, City University of New York's John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) National Academy at Quantico.

## Joe Pinion, 2022 Senate Candidate



Joe Pinion is an advocate, entrepreneur, and Political News Commentator. Throughout his life, Joe has witnessed both the power of opportunity and the pernicious impact of government driven neglect.

From the faces within his own family to the stories he has helped explore from behind a News Desk, Joe personally understands the realities confronting the everyday people that call New York home.

Joe, born and raised in Yonkers, NY by his mother and grandmother, graduated from Horace Mann High School. A Standout Student-Athlete, he was recruited to play football at Colgate University, where he was a 2 year Varsity Letter winner and a Member of the 2003 team that finished 15-1 and played in the I-AA National Championship.

As a Political News Commentator, Joe has appeared regularly on prominent news networks and talk shows and was most recently the host of his own show “Saturday Agenda” on Newsmax.

As a business professional, Joe has a wealth of experience in the private sector and non-profit space with nearly two decades of expertise in healthcare, media, and renewable energy.

At every stage of his professional life, Joe has effectively leveraged his talents to try and give a voice to the voiceless and to bring attention to issues that often fall through the cracks.

As director of youth development at the Morris Height Health Center located in the nation’s poorest congressional district in the Bronx, Joe helped integrate health services with community engagement to spearhead a bridge grant program designed to provide gap funding for children within the community to improve college accessibility.

As a national spokesman for RePublicEN and a fellow of the non-partisan group DeployUS, Joe has been a champion for real, non-governmental clean energy solutions.

And in his personal life, Joe has fought for community driven solutions to help end the ravages of poverty and despair that afflicts far too many Americans.

Like too many New Yorkers, Joe experienced first-hand the government failing at one of its most fundamental obligations to protect our most vulnerable when he lost his 100-year-old grandmother who died of COVID, alone in a nursing home.

Today, Joe is running for U.S. Senate because our state and our country are in trouble. For too long, career politicians like Chuck Schumer have failed the 99%, choosing instead to serve the political cronies and own self interests. In Chuck Schumer’s rise to power and fame as leader of the Senate, he left the rest of us behind choosing to serve as loyal leader of the extreme radicals in Washington rather than side with us.

It’s time we send regular people with an extraordinary vision to represent our shared values in Washington and look out for our best interests, not the special interests.

## Michael Henry, 2022 Attorney General Candidate



Michael Henry is the son of a retired Mount Vernon detective and a surgery center manager from the Bronx. He knows that hard work leads to accomplishment.

But this opportunity is eroding in New York because a crime crisis is crippling every part of this state. Every single day, victim-generating laws mean working class people fear the streets. He decided to use his hard-earned experience to Save our State and run for Attorney General.

Michael is an experienced attorney who owns a New York City based, boutique law firm which specializes in commercial litigation, creditor bankruptcy and PACA Trust. His work has successfully recovered millions of dollars in assets for clients ranging from billion dollar banks to small business owners.

In federal court, he works with clients pursuing the statutory provisions of the Perishable Agricultural Culture Commodities Act (PACA).

Michael most recently set a court precedent in the Eastern District of New York, where a judge issued a slip opinion in response to the court's agreement with Michael's memorandum of law defining the court's jurisdiction.

Michael is admitted to practice in the State of New York, Eastern District of New York, Southern District of New York, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and has successfully represented numerous asylum seekers fleeing Communist China before the Executive Office of Immigration Review.

In law school, Michael was a judicial intern for The Honorable John M. Czygier, Jr., Suffolk County Surrogate's Court. Michael has been published in the New York Law Journal Estate of Brice Edward Lambert, New York Law Journal, October 2014 (contribution to drafting acknowledged by the Suffolk County Surrogate's Court).

Michael spearheaded an effort to have his law school publish a Conservative edition of their law review; it included politicians and judges such as Gerald Walpin, Sen. Ted Cruz, and Hon. Loretta A. Preska. Michael attended Touro Law Center on Long Island as an evening student working by day to pay his own way.

Always pushing the Republican message, Michael has appeared as both a legal and political analyst on local and national television and talk radio programs. Michael has authored columns on a variety of topics over the years, including immigration, and public policy, and has worked with both political candidates and political organizations throughout the United States.

Prior to practicing law, Michael was employed in the mortgage industry, gaining significant management experience. He managed millions of dollars of loans, employees, branch offices, and handled regulatory monitoring with the NY Department of Financial Services. Michael handled compliance and auditing matters in dealings with the New York Department of Financial Services.

## Paul Rodriguez, 2022 Comptroller Candidate



Paul Rodriguez is a global financial expert with several decades of experience funding, financing, and investing money (can you say billions of dollars?) at some of the world's most widely recognized financial institutions. Paul brings to the race a deep background in the world of finance ranging from major multinational corporations to advising small businesses. As a political outsider from the private-sector, Paul is running to professionalize the Office of the Comptroller and serve as a much-needed watchdog for New York taxpayers and the state's \$212 billion budget.

Paul served on Wall Street for more than 25 years at various leading firms, including Salomon Brothers, Merrill Lynch, UBS, BBVA, and ANZ. He began his career as an equity research analyst, later transitioning to credit analysis and eventually becoming a global banker working with multinational corporations in the United States and internationally.

Paul was born in Queens to working-class Puerto Rican parents. His father served as a Vietnam-era Marine combat veteran and his mother as an executive assistant. His parents separated when Paul was an infant, and his mother relocated them to Puerto Rico, where he lived for 10 years before moving back to the States. Paul learned Spanish as his first language and has worked and traveled

throughout Latin America and Europe during his career.

Like many New Yorkers, Paul experienced the struggles facing single-parent households and learned early on the value of hard work and contributing to the family. During his studies at Northwestern University, he served as a Midshipman in the Naval ROTC program. The grit and determination he developed as a young boy have served him throughout his life, later helping him beat cancer.

Paul has always had a passion for service. He is a past Executive Board member of the Manhattan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Brooklyn-Kings County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is also a past president of the New York Young Republican Club. He ran for Congress against Rep. Nydia Velazquez in 2004 in one of the most culturally and ethnically diverse districts in New York City, encompassing Brooklyn, Queens, and Manhattan. In 2021, Paul was the Conservative Party nominee for New York City Comptroller. He most recently served in the Archdiocese of New York, managing their extensive multi-million dollar fundraising campaigns.

In addition to his studies at Northwestern, Paul earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and a Certificate in Global Policy Studies at the University of Georgia. He also completed a Fellowship in Economics at Stanford University. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife of 17 years (Rocio) and two of his three daughters, aged 10 (Natalia) and 14 (Ana Sofia). His oldest daughter, aged 26 (Gabriela), lives in Puerto Rico.

## Nicholas A. Langworthy, NYS Republican Committee Chairman



Nicholas A. Langworthy, 41, was unanimously elected as Chairman of the New York Republican State Committee on July 1, 2019, making him the youngest person to lead the Party in its history.

Langworthy ran for chair on his vision to rebuild, retool, and revitalize the New York Republican Party. His tenure represents a new era of leadership for the NYGOP that will focus on growing and strengthening the grassroots of the Party, recruiting strong candidates, and winning elections by making a robust case for Republican principles of safety, smaller government, lower taxes, and individual liberty.

Prior to his ascension as State Chairman, Langworthy served as the Erie County Republican Chairman for nine years where he was unanimously re-elected five times. Langworthy made history then as well, being the youngest person ever to be elected chairman of any political party in Erie County at just 29 years of age.

In his tenure as ECGOP Chairman, Nick Langworthy re-energized and modernized the Republican Party, with a strong emphasis on creating winning models in the digital age.

His efforts helped overcome a 2:1 Democrat enrollment advantage that led to major Republican victories, including winning 8 of the last 10 countywide races and a majority in the county legislature. In 2018, his organization successfully returned all three Republican Senators to Albany.

Langworthy's influence and leadership in New York State politics have been independently recognized in Buffalo Business First Magazine's "Power 250" Ranking of Western New York's most influential people every single year from 2013 to 2019. He also has been included in City and State Magazine's list of New York State's "Power 100" and was named one of their "40 under 40" in 2017. Following his successful election in 2016, President Donald J. Trump named Langworthy to the executive committee of his transition team.

From a very early age, Langworthy displayed a passion for government and political service. As a student at Niagara University, he founded a chapter of the College Republicans. He went on to travel across the state recruiting students to start campus chapters and to get involved in national, state and local campaigns during his two terms as Chairman of the New York State College Republicans.

Before he served as Chairman, Langworthy worked on the district staff, then as campaign manager for Congressman Tom Reynolds. Langworthy went on to serve as District Director for Congressman Chris Lee, helping to ensure Western New Yorkers received the effective representation and constituent service they deserve.

A lifelong Western New Yorker, Langworthy is a 2003 graduate of Niagara University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He is a 1999 graduate of Pine Valley Central School in South Dayton, NY. He and his wife, Erin, reside in North Tonawanda with their daughter, Madeline.

## Gerard Kassar, NYS Conservative Party Chairman



Jerry Kassar is a life-long resident of Brooklyn, New York having been raised in the Dyker Heights section of Brooklyn. Jerry attended St. Ephrem Elementary School and Xaverian High School. Jerry earned a BBA in Accounting from Pace University in 1981.

In 1979 as a college student Jerry joined the staff of Assemblywoman Florence Sullivan. This was the beginning of a forty year Legislative career in which he held several senior staff positions in the State Assembly Minority. In 2003, Jerry joined the central staff of the NYS Senate Majority eventually being appointed State Senator Martin Golden's Chief of Staff in 2004, a position he held until his retirement in December of 2018.

In 1996 Governor George Pataki nominated Jerry to serve as a NYS Commissioner of the Interstate Environmental Commission a tri-state environmental agency. He served in this unpaid position until 2013.

Always active in politics, Jerry at 22 was elected to the National Board of Young Americans For Freedom then the nation's largest young conservative organization. He also held volunteer positions in NYS Citizens for Reagan, a grassroots advocacy group for the President's policies.

In the Conservative Party, Jerry has been a District Leader, State Committee Member, County Executive Director in Brooklyn, Member of the State Executive Committee, Brooklyn County Chairman for thirty years and a Vice Chairman of the State Party for twenty five years prior to being elected Chairman.

Jerry was twice nominated to be a Presidential elector including as elector for President Trump in 2016.

Jerry has played an active role in countless campaigns. In this capacity, he has helped elect many individuals to local, state and federal office. Jerry was the Political Director of John Faso's NYS Comptroller campaign in 2002 and a senior advisor to Nicole Malliotakis's 2017 Campaign for NYC Mayor.

Jerry is active in his community. He is a former President and current Director of the Dyker Heights Civic Association and served on the Board of the former Victory Memorial Hospital. Jerry writes a column entitled "Common Sense" which appears weekly in the Brooklyn Home Reporter for better than thirty years.

Jerry, together with his wife Janet, resides in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn.

## Lee Zeldin, Congressman 1<sup>st</sup> District



Lee Zeldin was born and raised on Long Island. He grew up in Suffolk County and graduated from William Floyd High School in Mastic Beach, where his identical twin daughters attend school today. He earned his bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Albany and then his law degree from Albany Law School, becoming New York's youngest attorney at the time at the age of 23. Lee spent four years on Active Duty with the U.S. Army after completing ROTC and served in different capacities, including as a Military Intelligence Officer, Prosecutor, and Military Magistrate. In the summer of 2006, while assigned to the Army's elite 82nd Airborne Division, Lee deployed to Iraq with an infantry battalion of fellow paratroopers in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2007, Lee returned to Suffolk County with his family. It was at this time that Lee transitioned from Active Duty to the Army Reserve, where he currently serves with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

In 2008, Lee established a successful law practice in Smithtown, NY. Elected to the New York State Senate two years later, in 2010, Lee's been working hard every day since to keep the promises he made to the hard-working families he represents.

In the State Senate, Lee:

- Led the successful effort to repeal the MTA Payroll Tax for 80 percent of employers, a job killing tax that was hurting small businesses.
- Cosponsored the nation's strongest property tax cap, which became law
- Reduced middle-income tax rates in New York to the lowest level in 60 years.
- Secured the repeal of the Saltwater Fishing License Fee.
- Created the PFC Joseph Dwyer Veteran Peer Support Program to help our returning veterans cope with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
- Authored the law to protect our fallen veterans and their families from protests at military burials.

Lee was then elected to the United States Congress in 2014, representing New York's First Congressional District, and has now won seven consecutive races since 2010 in purple NYC suburban districts, unseating two Democrat incumbents along the way. In Congress, Lee quickly became a leading voice in America on top local, domestic and foreign policy issues:

- Combating and defeating MS-13 on Long Island, leading the charge in New York and nationally against cashless bail, opposing all efforts to defund, dismantle or abolish police, and providing law enforcement the resources they need to fight gang violence and other crimes in our communities, including bulletproof vests.
- Securing the repeal of many harmful, job killing regulations, with the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act, and many other initiatives, to improve our business climate and grow our economy.
- Leading the charge to end all COVID mandates.
- Saving Plum Island, by securing the repeal of a 2008 federal law requiring the island to be sold off to the highest bidder.
- Delivering a \$1.5 billion boost in border security resources, helping to choke off the flow of illegal migration across our borders.
- Introducing and passing into law his Adult Day Health Care legislation for disabled veterans and opening a new health care clinic for East End veterans.
- Delivering the Electron Ion Collider "discovery machine" to Brookhaven National Lab that will enable advancements in national security, medical and cancer research, astrophysics, and more and create an extensive number of jobs.
- Advancing his law enforcement bill of rights, which would help ensure that our great law enforcement officers and the people they serve are protected.
- Championing the expansion of the Dwyer Program nationally, to help all of our nation's veterans access the resources they need.
- Securing much needed support of treatment, enforcement, and prevention for those affected by the heroin and opioid abuse crisis.
- Leading the effort against the fatally flawed Iran Nuclear Deal.
- Co-authoring a bipartisan resolution (H.Res. 246) that passed the House opposing the anti-Israel and antisemitic Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement.
- Working with the Army Corps of Engineers to protect our coastlines, advancing the ambitious Fire Island to Montauk Point project, in addition to several other vital projects on the north and south shores of Long Island.
- Co-Chairing the Long Island Sound Caucus and advancing top priorities for the Long Island Sound Program, National Estuary Program and SeaGrant.
- Co-chairing, as one of only two Jewish Republicans in Congress, the House Republican Israel Caucus, and serving on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Financial Services Committee, as well as four House Subcommittees.
- Successfully resolving over 17,000 constituent cases in favor of his constituents.

Lee and his wife, Diana, reside in Shirley with their twin fifteen-year old daughters, Mikayla and Arianna.