

and dreams for 2022 in part is to get past the pandemic that has affected members and their families. Things have been really hard on all of us, especially those who lost loved ones. We have learned to overcome, adapt and do whatever comes our way. That Long Island Division is extremely proud of every member. Long Island has come through the past few years and has accomplished things for the members, including contracts, superior representation and truly caring for each other. We have evolved into a family type of atmosphere with more members involved every day. We can't make everyone happy, but we sure do try. From the Business Agents to the liaisons and stewards, we have an army of willing and able members on a daily basis. I can't thank them enough for the support and forward to a bright future here on Long Island. Stay in 2022!

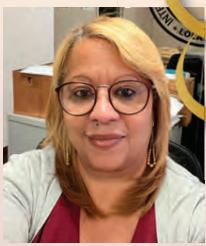
Joe Carenza, Jr.

Business Agent of the Long Island Division for Local 237
Member on the Executive Board



again when the streets are decorated with Christmas lights and decorations. Approaching and although through the pandemic, we are confident 2022 will bring some normalcy and something everyone a Healthy New Year. Gigi.

Sue
Business Agent
Assistant



to the fullest!

Lie Cotto

Business Agent,
Local 237 Law
Enforcement Division



But the last year, I must admit that mixed with sadness caused by what was lost due to the pandemic, places and things previously admired were also much I did adore. The goodwill of friends and even strangers, who started every conversation, email or text with: "Hope you're ending with 'Take care.'" Working remotely and its advantages too----I could get a lot of things done in a three-hour commute and who cared? Less time was spent on that too. Only a few cosmetic improvements. Of course, the new normal felt like anything but normal.

Due to any semblance of normal means adhering to many requirements and making changes brought about by the pandemic. Yes, our favorite birthday celebration place changed ownership, and the long-held "secret recipe" for their renowned Frozen didn't elicit the usual guessing any longer. I knew what it was this time: it lacked the magic. There's the fabulous Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Musical Hall, a family tradition with my own grandmother taking me to see it as a child. After a one-year closure, it resumed and my little grandsons Mason, age 5, and our new addition, Teddy, 11 months, were in awe as the Rockettes kicked away. But there were five separate check points for masks in-place from the entrance to the seats, making a trip back to the entrance---or any other essential item---out of the question.

To make a New Year's wish, an old year's question must be answered first: What does not enough chocolate really matter? While the answer is obvious, so is the wish. The pandemic remains a killer. It took lives and livelihoods. But at least for me, it really matters are family and friends. My wish for the New Year is that we all learn

Shafrahan

Communications and Political Liaison for Local 237



Mason and Teddy at Radio City Music Hall

One year ago, as we were bidding "good riddance" to 2020 - the worst year of our professional and in many cases personal lives, having stared serious, life-threatening illness in the eye, as well as the boredom and isolation of shut-downs and quarantine, we hoped that 2021 would be significantly better. Instead, 2021 proved to be more of the same, even if lockdowns have been lifted for now, and there are relatively effective vaccines and boosters.

What does 2022 hold for us, both personally and as CSBA members working as Agency Attorneys, Attorney Interns, Attorneys-at-Law, and Student Legal Specialists and Assistants? Whereas no one knows for sure, our goals are clear:

- Achieving a new collective bargaining agreement with a significant wage increase and retroactive pay from when the old one expired (April 17, 2021).
- Obtaining the ability to perform a substantial amount of our work from home ("telework" or "telecommuting"), which we proved we could effectively perform for approximately eighteen months, until it was unilaterally ended on September 13, 2021. Our members have spoken loudly and clearly, via our survey (published on our website www.csbanyc.org and on our FB page CSBA Attorneys): the vast majority of us want the ability to telework at least 2-3 days per week, and our morale and desire to stay with our agency will be substantially reduced if we do not obtain it. This is consistent with the expectations of professionals nationwide. Employers who do not offer same will not be competitive in their recruitment and retention efforts, as they are demonstrating, consciously or otherwise, that they do not care what we want and reasonably expect.
- Once and for all, eliminate any residency restrictions for our titles, which has now been the status quo for our colleagues at Corporation Counsel, NYCHA, the Transit Authority and ACS FCLS for years.
- Keeping us as safe as possible from COVID variants and other airborne illnesses at the office and during our absolutely essential commutes, and also safe from a perceived increase in crime and increasingly aggressive homeless population.
- Helping more members achieve relief from crushing student debt.
- Doing all we can to make our union, our employer and our communities welcoming to all, free from the burdens of racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, sexism, agism, homophobia, transphobia and all other prejudice and barriers to full and equal opportunity.
- Creating or substantially increasing participation in key CSBA committees, including Legislation and Political Outreach.

None of this is easy or guaranteed, but together, with your participation and support, and a bit of luck, this could be among our best years in recent memory. Here's to a very happy, healthy and safe 2022 for all of us and for our families, friends and colleagues!

Saul Fishman
CSBA President



Auld Lang Syne

This year has again been very challenging due to Covid. Through it all, my members have persevered. It hasn't always been easy. Although things were chaotic, we were able to work with management to take care of both of my areas and get them new contracts. At Jakes 58, we actually reopened (for the second time) the contract. We were able to finalize a contract that was all about the members. They received great wage increases, decrease in medical benefits and two paid holidays. The contract was ratified overwhelmingly. Over at the other area of Suffolk Off Track Betting, we were able to negotiate a contract that gave the members increases over the duration of the contract and kept all their other benefits intact. I am proud to be the business agent for these members! Wishing all the members and their families Happy Holidays and A Healthy and Happy New Year!

Cathy Rice

Trustee on the Executive Board



This is my "hope to see happen in the near future". Some of our other daily duties entail:

Working with parents and Community to implement healthy lifestyles at the home, presenting at PTA meetings and other school/ community functions to advocate for health and nutrition.

Before the Pandemic we were able to advocate more on nutrition/ healthy lifestyle within our communities.

I am hopeful that the near future will enable managers to have more time to promote and educate the community on Health and Wellness and demonstrates how, The Office of Food and Nutrition Services, contributes and provides to that Health and Wellness in our schools.

Dawn Lanzaro

School Food Service Manager, District 18

