

10.8.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID:

- Day 222
- 145,000 tests yesterday
- 10 fatalities
- 754 hospitalizations
- 172 ICU patients
- 67 intubations
- 5.8% infection rate in hotspots
- 1.01% statewide infection rate
- Gov. cited reports saying infection rate is going up, Gov. said this is not the case
- Clusters are increasing, are 6% of state's population
- Statewide infection rate is down in last few weeks

Infection Rate by Region:

- Capital Region - 0.5%
- Central NY - 1%
- Finger Lakes - 0.3%
- Long Island - 1%
- Mid Hudson - 2.2%
- Mohawk Valley - 0.5%
- North Country - 0.7%
- Southern Tier - 1.3%
- NYC - 1.2%
- Western 1.4%

Ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities:

- Gov. stressed safety protocols were not enforced in these communities previously
- Gov. argued current restrictions are less strict than previous restrictions, enforcement is what is being protested
- Gov. likened current situation to Measles outbreak in these communities

President Trump:

- President's comments were that NY's shutdown is to deliberately harm the economy until after the election
- Gov. called President's comments "ignorant", "wrong"
- Gov. reiterated current restrictions are only in place for two weeks at this point
- Gov. discussed President calling Senator Harris "a monster" after last night's debate, calling it "petty", "disgusting"
- Gov. urged President to apologize to Senator Harris

On the Passing of Jim Dwyer:

- Gov.: "A great loss to journalism is an understatement"
- Discussed Dwyer's unique abilities to "connect" with New Yorkers
- Gov. discussed personal memories of Dwyer, stating he visited him recently

Q&A:

- On visitation policies and when the state will release data on nursing homes:
- Zucker said visitation guidance is currently conservative to keep residents safe
- Gov. reiterated geographic areas of hotspots are very small, and data allows for narrow targeting of these areas
- On Gov.'s call with Jacob Kornbluh, reporter who was assaulted in Borough Park:
- Gov. stated he spoke to Jacob "on a personal level", is sorry for what he went through
- Jacob told Gov. he is concerned he may have been infected with the virus, found protests to be "disturbing"

- Gov. again stressed that original restrictions were never enforced, enforcement is prompting current protests
- Gov. further condemned the violence of the protestors, said increased enforcement is going to continue

- On apparent lack of enforcement in Borough Park last night and whether Jewish Community is being given a "grace period" to comply:
 - Gov. said NYPD must enforce the law, and enforcement cannot be politically motivated or politically sensitive
 - Gov. said houses of worship were completely closed down at one point, these communities did not comply
 - Nearby communities are frustrated these populations will not comply
 - Gov. also noted NYPD officers need to wear masks as well