4/3/20 - Notes from the on-going Governor's Briefing:

- Out of the gate, the Governor mentioned the recent change to the State Seal that now includes E Pluribus Unum directly under the state motto Excelsior.
- State now tracking "hotspots", facilities with greatest total hospitalizations.
  - Concerned about increase in Long Island
  - Governor reiterated the state's need for PPE supplies, and frustration with interstate competition. Reiterating desire for companies to help produce masks, gowns, face shields and other PPE.
- "We do not have enough ventilators, period."
  - Working with Alibaba as well.
- Javits is now COVID-19 Only facility; "we don't have any non-COVID-19 to any great degree." Federal agencies were not eager to approve the conversion.
- Governor noted a reduction in non-COVID cases due to the decrease in social activity: fewer car crashes, less trauma,
- To sign Exec. Order allowing state to assume control ventilators and PPE from institutions for redeployment. They will be returned or reimbursed. The National Guard will deploy to acquire the equipment.
- Not a question of state's rights vs. federal interference. It's a national disaster emergency. State's welcoming federal help.
- No state can get the supplies they need, explaining a National supply deployment strategy to meet the needs of the emergent hotspots.
"What is the alternative" to the looming crisis.
- The Federal Government does not have enough supply to tell each state that it can supply their need.
- Governor asking to systematize the medical professional volunteer effort to utilize across the country.

- Budget Items Highlighted:
  - Domestic Terrorism Law
  - Improved Bail Reform
  - Child Vaping
  - Banning Fentanyl
  - Subway Sex Offender Ban
  - Campaign Finance Reform
  - Paid Sick Leave
  - Middle Class Tax Cut
  - Airport Construction Program
  - Accessible Renewable Energy Siting
- Governor described the State as "broke." Governor mentions additional Federal legislation currently under discussion.
  - Spoke with Speaker Pelosi: understands position of state and local governments. She will do what she can to help New York.

Q&A:

GENERAL COVID-19:
- Zucker: no data to suggest that a wide-spread face mask policy is effective. Gov: Fair to say that masks couldn't hurt, unless they give a false sense of security.
- Governor describing new Exec. Order as sharing resources as a rebuttal to use of the word "seizure."
  - Will not leave hospitals without essential equipment, but utilizing their stockpile, and will reimburse facilities.
  - Gov says there could be several hundred ventilators that could be redeployed to areas of need.
  - Paraphrase: If they want to sue me for borrowing their excess supplies to save lives, so be it - 4th Amendment concerns.
- High rate of illness in NYPD, FDNY, Transit Workers, Healthcare
Workers: state will look to be of assistance, but has no plan to "take-over" any organization.
- State transferred several dozen COVID patients upstate.
- USNS Comfort under utilization? The need is for the COVID patients, but the Comfort is there for non-COVID patients
- Reduce prison populations? State has no way to do that at the moment.