

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROOKHAVEN

VOTER

November 2025

Presenting

A VIRTUAL FORUM ON IMMIGRATION LAW, RIGHTS,
AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Speakers will be:

ERIC HORN – LAW OFFICE OF ERIC HORN

ANDREA ANTONELLIS - SEPA MUJER

Monday, November 17, 7 pm

Zoom link for meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81407118043?pwd=gmoGEIa7r6Z3EEWvbqtr6XgW7gbzaA.1>

Meeting ID: 814 0711 8043

Passcode: 868830

One tap mobile - for phone

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROOKHAVEN

presents

A VIRTUAL FORUM ON IMMIGRATION LAW, RIGHTS, AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 7 PM, ON ZOOM

Join us for an insightful and empowering evening featuring:

- **SEPA Mujer**, a nonprofit dedicated to uplifting Latina immigrant women through advocacy and education
- **Eric Horn**, a seasoned immigration attorney with over 25 years of experience in deportation defense, asylum, and humanitarian visas
- **Andrea Antonellis**, SEPA Mujer's Director of Advocacy, known for her passionate work supporting immigrant women and advancing policy change

Discussion Topics:

-  Current immigration policies and legal protections
-  VAWA, U-Visas, and resources for survivors
-  How to prepare for an immigration consultation
-  Community support and advocacy opportunities

All members and their guests are welcome!

For more info: <https://bit.ly/3ukBFIO>

Join Zoom Meeting

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OUR MEETING ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND POLICE REFORM

At our meeting on October 28 Linda Perdomo Ayala, the chair of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission, described the Commission and its role in investigating complaints related to housing, employment discrimination, and disability, with 15 commissioners and 7 investigators. The commission has been involved in police department oversight since 2021, following the George Floyd incident, when County Executive Bellone formed a taskforce, which included 35 individuals from across Suffolk County to review policing practices and develop a model promoting equity and accountability. The task force conducted town hall meetings, surveyed community concerns, and worked with an independent third party to gather input. They identified issues such as stop and frisk practices affecting various communities and delays in handling complaints due to long investigation timelines. As a result, the task force recommended expanding the Human Rights Commission's role in addressing these concerns, and the county executive allocated funds to hire six additional investigators to handle the increasing number of cases.

Suffolk Police Oversight Committee History

The meeting focused on the role and history of the Suffolk County Police Department's civilian oversight process, with Lynda and Carolyn providing background on the Administration of Justice Committee. Carolyn explained that the committee, which currently has 8 members, reviews and monitors Internal Affairs Bureau investigations of police complaints, serving as an independent third-party rather than conducting investigations directly. The committee's work is done voluntarily by commissioners who are not paid, and while they had previously advocated for an independent civilian oversight model similar to New York City's CCRB, they accepted the hybrid monitoring model that was ultimately established.

Police Complaint Filing Process

Carolyn explained the process for filing complaints about police conduct, emphasizing the importance of reporting any inappropriate interactions with officers. She demonstrated how to use the online complaint system, which is accessible in multiple languages and allows for anonymous submissions. Carolyn also described the complaint process, including how complaints are investigated by Internal Affairs and expressed optimism about the current leadership's commitment to reform. The group also addressed the process for handling disagreements over police dispositions, with Carolyn explaining that cases are now reviewed by the deputy police commissioner, though feedback has been slow.

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Police Complaint Filing Process

Carolyn explained the process for filing complaints about police conduct, emphasizing the importance of reporting any inappropriate interactions with officers. She demonstrated how to use the online complaint system, which is accessible in multiple languages and allows for anonymous submissions. Carolyn explained the process of reviewing police misconduct cases, where Internal Affairs investigators upload evidence to Evidence.com for human rights investigators to analyze. The commissioners meet monthly with investigators to review case summaries and evaluate the legitimacy of investigations, with the possibility of agreeing or disagreeing with the Internal Affairs disposition. Carolyn noted that while most officers act professionally, body-worn cameras have significantly improved evidence collection, allowing for more accurate assessments of complaints, including cases involving mental health situations.

Body Camera Impact on Police

The group discussed the impact of body-worn cameras on police behavior and community relations. Carolyn explained that commissioners received training alongside police officers and emphasized the cameras' benefits for both officers and the community. Lynda noted that recent changes in police administration have created some uncertainty, but she expressed optimism about the current leadership's commitment to reform.

Mental Health and ICE Tensions

The group discussed mental health response systems, with Lynda and Carolyn noting that police officers currently cannot bring civilian mental health providers until situations are under control, though there have been policy changes requiring body-worn cameras for all police interactions.

Human Rights Commission Police Reform

Lynda and Carolyn discussed their long tenure with the commission and their efforts to bring about change, including working with the new police commissioner. They emphasized that it is important for community members to file complaints and report issues related to employment and housing.

Court Strikes Down Key Part of Trump's Unlawful Voting Executive Order, Permanently Blocking Show-Your-Papers Requirement

WASHINGTON, DC — A federal court today issued a decisive ruling in *League of Women Voters Education Fund v. Trump*, permanently blocking a provision of President Trump's March voting executive order that sought to add a requirement to show a passport or similar document proving citizenship when registering to vote with the federal voter registration form that would disproportionately impact voters of color. The decision grants summary judgment to the plaintiffs, finding that the President lacks the authority to unilaterally alter election procedures — powers that rest with Congress and the states.

UNITE AND RISE 8.5

Thanks to all who participated in the NoKings rally, along with so many from across the US. For more rallies, check with [Indivisible](#). We are also attending protests at sites of Home Depot where ICE agents have been allowed to gather called "ICE Out of Home Depot."

We invite members and friends to attend a rally and press conference on Nov. 18 at 12 pm at the Perry B Duryea Jr. State Office Building - 250 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788 to call for passage of three bills that are in the NYS Legislature to improve conditions for many who are incarcerated:

Second Look Act ([S.158/A.1283](#)) which allows prisoners to petition for re-sentencing, especially if they are persons over 55 who have served over half of their sentence;

Earned Time Act ([S.342/A.1085](#)), which expands eligibility for merit time for prisoners who have participated in vocational or educational programs while in jail;

The Marvin Mayfield Act ([S.1209/A.1297](#)). which would eliminate mandatory minimum sentences for prison, jail, or probation (which contributes to more plea-bargaining) .

This press conference and rally will feature the families of incarcerated loved ones, formerly incarcerated leaders, labor unions, judges, and corrections officials, alongside lawmakers. We hope you will join us in calling for urgently needed sentencing reform. Contact Carole (carolehuston@hotmail.com) for more information.

OUR NEXT BOOK GROUP MEETING – JANUARY 19, 2026 – 1 pm

We are discussing *We are Eating the Earth. The Race to Fix our Food System and Save our Climate* by Michael Grunwald. Contact Betsy Gaidry (tbgaidry@optonline.net) for information.

BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A HEALTHY AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING

