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HUDSON COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

RE:

REGULAR MEETING : TRANSCRIPT OF
OF THE :
HUDSON COUNTY BOARD OF : PROCEEDINGS
CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS :
:

O P E N S E S S I O N

Hudson County
Administration Building,
Freeholders Chambers
567 Pavonia Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey
Thursday, January 9, 2014
6:00 p.m.

B E F O R E:

JOSE C. MUNOZ, Chairman
ALBERT CIFELLI, Freeholder
DOREEN DiDOMENICO, Freeholder
THOMAS LIGGIO, Freeholder
E. JUNIOR MALDONADO, Freeholder
WILLIAM O'DEA, Freeholder
TILO RIVAS, Freeholder
ANTHONY ROMANO, Freeholder

A L S O P R E S E N T:

CARMEN E. MENDIOLA, ESQ., Board Counsel
DONATO J. BATTISTA, Hudson County Counsel
ABRAHAM ANTUN, County Administrator
ALBERTO G. SANTOS, County Clerk

Job No. NJ1791871

Page 2

1 THE CLERK: Freeholder Cifelli.
 2 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Present.
 3 THE CLERK: DiDomenico. Dublin.
 4 Liggio.
 5 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Here.
 6 THE CLERK: Maldonado.
 7 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: Here.
 8 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 9 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Here.
 10 THE CLERK: Rivas. Romano. Chairman
 11 Munoz.
 12 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Here.
 13 THE CLERK: Please stand for the
 14 Pledge of Allegiance.
 15 (Flag Salute. Moment of Silence.)
 16 THE CLERK: Adequate notice of this
 17 meeting has been provided as follows:
 18 1. Posting notice of Resolution No.
 19 762-12-2013 on the Freeholder's Bulletin Board,
 20 Third Floor, Administration Building Annex, Jersey
 21 City, New Jersey.
 22 2. Copies of the above mentioned
 23 resolution have been sent to the County Clerk and
 24 the editors of the Jersey Journal and the Star
 25 Ledger.

Page 3

1 Mr. Chairman, may I have a motion to
 2 approve the minutes of the following meetings: the
 3 Regular Meeting, November 14, 2013; Regular Meeting,
 4 November 26, 2013; and the Special Meeting of
 5 December 30th, 2013.
 6 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: So moved.
 7 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Is there a second?
 8 Can I get a second? Freeholder Liggio.
 9 THE CLERK: For the record,
 10 Freeholder Rivas is present.
 11 On the minutes, Freeholder Cifelli.
 12 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Aye on all
 13 except for the Special Meeting of December 30th.
 14 THE CLERK: Freeholder Liggio.
 15 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Aye.
 16 THE CLERK: Maldonado.
 17 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: Yes.
 18 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 19 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Aye. You weren't
 20 at the 30th.
 21 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, we're still
 22 in roll call.
 23 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Can I ask a
 24 question? If you read the minutes, you could vote
 25 for it; is that correct?

Page 4

1 MR. BATTISTA: I believe if you read
 2 the minutes and sign a certification, then you can
 3 vote on it.
 4 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: It's probably
 5 easier to abstain.
 6 THE CLERK: Freeholder Liggio, you
 7 voted aye with respect to December 30th.
 8 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: If you want to,
 9 you can read those minutes.
 10 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: I'll abstain on
 11 the minutes.
 12 THE CLERK: Freeholder Rivas.
 13 FREEHOLDER RIVAS: I abstain on the
 14 Special Meeting on the 30th.
 15 THE CLERK: On December 30th, and on
 16 the others vote aye?
 17 FREEHOLDER RIVAS: Yes.
 18 THE CLERK: Chairman Munoz.
 19 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Yes.
 20 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: Did you roll
 21 call me?
 22 THE CLERK: Yes. I went back to
 23 Freeholder Liggio.
 24 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: Oh, you did.
 25 Okay.

Page 5

1 THE CLERK: Next order of business is
 2 additional discussion on today's agenda.
 3 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, may I
 4 proceed?
 5 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Yes.
 6 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the first
 7 item that I have, I would like the Board to consider
 8 amending the resolution for the purchases made under
 9 State contracts. We would like to add one item to
 10 that listing, and it is for Dell in the amount of
 11 \$59,320.80, for the Office of Emergency Management
 12 to purchase 55 computers for the command center that
 13 will be located at 830 Bergen Avenue.
 14 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: Do you need a
 15 motion to amend?
 16 THE CLERK: Yes.
 17 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: So moved.
 18 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Moved by Freeholder
 19 Maldonado. Seconded by Freeholder Rivas.
 20 THE CLERK: Freeholder Cifelli.
 21 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Yes.
 22 THE CLERK: Liggio.
 23 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.
 24 THE CLERK: Maldonado.
 25 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: Yes.

Page 6

1 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 2 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Yes.
 3 THE CLERK: Rivas.
 4 FREEHOLDER RIVAS: Yes.
 5 THE CLERK: Chairman Munoz.
 6 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Yes.
 7 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the next
 8 item that I have is a resolution amending the Annual
 9 Transportations Program for fiscal year 2010, and we
 10 wish to reallocate \$712,000 that was left over from
 11 that year's allocation to the Sinatra Drive Platform
 12 Project in Hoboken.
 13 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Sponsored by
 14 Freeholder O'Dea. Second by Freeholder Maldonado.
 15 THE CLERK: This will be No. 10 on
 16 the consent agenda entitled Amending Resolution No.
 17 75-2-2010, and reallocating excess funds from the
 18 annual transportation plan, \$712,000.
 19 For the record Freeholder DiDomenico is
 20 present.
 21 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, the final
 22 item that I have is a change order to J.H. Reid's
 23 Contracting in connection with the 14th Street
 24 Viaduct. The amount of the change order is \$5,450,
 25 and we are also requesting an extension of time of

Page 7

1 29 calendar days.
 2 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Motion by Freeholder
 3 Maldonado. Second by Freeholder Cifelli.
 4 THE CLERK: This will be No. 11 on
 5 the consent agenda entitled Approving Change Order
 6 No. 8, J.H. Reid's General Contracting, replacement
 7 of 14th Street Viaduct over Conrail and local
 8 streets, City of Hoboken, City of Union City, time
 9 of extension, 29 days, \$5,450.
 10 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Mr. Administrator,
 11 what is the reason for this extension?
 12 MR. ANTUN: Let me have the County
 13 Engineer. I believe he responded to that on
 14 Tuesday.
 15 MR. ARENCIBIA: Demetrio Arencibia.
 16 Mr. Chairman, the reason for the extension, this
 17 extension for the time the project was delayed by
 18 the Hurricane Sandy in 2012.
 19 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Thank you.
 20 MR. ANTUN: Mr. Chairman, that's all
 21 the items that I have.
 22 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Go ahead.
 23 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, there is
 24 one additional item from the Board. It's a
 25 resolution authorizing contribution to Community

Page 8

1 Outreach Team, Incorporated, \$250. This will be No.
 2 12.
 3 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: That is with
 4 Freeholder Dublin. Second by Freeholder Liggio.
 5 One of the things that I'm going to do is set up a
 6 budget for every Freeholder for the donations, and
 7 we will during the week sit with the County
 8 Administrator, and see how much money we're going to
 9 put in that budget. This is for Freeholder Dublin.
 10 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: It was moved
 11 by me and seconded by Freeholder Liggio.
 12 THE CLERK: I have no additional
 13 items, Mr. Chairman.
 14 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder O'Dea.
 15 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I ask the
 16 gentleman on the resolution related to the juvenile
 17 funding is here.
 18 MS. MEARNS: Susan Mearns, Health and
 19 Human Services. Freeholder, Chairman, we do have a
 20 representative from the Youth Advocate Program to
 21 provide you with additional information regarding
 22 the request for more funding.
 23 MR. MORA: Thank you. My name is
 24 Gary Mora. I'm the director for the Hudson County
 25 Youth Advocate Program. We have been serving the

Page 9

1 County for about 20 years.
 2 THE CLERK: Excuse me. For the
 3 record Freeholder Romano is present.
 4 MR. MORA: For the past three years,
 5 we've been providing service under the title Hudson
 6 Support Authority. Over the last year, 2013, we
 7 provided job opportunities for 59 youth in Hudson
 8 County. We have done that with over 36 businesses
 9 in Hudson County; 19 of them were re-adjudicated
 10 youth entering the system; 30 of those youth were
 11 already on probation. Those came from the court
 12 system. Those youth worked for a minimum of three
 13 months for about 20 to 25 hours a week.
 14 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Do you keep a list
 15 of where they work?
 16 MR. MORA: I do.
 17 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Can we have that?
 18 One of our questions, we would like to see who those
 19 are, what type of businesses they are. I have a
 20 couple questions about that.
 21 MR. MORA: Unfortunately, I can give
 22 you this list, but there are some client names on
 23 this list. We have to find a way to delete those or
 24 cross them out.
 25 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: You can make one

Page 10

1 copy, delete the names that should be deleted. I
 2 have the attorney here. Have the attorney check it
 3 first and make a copy of that.
 4 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: While the copies
 5 are being made and redacted, how many businesses?
 6 MR. MORA: On that list I believe
 7 there is 27, but there are 36 businesses.
 8 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Are they all
 9 for-profit, or any of them not-for-profit?
 10 MR. MORA: There are probably about
 11 two or three that are not-for-profit.
 12 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Are they all
 13 located in Hudson County?
 14 MR. MORA: Yes.
 15 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Do you have
 16 information on, first, recidivism among the clients
 17 that you started to place?
 18 MR. MORA: Of those, to date, we
 19 haven't established 2013. We served 20 kids in
 20 2012, and the Youth Advocate Program does have a
 21 practice; of those kids, I think we have three that
 22 have gotten back inside or is still involved in the
 23 system. Of this kids we serviced this year, none to
 24 date are.
 25 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: So from 2012, only

Page 11

1 three have resurfaced in the juvenile justice?
 2 MR. MORA: Correct, the kids I work
 3 with are ages 15 through 17.
 4 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Of the 20
 5 individuals from 2012, three subsequent to this
 6 program, again, found themselves engaged in the
 7 juvenile justice system. For 2013, out of how many,
 8 59, to date, zero have been arrested or had any
 9 interaction with the juvenile justice system?
 10 MR. MORA: Sure. A majority of those
 11 are still involved in the system. In other words,
 12 if they're still on probation --
 13 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: The questions was
 14 that --
 15 MR. MORA: There hasn't been another
 16 charge, no.
 17 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: They weren't
 18 arrested again, they were not facing any additional
 19 charges.
 20 MR. MORA: Correct.
 21 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: That's obviously
 22 the question. These are not redacted.
 23 MS. MENDIOLA: We did. Yeah, we did.
 24 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: How do you
 25 identify -- how do you have identify the client?

Page 12

1 MR. MORA: We have a case manager
 2 that goes door to door. One of the things about the
 3 support of our supportive work program is we try to
 4 find employment spots that are easily -- the kids
 5 can get to on foot or have a bike. So while we hit
 6 the ground for the program, it's more important to
 7 finds spots the kids can access on their own that
 8 are close to home, so once we get a referral, we go
 9 out to the home, and do the initial interview, we
 10 started identifying potential places or locations.
 11 That's also an area of interest. It's not just to
 12 place them in a job, but something the find
 13 interesting or develop a career.
 14 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I guess that's my
 15 next question. From anyone that was placed in 2012
 16 or 2013, how many -- what percentage were retained
 17 by the business after the program was completed?
 18 MR. MORA: In 2013, six youth were
 19 kept on after we stopped paying those salaries.
 20 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Of the 2012?
 21 MR. MORA: Five.
 22 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Is there any
 23 reason why you had such a higher percentage in '12
 24 than 2013?
 25 MR. MORA: I can't answer that

Page 13

1 question.
 2 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Do you keep any
 3 statistics as to whether or not even if they don't
 4 work there anymore if that experience, work
 5 experience, they now work somewhere else, whether
 6 they were able to secure employment beyond that?
 7 MR. MORA: We don't have statistics
 8 after the fact. After three to six months, we don't
 9 have any statistics to know if they're still
 10 employees.
 11 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Why wouldn't you?
 12 MR. MORA: A lot of times we try to
 13 track information through the system, that we do
 14 phone calls, and we do follow up surveys. What we
 15 find in that area is, a lot of families move
 16 locations. It's very heart to track.
 17 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I mean, I guess I
 18 mean I think it's something that we just need to
 19 gather more data on, even if you're not able to. I
 20 would rather know -- I would rather get an annual
 21 report that says, we don't need their names, they
 22 can be one through fifty-nine, this is what it was,
 23 retained in the employment, not retained but found
 24 employment elsewhere, was not retained, whatever,
 25 family weren't able to -- no longer able to know

Page 14

1 where they are, if they don't work, and those that
 2 work, or have been charged with additional things.
 3 Obviously, I think that's part of the --
 4 part of the challenge of this in a long term, which
 5 is the individuals who are two years or more out of
 6 it, I mean your point is well-taken. If I'm still
 7 on probation, I do this program, I'm still on
 8 probation another five months, I'm more likely to
 9 try not to get in trouble, but I would like to know
 10 what happens a year or whatever later.
 11 And quite frankly, if it requires, you
 12 know, Director Mearns, some additional dollars to be
 13 able to track that, it's well worthwhile for us to
 14 expend those dollars to really understand the
 15 long-term effectiveness on those individuals
 16 because, quite frankly, if it's very effective, then
 17 three or four years later, there's a recidivism rate
 18 of ten percent or less for those individuals, X
 19 amount go to college or X amount are gainfully
 20 employed.
 21 It quite frankly makes an argument not
 22 only for us to find more dollars but potentially for
 23 you to be able to find non-governmental dollars. A
 24 lot of -- there are a lot of philanthropic entities
 25 or foundations that would gladly help fund or

Page 15

1 finance a program that shows you do a hundred youth
 2 that were arrested for a range of offenses, and they
 3 went into this. They went into the supportive
 4 services, the key part of it is employment, gainful
 5 employment, and now four or five years later, less
 6 than ten percent have gone back into now what would
 7 be the criminal justice system.
 8 Literally, after the age of 18, if you
 9 show they're not going into the criminal justice,
 10 system, I think this is a home run program that a
 11 lot of not only government entities, but outside the
 12 government, would love to fund because the cost of
 13 this is pittance compared to what it costs to
 14 incarcerate either in the juvenile center or
 15 correctional center. I think I would urge Director
 16 Mearns, that you sit down with the gentleman and see
 17 how we put that in place, and if that requires a
 18 request for some additional dollar, whether it's
 19 this year, we wait a year, and then we have three
 20 years of hard data, then that's an investment
 21 well-worth it.
 22 And I would probably say that if we do
 23 that, today's day and age, you can probably track
 24 where those people are. Obviously, now you're not
 25 being funded as part of what you're doing. However,

Page 16

1 if you had some additional dollars, in this modern
 2 world that we have, you can probably find where they
 3 are, if they're living outside of Hudson County or
 4 other places in New Jersey, and that's what I
 5 suggest, maybe you know, if not for this year for
 6 next, you'll have three years of empirical data.
 7 I think at that point, Mr. Administrator,
 8 it would be worth funding this to incorporate that
 9 so we would get a report sometime in 2015, that
 10 would lay it out. At that point you would have a
 11 hundred or so, basically where are they today.
 12 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder Cifelli.
 13 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: How much
 14 information about the candidate do you give the
 15 employer? The nature of a business, you have
 16 confidentiality issues obviously with juveniles, is
 17 that -- I would imagine that's a concern with
 18 respect to the Court as to how do you handle that.
 19 MR. MORA: Great question. One of
 20 the things that I said, we're bound by
 21 confidentiality. We can't tell them, but we can
 22 introduce ourselves and tell them about the
 23 programs, and give them literature. They kind of
 24 have an idea of the youth and what it might entail
 25 or what they have been involved in. But we assure

Page 17

1 them that we would never put a youth into an
 2 employment position if the risks accompany itself.
 3 So they are reassured, and the employer has the
 4 right and they do, we set up them up for the
 5 interview, the kids come and interview. The
 6 employer has a right to decline if they don't feel
 7 it's a good fit, or if they have not the right
 8 feeling. It's their employee so they have a right
 9 to hire, and if they feel after they hire, they can
 10 fire, or we can move in if we feel there is a
 11 problem.
 12 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Any other questions?
 13 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Do the businesses
 14 get any kind of a training, you know, like what is
 15 required to hire them, there's no requirements, are
 16 they required to provide information to make sure,
 17 for instance, they showed up for work?
 18 MR. MORA: We have a time sheet. We
 19 pay every week so we give them a weekly time sheet.
 20 The employer is required to sign the back of the
 21 time sheet, but they also have a case manager that's
 22 in those locations every week, so that the burden,
 23 again, doesn't become on the employee. We want to
 24 work with the employer.
 25 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Any other questions?

Page 18

1 One question I have is how do you protect the
 2 children, that information that is confidential
 3 because of their age, but how is that information
 4 protected?
 5 MR. MORA: The bio information? We
 6 keep a detailed file on every youth that comes into
 7 our organization. We're bound HIPAA law, so we keep
 8 all the files in locked cabinets.
 9 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: I'm talking about
 10 when these kids are hired at one of the businesses
 11 this year, do you provide information to that
 12 business about what type of offense that kid
 13 committed?
 14 MR. MORA: We do tell the youth to be
 15 honest and use their discretion when they're in the
 16 interview process when the employer asks them
 17 questions, we ask them to be honest as much as they
 18 want. They also consult with their probation
 19 officer about how much to tell the employer about
 20 what they've experienced in the process of trying to
 21 make a change in their life.
 22 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Okay. Thank you.
 23 Thank you for coming.
 24 THE CLERK: Proceed with public
 25 participation?

Page 19

1 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Any other questions
 2 from the Freeholders, Administration? Go ahead.
 3 THE CLERK: According to the policy
 4 set by the Board of Freeholders, members of the
 5 public are asked to limit their comments to 15
 6 minutes when discussing agenda items and five
 7 minutes at the conclusion of the meeting when
 8 discussing matters of public interest.
 9 At this time the public may address the
 10 Board on any item on the agenda only. Please keep
 11 your comments limited to 15 minutes. Are there any
 12 speakers on agenda items only? Please state your
 13 name for the record.
 14 MR. KUSHNER: My name is Barry
 15 Kushner. I am a resident of Bayonne. I'm here on
 16 behalf to speak with the resolution concerning the
 17 prevention of the privatization of toll collector's
 18 jobs on the New Jersey Turnpike. I'm going to be
 19 candid. I have come as a representative of the New
 20 Jersey Turnpike Employee's Union, as well as a board
 21 member of the Hudson Central Labor Council.
 22 However, I am also a 22-year employee of the New
 23 Jersey Turnpike. I was a toll collector. I am
 24 currently a maintenance person.
 25 I'm here basically to thank the Board for

Page 20

1 putting this resolution forward and as to
 2 considering it, I'm here to urge every Freeholder to
 3 support this resolution because it deals with an
 4 issue of inequality. We hear about that a lot in
 5 the news. We heard Mayor DeBlasio's platform of the
 6 inequality as the new mayor of New York City. The
 7 new mayor of Boston is dealing with inequality, and
 8 it's an issue that impacts many members in Hudson
 9 County.
 10 We have hundreds of individuals who are
 11 families of approximately between one hundred and
 12 one hundred fifty part-time and full-time toll
 13 collectors alone in every municipality in Hudson
 14 County, from Kearny to Bayonne to West New York to
 15 Hoboken, Union City, Weehawken, Secaucus, where I
 16 work. I'm a maintenance person at Plaza Road in and
 17 out of Secaucus as well.
 18 Our members, the toll collectors, two and
 19 a half years ago negotiated a memorandum of
 20 understanding with the commissioners and the
 21 director of the New Jersey Turnpike, where we made
 22 significant concessions. It was approximately
 23 30 percent in salary were reduced for the full-time
 24 and part-time employees. There were various work
 25 rules that were eliminated, and there was a number

Page 21

1 of other issues have saved over the three years
 2 nearly \$30 million to the Turnpike Authority.
 3 The Turnpike Authority currently has
 4 hundreds of millions of dollars in assets, and the
 5 thanks our employees and our residents of Hudson
 6 County get is the fact now that they want to
 7 eliminate their jobs, which as member of the County,
 8 someone whose family spends money here, the money
 9 that I make goes back to my community and the
 10 hundreds of people that also live here, so it would
 11 have an economic impact as well in Hudson County.
 12 Once again, I want to urge everyone on the
 13 Freeholder Board, to please support this resolution
 14 and please try to put an end to the inequality going
 15 on within our own state. We could stop this and we
 16 can maintain the good jobs that help people reach
 17 the American dream through good middle class jobs in
 18 our community. So I thank you. If you have any
 19 questions, I'm free after the meeting or at any
 20 point.
 21 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Mr. Kushner, just to
 22 let you know, this resolution was introduced on
 23 Tuesday, and the whole Board agreed to support it
 24 unanimously. It was sponsored as the Board as a
 25 whole. So you know before you came, this Board

Page 22

1 unanimously agreed to support this, even though we
 2 haven't voted on it yet, we support it as a whole
 3 Board. It was introduced on the agenda.
 4 MR. KUSHNER: I do appreciate that
 5 Speaker. As a lifelong resident of Hudson County,
 6 it makes me proud to see that my elected officials
 7 are both progressive and at the forefront of
 8 fighting for this type of inequality.
 9 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Any questions?
 10 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Mr. Chairman,
 11 I want to thank Barry for bringing this to our
 12 attention and for giving us more information and for
 13 being such a staunch advocate of labor and speaking
 14 for our community.
 15 MR. KUSHNER: Thank you very much. I
 16 can only speak on my behalf. Thank you.
 17 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Any other speakers?
 18 THE CLERK: Additional speakers on
 19 agenda items only.
 20 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Additional speakers?
 21 THE CLERK: The consent agenda now
 22 included --
 23 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder O'Dea.
 24 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I just have a
 25 couple of questions. Is Director Aviles here?

Page 23

1 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: He's hiding.
 2 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Did you think
 3 anymore on No. 3?
 4 DIRECTOR AVILES: Yes, Freeholder.
 5 Oscar Aviles, Department of Correction. A couple of
 6 things, Freeholder, the Director of Family Services
 7 said he has the resources in place to continue the
 8 journey with these individuals that start the
 9 program.
 10 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Can you like reach
 11 out to some people in that industry?
 12 DIRECTOR AVILES: Yes, Freeholder.
 13 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Did you talk about
 14 OJT? Could you try to put together a special OJT
 15 for those individuals to offer as an incentive to
 16 people?
 17 DIRECTOR LOPEZ: I don't think we
 18 need to do a special OJT, because when they come
 19 out, if they qualify for general assistance, which
 20 usually they, you know, after a certain time, they
 21 do. They would have to be prequalified.
 22 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: What happens to a
 23 person who has a drug offense and is prohibited from
 24 for the rest of their life?
 25 DIRECTOR LOPEZ: If they have been

Page 24

1 enrolled in a program, which is part of what we have
 2 in reintegration, we put them in a program, and if
 3 they have received the OIP services for 90 days,
 4 they get a certificate, and then once they have a
 5 certificate that they have completed that program,
 6 they will be able to receive the benefits. Unless
 7 it's a distribution; if it's a distribution, then
 8 it's a Federal and State.
 9 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: What would we do
 10 in that case?
 11 DIRECTOR LOPEZ: In that case if we
 12 wanted to do a special OJT, we would have to, and we
 13 will. We would put that together. We will put
 14 together a request to Labor.
 15 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I'm sure there's a
 16 likelihood that there's a couple of individuals in
 17 there that fall into that category.
 18 DIRECTOR LOPEZ: The others we can
 19 set up these OJT through the normal process, but
 20 those I will instruct my staff to put together
 21 something in writing.
 22 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: The other thing is
 23 use the DPW and set up or try to use some of the
 24 crews to do some of the cleanup area and stuff.
 25 DIRECTOR LOPEZ: I'll be available

Page 25

1 for him.
 2 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Any other questions
 3 from the Freeholders?
 4 THE CLERK: Mr. Chairman, the consent
 5 agenda now includes new Items 10, 11 and 12, and
 6 amended No. 6. May I have a motion to approve all
 7 items listed on the consent agenda?
 8 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Motion by Freeholder
 9 Maldonado. Second by Freeholder Romano.
 10 THE CLERK: Freeholder Cifelli.
 11 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Yes.
 12 THE CLERK: DiDomenico.
 13 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: Yes.
 14 THE CLERK: Liggio.
 15 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: Yes.
 16 THE CLERK: Maldonado.
 17 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: Yes.
 18 THE CLERK: O'Dea.
 19 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Abstain on 4.
 20 THE CLERK: Rivas.
 21 FREEHOLDER RIVAS: Yes.
 22 THE CLERK: Romano.
 23 FREEHOLDER ROMANO: Yes.
 24 THE CLERK: Chairman Munoz.
 25 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Yes.

Page 26

1 THE CLERK: There are no ordinances
 2 for introduction and no ordinances for second
 3 reading. That concludes the items of business on
 4 today's agenda. Are there any comments from the
 5 Freeholders on the business of the Board?
 6 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Mr. Chairman, I
 7 just I want to -- I was remiss in not thanking
 8 Freeholder Romano for his service as Chair this
 9 year.
 10 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Before Freeholder
 11 O'Dea speaks, all of my colleagues came to me and
 12 they wanted me to leave a special section on the
 13 meeting today for everyone to speak about your
 14 Chairmanship this year. I had that with a couple of
 15 Freeholders. So we're going to do that now and
 16 start with Freeholder O'Dea.
 17 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: I appreciate,
 18 Anthony, your service as Chairman. You did an
 19 excellent job. You were as visible and active as
 20 any Chairman we had when it came to going to events,
 21 activities, et cetera, and you were tremendously
 22 diligent in keeping Members of this Board informed
 23 of things that you found out about that was
 24 important for the district or for the areas that
 25 they chair a committee or have an area of expertise,

Page 27

1 and I think you did an excellent job and were very,
 2 very, very proactive. I just want to thank you.
 3 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder Cifelli.
 4 FREEHOLDER CIFELLI: Two of the best
 5 things about Freeholder Romano I can say personally,
 6 he introduced me to the Cake Boss; two, the best
 7 places in Hoboken to park. They were invaluable.
 8 But on a serious note, you have always
 9 been very down to Earth, extremely accessible. If I
 10 had a question or concern, all I had to do was call
 11 and you would be there or you'd call me back in two
 12 minutes. That's a trick that unfortunately I would
 13 like to cultivate in my own life. You were very
 14 cooperative, and I appreciate your friendship and
 15 cooperation on the Board with you for many years to
 16 comes.
 17 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder Rivas.
 18 FREEHOLDER RIVAS: Yea. My
 19 congratulations to Freeholder Romano. You did a
 20 tremendous job. I would like to echo some of the
 21 things that you did. You did a tremendous job. I
 22 learned a lot from you. We all did. You were
 23 present, and that was good. We like that. So you
 24 did a tremendous job. I am proud of you. Thank you
 25 very much.

Page 28

1 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder
 2 DiDomenico.
 3 FREEHOLDER DiDOMENICO: I said mine
 4 on December 23rd. I will reiterate. Freeholder
 5 Cifelli mentioned your accessibility, and certainly,
 6 with having two or three cell phones, most of the
 7 time plugged in behind you when you sat in that
 8 chair, your phone is going off now that it's plugged
 9 in.
 10 But you were a tremendous representative
 11 for our Board, and as Freeholder O'Dea said, I don't
 12 know that you missed an event in the County in the
 13 last year. You were everywhere running from one
 14 place to another, and in running from one place to
 15 another, you still did an excellent job of
 16 representing the interests of the Board and
 17 representing us throughout all twelve municipalities
 18 and at every event and in running our meetings with
 19 diligence, class and letting everyone be heard and
 20 getting our business conducted well, and we were
 21 very proud of you, and thank you for being my
 22 neighbor now.
 23 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder
 24 Maldonado.
 25 FREEHOLDER MALDONADO: I mentioned on

Page 29

1 Tuesday, I've been here a short time, but I spent a
 2 lot of time with Anthony. We got a chance to
 3 cultivate a good friendship over the years but got
 4 closer over the last five or six months in all the
 5 events that we attended. So I thank you for your
 6 leadership. I thank you for your kindness, and
 7 thank you for your friendship. I look forward
 8 continuing our success working together. I
 9 certainly will rely on your knowledge and experience
 10 in my years to come on the Board of Freeholders
 11 here. Thank you.
 12 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Freeholder Liggio.
 13 FREEHOLDER LIGGIO: I congratulated
 14 Anthony on Tuesday when I was sworn in. I said that
 15 he did terrific job as the Chairman, you know, just
 16 a very good job, and I'm very, very happy to say
 17 that I'm a friend of yours. Thank you.
 18 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Anthony, I was at
 19 home back during the summer, and I remember taking
 20 the newspapers in my hand and seeing you and
 21 Freeholder O'Dea defending me, when there was a lot
 22 of questions about me out there, and you didn't
 23 hesitate to defend me, you and Freeholder O'Dea, and
 24 I will never forget that. I will always keep that,
 25 and I have the article in my house, and I read it a

Page 30

1 lot because that meant so much to me that you cannot
 2 believe it.
 3 You did a tremendous job. I said it
 4 before, I have big shoes to fill. You did a
 5 tremendous job this last year. I am very thankful
 6 you are on this Board, and we just want to make sure
 7 that you know it.
 8 FREEHOLDER ROMANO: If I may, I am
 9 very honored and humbled by all of your comments, as
 10 my working colleagues. As I said the other night,
 11 everyone that works for the County, I had so much
 12 fun and a bond with each and everyone of you that
 13 transcends me being an elected official. That
 14 character speaks for itself. I always believe that
 15 the sum is only as good as the parts, and it was you
 16 gentlemen and ladies that guided and helped me, each
 17 and every one of you.
 18 I consider some mentors and consider some
 19 sisters, and there is a bond and I can't say enough.
 20 Tom and Al are the older brothers I never had.
 21 Billy is the younger brother, it's true. God has
 22 been good to me so much in my life, and it's an
 23 honor to be a Freeholder, period, and to work with
 24 such a distinguished group, and the County should be
 25 proud of the people. All the residents should be

Page 31

1 proud of all the people that are up here because
 2 there's good-hearted people here. Questions get
 3 asked. There is a lot of good people in this
 4 county, and I am so proud of everything and I just
 5 can't thank you enough. God bless each and every
 6 one of you. I am very proud. Thank you.
 7 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Also, I wanted to --
 8 I mentioned to you before when I wasn't the
 9 Chairman, I would like to say to Susan Mearns, thank
 10 you for taking over the Health Department. I think
 11 that you didn't have to. You went and took that
 12 responsibility. That is meaningful to this Board.
 13 That doesn't mean we'll give you halftime.
 14 MS. MEARNS: I like the idea.
 15 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: I want to make sure
 16 you know that we know that you took this and you
 17 didn't have to, and you're doing a great job. Also,
 18 to Director Richardson, I'd like to thank you for
 19 your work with the County. I called you
 20 Christmastime and the holidays to help a
 21 constituent, and you and Chickini were there to
 22 help. I would like to say thanks and great job.
 23 All the other directors, I would like to
 24 as Chairman to make sure that when things are done
 25 right, I like to bring that out and say it publicly,

Page 32

1 and when things are done wrong, I'd like to bring it
 2 up too, but I make sure that we recognize when you
 3 directors do the job right. Thank you.
 4 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Mr. Chairman, just
 5 to echo one thing you said. I'm not sure it would
 6 change anyone's mind, but I have to say, Susan, I
 7 know over the years. I've from time to time given
 8 you a hard time, but I have the amazing utmost
 9 respect for your professionalism and your talent.
 10 I as one would ask that you consider
 11 sticking around a little longer. I think that
 12 especially this year, we need that. That department
 13 needs a strong, steady hand. I think you sense that
 14 for the short time that you're there. A lot of
 15 things there need to be straightened, guided a
 16 little bit. I think it's important because of the
 17 areas that they are. I think you have an affinity
 18 to a lot of those areas, and you're still a young
 19 lady.
 20 MS. MEARNS: Thank you.
 21 FREEHOLDER O'DEA: Maybe you'd
 22 consider a little longer, let the ship get steady
 23 before we try to find to another person.
 24 FREEHOLDER ROMANO: I'll second that.
 25 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Any other

Page 33

1 Freeholders have anything to say?
 2 THE CLERK: Are there any comments
 3 from the Chief of Staff to the County Executive?
 4 MR. GAUGHAN: I have to say, Anthony
 5 Romano, I have been the Chief of Staff twelve years,
 6 I have to say that, Anthony, you rank up there with
 7 the best of those that represented this Board as a
 8 Chairman. We're friends. The County Executive and
 9 I both feel this way. I speak for him as well in
 10 our hearts.
 11 It's a dual operation for me being Chief
 12 of Staff and the Councilman from the Heights, which
 13 you also represented and still do. Let me just say
 14 that as the Chief of Staff, you were a true
 15 representative and a proud Chairman and probably
 16 never missed an event regarding the events held by
 17 Hudson County. Not only as the Board, for me as the
 18 Councilman from the Heights, you also made sure that
 19 on the city and municipal side, that you attended
 20 every event that was part of your district. For
 21 that, I'm extremely proud to call you my friend.
 22 God bless you.
 23 Mr. Chairman, good luck. You know my
 24 doors is always open. Please feel free to call the
 25 County Executive.

1 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: I will. So thank
2 you.

3 THE CLERK: This is the time for
4 anyone present to address the Board on any matter of
5 public interest. Please remember to limit your
6 comments to five minutes.

7 Motion to adjourn the meeting by
8 Freeholder Maldonado. Is there a second?

9 CHAIRMAN MUNOZ: Second by Freeholder
10 DiDomenico.

11 THE CLERK: All in favor? The
12 meeting is adjourned.

13 (Whereupon the proceeding is then
14 concluded at 6:58 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATION

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I, SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR, License No.
30XI00234700, and Notary Public of the State of New
Jersey, hereby certify that the proceedings herein
are from the notes taken by me of a Caucus Meeting
of the Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholder,
held on Thursday, January 9, 2014; and that this is
a correct transcript of the same.

SHARI CATHEY, CCR, RPR
A NOTARY PUBLIC of the
State of New Jersey
I.D. No. 2283786
Commission Expires 2/4/17

1	5	adjudicated 9:9	areas 26:24 32:17 32:18
1 2:18	5,450 6:24 7:9	administration 1:7 2:20 19:2	arencibia 7:15,15
10 6:15 25:5	55 5:12	administrator 1:20 7:10 8:8 16:7	argument 14:21
11 7:4 25:5	567 1:8	advocate 8:20,25 10:20 22:13	arrested 11:8,18 15:2
12 8:2 12:23 25:5	59 9:7 11:8	affinity 32:17	article 29:25
14 3:3	6	age 15:8,23 18:3	asked 19:5 31:3
14th 6:23 7:7	6 25:6	agenda 5:2 6:16 7:5 19:6,10,12 22:3,19 22:21 25:5,7 26:4	asks 18:16
15 11:3 19:5,11	6:00 1:10	ages 11:3	assets 21:4
17 11:3	6:58 34:14	ago 20:19	assistance 23:19
18 15:8	7	agreed 21:23 22:1	assure 16:25
19 9:9	712,000 6:10,18	ahead 7:22 19:2	attended 29:5 33:19
2	75-2-2010 6:17	al 30:20	attention 22:12
2 2:22	762-12-2013 2:19	albert 1:12	attorney 10:2,2
2/4/17 35:15	8	alberto 1:21	authority 9:6 21:2,3
20 9:1,13 10:19 11:4	8 7:6	allegiance 2:14	authorizing 7:25
2010 6:9	830 5:13	allocation 6:11	available 24:25
2012 7:18 10:20,25 11:5 12:15,20	9	amazing 32:8	avenue 1:8 5:13
2013 3:3,4,5 9:6 10:19 11:7 12:16,18 12:24	9 1:9 35:8	amend 5:15	aviles 22:25 23:4,5 23:12
2014 1:9 35:8	90 24:3	amended 25:6	aye 3:12,15,19 4:7 4:16
2015 16:9	a	amending 5:8 6:8,16	b
22 19:22	able 13:6,19,25,25 14:13,23 24:6	american 21:17	b 1:11
2283786 35:14	abraham 1:20	amount 5:10 6:24 14:19,19	back 4:22 10:22 15:6 17:20 21:9 27:11 29:19
23rd 28:4	abstain 4:5,10,13 25:19	annex 2:20	barry 19:14 22:11
25 9:13	access 12:7	annual 6:8,18 13:20	basically 16:11 19:25
250 8:1	accessibility 28:5	answer 12:25	battista 1:19 4:1
26 3:4	accessible 27:9	anthony 1:15 26:18 29:2,14,18 33:4,6	bayonne 19:15 20:14
27 10:7	accompany 17:2	antun 1:20 5:3,6 6:7 6:21 7:12,20	behalf 19:16 22:16
29 7:1,9	active 26:19	anymore 13:4 23:3	believe 4:1 7:13 10:6 30:2,14
3	activities 26:21	anyone's 32:6	benefits 24:6
3 23:3	add 5:9	appreciate 22:4 26:17 27:14	bergen 5:13
30 9:10 20:23 21:2	additional 5:2 7:24 8:12,21 11:18 14:2 14:12 15:18 16:1 22:18,20	approve 3:2 25:6	best 27:4,6 33:7
30th 3:5,13,20 4:7 4:14,15	address 19:9 34:4	approving 7:5	beyond 13:6
30xi00234700 35:4	adequate 2:16	approximately 20:11,22	big 30:4
36 9:8 10:7	adjourn 34:7	area 12:11 13:15 24:24 26:25	bike 12:5
4	adjourned 34:12		
4 25:19			

<p>billy 30:21 bio 18:5 bit 32:16 bless 31:5 33:22 board 1:1,4,18 2:19 5:7 7:24 19:4,10,20 19:25 21:13,23,24 21:25 22:3 26:5,22 27:15 28:11,16 29:10 30:6 31:12 33:7,17 34:4 35:7 bond 30:12,19 boss 27:6 boston 20:7 bound 16:20 18:7 bring 31:25 32:1 bringing 22:11 brother 30:21 brothers 30:20 budget 8:6,9 building 1:7 2:20 bulletin 2:19 burden 17:22 business 5:1 12:17 16:15 18:12 26:3,5 28:20 businesses 9:8,19 10:5,7 17:13 18:10</p>	<p>category 24:17 cathey 35:3,13 caucus 35:6 ccr 35:3,13 cell 28:6 center 5:12 15:14,15 central 19:21 certain 23:20 certainly 28:5 29:9 certificate 24:4,5 certification 4:2 certify 35:5 cetera 26:21 chair 26:8,25 28:8 chairman 1:12 2:10 2:12 3:1,7,21,23 4:18,19 5:3,5,6,18 6:5,6,7,13,21 7:2,10 7:16,19,20,22,23 8:3,13,14,19 9:25 16:12 17:12,25 18:9 18:22 19:1 21:21 22:9,10,17,20,23 23:1 25:2,4,8,24,25 26:6,10,18,20 27:3 27:17 28:1,23 29:12 29:15,18 31:7,9,15 31:24 32:4,25 33:8 33:15,23 34:1,9</p>	<p>christmastime 31:20 cifelli 1:12 2:1,2 3:11,12 5:20,21 7:3 16:12,13 25:10,11 27:3,4 28:5 city 1:9 2:21 7:8,8,8 20:6,15 33:19 class 21:17 28:19 cleanup 24:24 clerk 1:21 2:1,3,6,8 2:10,13,16,23 3:9 3:14,16,18,21 4:6 4:12,15,18,22 5:1 5:16,20,22,24 6:1,3 6:5,15 7:4,23 8:12 9:2 18:24 19:3 22:18,21 25:4,10,12 25:14,16,18,20,22 25:24 26:1 33:2 34:3,11 client 9:22 11:25 clients 10:16 close 12:8 closer 29:4 colleagues 26:11 30:10 collector 19:23 collector's 19:17 collectors 20:13,18 college 14:19 come 17:5 19:19 23:18 29:10 comes 18:6 27:16 coming 18:23 command 5:12 comments 19:5,11 26:4 30:9 33:2 34:6 commission 35:15 commissioners 20:20 committed 18:13 committee 26:25 community 7:25 21:9,18 22:14</p>	<p>compared 15:13 completed 12:17 24:5 computers 5:12 concern 16:17 27:10 concerning 19:16 concessions 20:22 concluded 34:14 concludes 26:3 conclusion 19:7 conducted 28:20 confidential 18:2 confidentiality 16:16,21 congratulated 29:13 congratulations 27:19 connection 6:23 conrail 7:7 consent 6:16 7:5 22:21 25:4,7 consider 5:7 30:18 30:18 32:10,22 considering 20:2 constituent 31:21 consult 18:18 continue 23:7 continuing 29:8 contracting 6:23 7:6 contracts 5:9 contribution 7:25 cooperation 27:15 cooperative 27:14 copies 2:22 10:4 copy 10:1,3 correct 3:25 11:2,20 35:9 correction 23:5 correctional 15:15 cost 15:12 costs 15:13 council 19:21 councilman 33:12 33:18</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">c</p>	<p>chairmanship 26:14 challenge 14:4 chambers 1:8 chance 29:2 change 6:22,24 7:5 18:21 32:6 character 30:14 charge 11:16 charged 14:2 charges 11:19 check 10:2 chickini 31:21 chief 33:3,5,11,14 children 18:2 chosen 1:1,4 35:7</p>		

<p>counsel 1:18,19 county 1:1,4,7,19,20 1:21 2:23 7:12 8:7 8:24 9:1,8,9 10:13 16:3 20:9,14 21:6,7 21:11 22:5 28:12 30:11,24 31:4,19 33:3,8,17,25 35:7 couple 9:20 22:25 23:5 24:16 26:14 court 9:11 16:18 crews 24:24 criminal 15:7,9 cross 9:24 cultivate 27:13 29:3 currently 19:24 21:3</p>	<p>diligence 28:19 diligent 26:22 director 8:24 14:12 15:15 20:21 22:25 23:4,6,12,17,25 24:11,18,25 31:18 directors 31:23 32:3 discretion 18:15 discussing 19:6,8 discussion 5:2 distinguished 30:24 distribution 24:7,7 district 26:24 33:20 doing 15:25 31:17 dollar 15:18 dollars 14:12,14,22 14:23 16:1 21:4</p>	<p>emergency 5:11 empirical 16:6 employed 14:20 employee 17:8,23 19:22 employee's 19:20 employees 13:10 20:24 21:5 employer 16:15 17:3,6,20,24 18:16 18:19 employment 12:4 13:6,23,24 15:4,5 17:2 engaged 11:6 engineer 7:13 enrolled 24:1 entail 16:24 entering 9:10 entities 14:24 15:11 entitled 6:16 7:5 especially 32:12 esq 1:18 established 10:19 et 26:21 event 28:12,18 33:16,20 events 26:20 29:5 33:16 excellent 26:19 27:1 28:15 excess 6:17 excuse 9:2 executive 33:3,8,25 expend 14:14 experience 13:4,5 29:9 experienced 18:20 expertise 26:25 expires 35:15 extension 6:25 7:9 7:11,16,17 extremely 27:9 33:21</p>	<p>f</p> <p>f 1:11 35:1 facing 11:18 fact 13:8 21:6 fall 24:17 families 13:15 20:11 family 13:25 21:8 23:6 favor 34:11 federal 24:8 feel 17:6,9,10 33:9 33:24 feeling 17:8 fifty 13:22 20:12 fighting 22:8 file 18:6 files 18:8 fill 30:4 final 6:21 finance 15:1 find 9:23 12:4,12 13:15 14:22,23 16:2 32:23 finds 12:7 fire 17:10 first 5:6 10:3,16 fiscal 6:9 fit 17:7 five 12:21 14:8 15:5 19:6 29:4 34:6 flag 2:15 floor 2:20 follow 13:14 following 3:2 follows 2:17 foot 12:5 forefront 22:7 forget 29:24 forward 20:1 29:7 found 11:6 13:23 26:23 foundations 14:25 four 14:17 15:5</p>
<p>d</p>	<p>donations 8:6 donato 1:19 door 12:2,2 doors 33:24 doreen 1:13 dpw 24:23 dream 21:17 drive 6:11 drug 23:23 dual 33:11 dublin 2:3 8:4,9</p>	<p>e</p> <p>e 1:6,6,11,11,14,17 1:17,18 35:1 earth 27:9 easier 4:5 easily 12:4 echo 27:20 32:5 economic 21:11 editors 2:24 effective 14:16 effectiveness 14:15 either 15:14 elected 22:6 30:13 eliminate 21:7 eliminated 20:25</p>	<p>e</p>
<p>data 13:19 15:20 16:6 date 10:18,24 11:8 day 15:23 days 7:1,9 24:3 dealing 20:7 deals 20:3 deblasio's 20:5 december 3:5,13 4:7 4:15 28:4 decline 17:6 defend 29:23 defending 29:21 delayed 7:17 delete 9:23 10:1 deleted 10:1 dell 5:10 demetrio 7:15 department 23:5 31:10 32:12 detailed 18:6 develop 12:13 didomenico 1:13 2:3 6:19 22:10 25:12,13 28:2,3 34:10</p>	<p>e</p>	<p>e</p>	<p>e</p>

<p>frankly 14:11,16,21 free 21:19 33:24 freeholder 1:12,13 1:13,14,14,15,15 2:1,2,5,7,9 3:6,8,10 3:11,12,14,15,17,19 4:4,6,8,10,12,13,17 4:20,23,24 5:14,17 5:18,19,20,21,23,25 6:2,4,14,14,19 7:2,3 8:4,4,6,9,10,11,14 8:15,19 9:3,14,17 10:4,8,12,15,25 11:4,13,17,21,24 12:14,20,22 13:2,11 13:17 16:12,13 17:13 20:2 21:13 22:10,23,24 23:2,4 23:6,10,12,13,22 24:9,15,22 25:8,9 25:10,11,13,15,17 25:19,21,23 26:6,8 26:10,16,17 27:3,4 27:5,17,18,19 28:1 28:3,4,11,23,25 29:12,13,21,23 30:8 30:23 32:4,21,24 34:8,9 35:7 freeholder's 2:19 freeholders 1:1,4,8 19:2,4 25:3 26:5,15 29:10 33:1 friend 29:17 33:21 friends 33:8 friendship 27:14 29:3,7 full 20:12,23 fun 30:12 fund 14:25 15:12 funded 15:25 funding 8:17,22 16:8 funds 6:17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">g</p> <p>g 1:21 gainful 15:4 gainfully 14:19 gary 8:24 gather 13:19 gaughan 33:4 general 7:6 23:19 gentleman 8:16 15:16 gentlemen 30:16 getting 28:20 give 9:21 16:14,23 17:19 31:13 given 32:7 giving 22:12 gladly 14:25 go 7:22 12:8 14:19 19:2 god 30:21 31:5 33:22 goes 12:2 21:9 going 8:5,8 15:9 19:18 21:14 26:15 26:20 28:8 good 17:7 21:16,17 27:23 29:3,16 30:15 30:22 31:2,3 33:23 gotten 10:22 government 15:11 15:12 governmental 14:23 great 16:19 31:17,22 ground 12:6 group 30:24 guess 12:14 13:17 guided 30:16 32:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">h</p> <p>half 20:19 halftime 31:13 hand 29:20 32:13 handle 16:18 happens 14:10 23:22</p>	<p>happy 29:16 hard 15:20 32:8 health 8:18 31:10 hear 20:4 heard 20:5 28:19 heart 13:16 hearted 31:2 hearts 33:10 heights 33:12,18 held 33:16 35:8 help 14:25 21:16 31:20,22 helped 30:16 hesitate 29:23 hiding 23:1 higher 12:23 hipaa 18:7 hire 17:9,9,15 hired 18:10 hit 12:5 hoboken 6:12 7:8 20:15 27:7 holidays 31:20 home 12:8,9 15:10 29:19 honest 18:15,17 honor 30:23 honored 30:9 hours 9:13 house 29:25 hudson 1:1,4,7,19 8:24 9:5,7,9 10:13 16:3 19:21 20:8,13 21:5,11 22:5 33:17 35:7 human 8:19 humbled 30:9 hundred 15:1 16:11 20:11,12 hundreds 20:10 21:4,10 hurricane 7:18</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">i</p> <p>i.d. 35:14 idea 16:24 31:14 identify 11:25,25 identifying 12:10 imagine 16:17 impact 21:11 impacts 20:8 important 12:6 26:24 32:16 incarcerate 15:14 incentive 23:15 included 22:22 includes 25:5 incorporate 16:8 incorporated 8:1 individuals 11:5 14:5,15,18 20:10 23:8,15 24:16 industry 23:11 inequality 20:4,6,7 21:14 22:8 information 8:21 10:16 13:13 16:14 17:16 18:2,3,5,11 22:12 informed 26:22 initial 12:9 inside 10:22 instance 17:17 instruct 24:20 interaction 11:9 interest 12:11 19:8 34:5 interesting 12:13 interests 28:16 interview 12:9 17:5 17:5 18:16 introduce 16:22 introduced 21:22 22:3 27:6 introduction 26:2 invaluable 27:7</p>
---	---	---	---

<p>investment 15:20 involved 10:22 11:11 16:25 issue 20:4,8 issues 16:16 21:1 item 5:7,9 6:8,22 7:24 19:10 items 7:21 8:13 19:6 19:12 22:19 25:5,7 26:3</p>	<p>kind 16:23 17:14 kindness 29:6 know 13:9,20,25 14:9,12 16:5 17:14 21:22,25 23:20 28:12 29:15 30:7 31:16,16 32:7 33:23 knowledge 29:9 kushner 19:14,15 21:21 22:4,15</p>	<p>local 7:7 located 5:13 10:13 locations 12:10 13:16 17:22 locked 18:8 long 14:4,15 longer 13:25 32:11 32:22 look 29:7 lopez 23:17,25 24:11 24:18,25 lot 13:12,15 14:24 14:24 15:11 20:4 27:22 29:2,21 30:1 31:3 32:14,18 love 15:12 luck 33:23</p>	<p>meetings 3:2 28:18 member 21:7 members 19:4,21 20:8,18 26:22 memorandum 20:19 mendiola 1:18 11:23 mentioned 2:22 28:5,25 31:8 mentors 30:18 middle 21:17 million 21:2 millions 21:4 mind 32:6 mine 28:3 minimum 9:12 minutes 3:2,11,24 4:2,9,11 19:6,7,11 27:12 34:6 missed 28:12 33:16 modern 16:1 moment 2:15 money 8:8 21:8,8 months 9:13 13:8 14:8 29:4 mora 8:23,24 9:4,16 9:21 10:6,10,14,18 11:2,10,15,20 12:1 12:18,21,25 13:7,12 16:19 17:18 18:5,14 motion 3:1 5:15 7:2 25:6,8 34:7 move 13:15 17:10 moved 3:6 5:17,18 8:10 municipal 33:19 municipalities 28:17 municipality 20:13 munoz 1:12 2:11,12 3:7,23 4:18,19 5:5 5:18 6:5,6,13 7:2,10 7:19,22 8:3,14 9:25 16:12 17:12,25 18:9 18:22 19:1 21:21 22:9,17,20,23 23:1</p>
j	i	m	
<p>j 1:19 j.h. 6:22 7:6 january 1:9 35:8 jersey 1:9,9 2:20,21 2:24 16:4 19:18,20 19:23 20:21 35:5,14 job 1:23 9:7 12:12 26:19 27:1,20,21,24 28:15 29:15,16 30:3 30:5 31:17,22 32:3 jobs 19:18 21:7,16 21:17 jose 1:12 journal 2:24 journey 23:8 junior 1:14 justice 11:1,7,9 15:7 15:9 juvenile 8:16 11:1,7 11:9 15:14 juveniles 16:16</p>	<p>i 1:17 labor 19:21 22:13 24:14 ladies 30:16 lady 32:19 law 18:7 lay 16:10 leadership 29:6 learned 27:22 leave 26:12 ledger 2:25 left 6:10 letting 28:19 license 35:3 life 18:21 23:24 27:13 30:22 lifelong 22:5 liggio 1:13 2:4,5 3:8 3:14,15 4:6,10,23 5:22,23 8:4,11 25:14,15 29:12,13 likelihood 24:16 limit 19:5 34:5 limited 19:11 list 9:14,22,23 10:6 listed 25:7 listing 5:10 literally 15:8 literature 16:23 little 32:11,16,22 live 21:10 living 16:3</p>		
k			
<p>kearny 20:14 keep 9:14 13:2 18:6 18:7 19:10 29:24 keeping 26:22 kept 12:19 key 15:4 kid 18:12 kids 10:19,21,23 11:2 12:4,7 17:5 18:10</p>			

<p>25:2,8,24,25 26:10 27:3,17 28:1,23 29:12,18 31:7,15 32:25 34:1,9</p>	<p>22:23,24 23:2,10,13 23:22 24:9,15,22 25:18,19 26:6,11,16 26:17 28:11 29:21 29:23 32:4,21</p>	<p>30:25 31:1,2,3 percent 14:18 15:6 20:23 percentage 12:16,23 period 30:23 person 19:24 20:16 23:23 32:23 personally 27:5 philanthropic 14:24 phone 13:14 28:8 phones 28:6 pittance 15:13 place 10:17 12:12 15:17 23:7 28:14,14 placed 12:15 places 12:10 16:4 27:7 plan 6:18 platform 6:11 20:5 plaza 20:16 please 2:13 19:10,12 21:13,14 33:24 34:5 pledge 2:14 plugged 28:7,8 point 14:6 16:7,10 21:20 policy 19:3 position 17:2 posting 2:18 potential 12:10 potentially 14:22 practice 10:21 prequalified 23:21 present 2:2 3:10 6:20 9:3 27:23 34:4 prevention 19:17 privatization 19:17 proactive 27:2 probably 4:4 10:10 15:22,23 16:2 33:15 probation 9:11 11:12 14:7,8 18:18 problem 17:11 proceed 5:4 18:24</p>	<p>proceeding 34:13 proceedings 1:4 35:5 process 18:16,20 24:19 professionalism 32:9 profit 10:9,9,11 program 6:9 8:20 8:25 10:20 11:6 12:3,6,17 14:7 15:1 15:10 23:9 24:1,2,5 programs 16:23 progressive 22:7 prohibited 23:23 project 6:12 7:17 protect 18:1 protected 18:4 proud 22:6 27:24 28:21 30:25 31:1,4 31:6 33:15,21 provide 8:21 17:16 18:11 provided 2:17 9:7 providing 9:5 public 18:24 19:5,8 19:9 34:5 35:4,13 publicly 31:25 purchase 5:12 purchases 5:8 put 8:9 15:17 17:1 21:14 23:14 24:2,13 24:13,20 putting 20:1</p>
n	<p>obviously 11:21 14:3 15:24 16:16 offense 18:12 23:23 offenses 15:2 offer 23:15 office 5:11 officer 18:19 official 30:13 officials 22:6 oh 4:24 oip 24:3 ojt 23:14,14,18 24:12,19 okay 4:25 18:22 older 30:20 once 12:8 21:12 24:4 open 33:24 operation 33:11 opportunities 9:7 order 5:1 6:22,24 7:5 ordinances 26:1,2 organization 18:7 oscar 23:5 outreach 8:1 outside 15:11 16:3</p>		
<p>n 1:6,6,17 35:1 name 8:23 19:13,14 names 9:22 10:1 13:21 nature 16:15 nearly 21:2 need 5:14 13:18,21 23:18 32:12,15 needs 32:13 negotiated 20:19 neighbor 28:22 never 17:1 29:24 30:20 33:16 new 1:9 2:21 16:4 19:18,19,22 20:6,6 20:7,14,21 25:5 35:4,14 news 20:5 newspapers 29:20 night 30:10 nine 13:22 nj1791871 1:23 non 14:23 normal 24:19 notary 35:4,13 note 27:8 notes 35:6 notice 2:16,18 november 3:3,4 number 20:25</p>	p		
o	<p>p 1:6,17 p.m. 1:10 34:14 park 27:7 part 14:3,4 15:4,25 20:12,24 24:1 33:20 participation 18:25 parts 30:15 pavonia 1:8 pay 17:19 paying 12:19 people 15:24 21:10 21:16 23:11,16</p>		
<p>o 1:6,6,11,17 35:1 o'dea 1:14 2:8,9 3:18,19 4:4,8 6:1,2 6:14 8:14,15 9:14 9:17 10:4,8,12,15 10:25 11:4,13,17,21 11:24 12:14,20,22 13:2,11,17 17:13</p>		q	
		<p>qualify 23:19 question 3:24 11:22 12:15 13:1 16:19 18:1 27:10 questions 9:18,20 11:13 17:12,25 18:17 19:1 21:19 22:9,25 25:2 29:22 31:2</p>	

quite 14:11,16,21	request 8:22 15:18 24:14	salaries 12:19	six 12:18 13:8 29:4
r	requesting 6:25	salary 20:23	speak 19:16 22:16 26:13 33:9
r 1:11,17 35:1	required 17:15,16 17:20	salute 2:15	speaker 22:5
range 15:2	requirements 17:15	sandy 7:18	speakers 19:12 22:17,18,20
rank 33:6	requires 14:11 15:17	santos 1:21	speaking 22:13
rate 14:17	resident 19:15 22:5	sat 28:7	speaks 26:11 30:14
reach 21:16 23:10	residents 21:5 30:25	saved 21:1	special 3:4,13 4:14 23:14,18 24:12 26:12
read 3:24 4:1,9 29:25	resolution 2:18,23 5:8 6:8,16 7:25 8:16 19:16 20:1,3 21:13 21:22	says 13:21	spends 21:8
reading 26:3	resources 23:7	secaucus 20:15,17	spent 29:1
reallocate 6:10	respect 4:7 16:18 32:9	second 3:7,8 6:14 7:3 8:4 25:9 26:2 32:24 34:8,9	sponsored 6:13 21:24
reallocating 6:17	responded 7:13	seconded 5:19 8:11	spots 12:4,7
really 14:14	responsibility 31:12	section 26:12	staff 24:20 33:3,5,12 33:14
reason 7:11,16 12:23	rest 23:24	secure 13:6	stand 2:13
reassured 17:3	resurfaced 11:1	see 8:8 9:18 15:16 22:6	star 2:24
receive 24:6	retained 12:16 13:23,23,24	seeing 29:20	start 23:8 26:16
received 24:3	richardson 31:18	sense 32:13	started 10:17 12:10
recidivism 10:16 14:17	right 17:4,6,7,8 31:25 32:3	sent 2:23	state 5:9 19:12 21:15 24:8 35:4,14
recognize 32:2	risks 17:2	serious 27:8	statistics 13:3,7,9
record 3:9 6:19 9:3 19:13	rivas 1:15 2:10 3:10 4:12,13,17 5:19 6:3 6:4 25:20,21 27:17 27:18	served 10:19	staunch 22:13
redacted 10:5 11:22	road 20:16	service 9:5 26:8,18	steady 32:13,22
reduced 20:23	roll 3:22 4:20	serviced 10:23	sticking 32:11
referral 12:8	romano 1:15 2:10 9:3 25:9,22,23 26:8 27:5,19 30:8 32:24 33:5	services 8:19 15:4 23:6 24:3	stop 21:15
referring 8:21 33:16	rpr 35:3,13	servicing 8:25	stopped 12:19
regular 1:3 3:3,3	rules 20:25	set 8:5 17:4 19:4 24:19,23	straightened 32:15
reid's 6:22 7:6	run 15:10	shari 35:3,13	street 6:23 7:7
reintegration 24:2	running 28:13,14,18	sheet 17:18,19,21	streets 7:8
reiterate 28:4	s	ship 32:22	strong 32:13
related 8:16	s 1:6,6,6,17,17	shoes 30:4	stuff 24:24
rely 29:9		short 29:1 32:14	subsequent 11:5
remember 29:19 34:5		show 15:9	success 29:8
remiss 26:7		showed 17:17	suggest 16:5
replacement 7:6		shows 15:1	sum 30:15
report 13:21 16:9		side 33:19	summer 29:19
representative 8:20 19:19 28:10 33:15		sign 4:2 17:20	support 9:6 12:3 20:3 21:13,23 22:1 22:2
represented 33:7,13		significant 20:22	supportive 12:3 15:3
representing 28:16 28:17		silence 2:15	
		sinatra 6:11	
		sisters 30:19	
		sit 8:7 15:16	

<p>sure 11:10 17:16 24:15 30:6 31:15,24 32:2,5 33:18 surveys 13:14 susan 8:18 31:9 32:6 sworn 29:14 system 9:10,12 10:23 11:7,9,11 13:13 15:7,10</p>	<p>14:17 15:19 16:6 21:1 28:6 thursday 1:9 35:8 tilo 1:15 time 6:25 7:8,17 17:18,19,21 19:9 20:12,12,23,24 23:20 28:7 29:1,2 32:7,7,8,14 34:3</p>	<p>u unanimously 21:24 22:1 understand 14:14 understanding 20:20 unfortunately 9:21 27:12 union 7:8 19:20 20:15 urge 15:15 20:2 21:12 use 18:15 24:23,23 usually 23:20 utmost 32:8</p>	<p>17:17,24 20:16,24 30:23 31:19 worked 9:12 working 29:8 30:10 works 30:11 world 16:2 worth 15:21 16:8 worthwhile 14:13 writing 24:21 wrong 32:1</p>
<p>t</p>	<p>times 13:12</p>	<p>v</p>	<p>x</p>
<p>t 1:17 35:1,1 taken 14:6 35:6 talent 32:9 talk 23:13 talking 18:9 team 8:1 tell 16:21,22 18:14 18:19 ten 14:18 15:6 term 14:4,15 terrific 29:15 thank 7:19 8:23 18:22,23 19:25 21:18 22:11,15,16 27:2,24 28:21 29:5 29:6,7,11,17 31:5,6 31:9,18 32:3,20 34:1 thankful 30:5 thanking 26:7 thanks 21:5 31:22 thing 24:22 32:5 things 8:5 12:2 14:2 16:20 23:6 26:23 27:5,21 31:24 32:1 32:15 think 10:21 13:18 14:3 15:10,15 16:7 23:2,17 27:1 31:10 32:11,13,16,17 third 2:20 thomas 1:13 three 9:4,12 10:11 10:21 11:1,5 13:8</p>	<p>title 9:5 today 16:11 26:13 today's 5:2 15:23 26:4 toll 19:17,23 20:12 20:18 tom 30:20 track 13:13,16 14:13 15:23 training 17:14 transcends 30:13 transcript 1:3 35:9 transportation 6:18 transportations 6:9 tremendous 27:20 27:21,24 28:10 30:3 30:5 tremendously 26:21 trick 27:12 trouble 14:9 true 30:21 33:14 try 12:3 13:12 14:9 21:14 23:14 24:23 32:23 trying 18:20 tuesday 7:14 21:23 29:1,14 turnpike 19:18,20 19:23 20:21 21:2,3 twelve 28:17 33:5 two 10:11 14:5 20:18 27:4,6,11 28:6 type 9:19 18:12 22:8</p>	<p>various 20:24 viaduct 6:24 7:7 visible 26:19 vote 3:24 4:3,16 voted 4:7 22:2</p> <p>w</p> <p>wait 15:19 want 4:8 17:23 18:18 21:6,12 22:11 26:7 27:2 30:6 31:15 wanted 24:12 26:12 31:7 way 9:23 33:9 we've 9:5 weehawken 20:15 week 8:7 9:13 17:19 17:22 weekly 17:19 went 4:22 15:3,3 31:11 west 20:14 william 1:14 wish 6:10 words 11:11 work 9:15 11:2 12:3 13:4,4,5 14:1,2</p>	<p>x 14:18,19</p> <p>y</p> <p>yea 27:18 yeah 11:23 year 6:9 9:6 10:23 14:10 15:19,19 16:5 18:11 19:22 26:9,14 28:13 30:5 32:12 year's 6:11 years 9:1,4 14:5,17 15:5,20 16:6 20:19 21:1 27:15 29:3,10 32:7 33:5 york 20:6,14 young 32:18 younger 30:21 youth 8:20,25 9:7,10 9:10,12 10:20 12:18 15:1 16:24 17:1 18:6,14</p> <p>z</p> <p>zero 11:8</p>