



# Office of the Attorney General ★ ★ ★ **ERIC T. SCHNEIDERMAN**

[www.ag.ny.gov](http://www.ag.ny.gov)

**THIS WEEK IN THE NEWS**

**August 14th Edition**

## **TOP HEADLINES**

### **Prison Sentence For Former Councilman Ruben Wills In Public Corruption Scheme**

Attorney General Schneiderman and State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli announced the sentencing of former New York City Councilman Ruben Wills (D-Queens) to 2 to 6 years in prison; Will was also ordered to pay nearly \$33,000 in restitution and a \$5,000 fine. The sentencing followed an eleven-day trial in July that resulted in a guilty verdict on five counts related to Will's theft of approximately \$30,000 in public campaign funds and state grant money. The jury found Wills guilty of one count of Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, two counts of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, and two counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree. Wills was previously expelled from the New York City Council; he was immediately taken into custody today.

### **A.G. Schneiderman Opposes EPA's Illegal Proposed Delays Of New Source Methane Rule And Smog Regulations**

Attorney General Schneiderman – part of a coalition of 14 attorneys general, the State of Colorado, and the City of Chicago - submitted comments in opposition to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed 27-month delay of a vital rule aimed at preventing tons of methane emissions– a powerful greenhouse gas – from new sources in the oil and gas sector. The methane new source rule put in place under the Obama administration limits emissions of this powerful greenhouse gas by encouraging the use of emerging technology to identify, reduce, and eliminate emissions of methane and other pollution from the development, transmission, and distribution of oil and natural gas.

*...Continued on Back*

## **In Other News...**

\*New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, leading a coalition of sixteen Attorneys General, filed a new amicus brief in the Hawaii travel ban litigation, opposing the Trump administration's appeal of the decision by the district court that the ban should not prevent grandparents and other close relatives of United States residents from entering the country. The amicus brief was filed last night in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The amicus brief was also signed by New York, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and the District of Columbia.

*...Continued on Back*

## **Contact Us**

Visit our website at [www.ag.ny.gov](http://www.ag.ny.gov), where you can learn more about our office's initiatives. You can also call our General Hotline: 800-771-7755



STATE OF NEW YORK  
ATTORNEY GENERAL



**TOP HEADLINES CONTINUED**

**NYS Attorney General And Brooklyn District Attorney Call To End ICE Raids In State Courts**

New York State Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman and Acting Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez called for the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to stop conducting raids in New York courthouses and to recalibrate their priorities so crime victims and witnesses are not targeted for removal proceedings. Instances of arrests and attempted arrests by ICE in courts have spiked approximately five-fold this year compared to 2016, according to service providers, and a growing number of victims have expressed reluctance to move forward with criminal prosecutions due to fear of being deported, according to the Brooklyn DA’s Office. These reports are consistent with findings detailed in a national report issued by the New York Attorney General’s office in March. Together, the reports provide overwhelming evidence that the Trump administration’s immigration enforcement policies have undermined public safety and must end.

**A.G. Schneiderman Announces \$5.5 Million Multi-State Settlement With Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company Over 2012 Data Breach**

Attorney General Schneiderman announced that New York, along with 32 other states, has reached a settlement with the Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and its subsidiary, Allied Property & Casualty Insurance Company, concerning an October 2012 data breach. The data breach, which the states allege had been caused by the failure to apply a critical security patch intended to prevent hacking or viral infection, resulted in the loss of personal information belonging to 1.27 million consumers – including 2,810 New Yorkers. The breach included social security numbers, driver’s license numbers, credit scoring information, and other personal data initially collected to provide insurance quotes to consumers applying for Nationwide insurance plans—many of whom did not ultimately become insured by the company. In addition to agreeing to improve its data security, Nationwide will pay a total of \$5.5 million, including \$103,736.78 to New York State.

**Other News Continued**

\*Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman announced the guilty plea of Jason Brewster, a major heroin distributor who sold drugs in Dutchess County. Brewster, of Poughkeepsie, pled guilty today to Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree, a class A-1 felony. He will be sentenced on September 5<sup>th</sup> to 10 years in state prison.

**Did you know...**



You can request a presentation from the Attorney General’s Office by submitting an online request.

Go to [www.ag.ny.gov/presentation-request](http://www.ag.ny.gov/presentation-request)

You can also file a complaint using our online forms.

Some of the forms include:

- Consumer Fraud Complaint
- Price Gouging Complaint
- Internet Bureau Complaint
- Loan Modification Scam

Go to [www.ag.ny.gov/complaint-forms](http://www.ag.ny.gov/complaint-forms)

To sign up for our weekly newsletter:

Go to <http://www.ag.ny.gov/resource-center-0>

