

**Testimony for NYS Committee on Elections  
BROOKLYN PUBLIC HEARING  
JULY 28, 2021, 10:00AM  
FOUNDERS AUDITORIUM, MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE  
1650 BEDFORD AVENUE, BROOKLYN NY 11225**

**As a voter in New York City I am embarrassed by the performance of the Board of Elections. While I am concerned about the ill effects of the patronage system whereby staff of the Board of Elections is appointed by elected officials, I am far more concerned about the level of incompetence demonstrated by the Board. Members of the Board, from the very top administrators to the poll workers, should need to be part of the civil service and independent of political pressure. They should all have to qualify via a civil service test on election law. In an age when people are concerned about the validity of elections, we cannot afford incompetent administrators.**

**Helen Meltzer-krim  
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