

An Open Letter to an Elected Official

May 30, 2021

**Carlina Rivera, member
New York City Council**

Dear Ms. Rivera:

I commend the decision of the MTA and NYPD to assign more police officers to the New York City subway system. However, this decision is too little, too late. Crime is so rampant in the New York City subway that the city council, the same city council that, for partisan reasons, has defunded the police, needs to do much more to bring the crime situation in the subway, as well as in the rest of the city, under control. Accordingly, until such time that the city council restores full funding to the police, I am calling on the city council to ask the US Department of Defense to designate the New York City subway, and possibly the entire city, a combat zone and take charge of security operations in the New York City subway and possibly the entire city until such time that the NYPD is provided all the resources and political backing necessary to effectively deter crime and maintain law and order.

I am also calling on the city council

- to designate a certain date as Victims of Violent Crime Commemoration Day, when the mayor officially and publicly pays homage to EVERY person who has been a victim of a violent crime in New York City.

- to enact legislation amending the current criminal statutes to designate EVERY violent crime as an act of terror and mandate that the police refer EVERY report of violent crime to the US Department of Homeland Security for further investigation to determine whether the alleged crime was random or politically motivated.

- to de-politicize crime and enact a resolution formally recognizing the issue of violent crime to be a human rights issue that transcends partisan politics.

- to enact legislation permitting the United Nations Human Rights Council to investigate the City of New York in order to determine whether the City of New York is acting in a manner that fully respects and protects the rights of victims of violent crime.

In addition, I am calling on the state legislature to enact legislation that

- would prohibit the City of New York from unilaterally defunding the police without first obtaining approval from the state legislature and US Departments of Justice and Homeland Security, and

- would amend the state constitution to empower the state to ensure that the City of New York is being provided sufficient law enforcement services.

On January 6, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt publicly and officially designated Freedom from Fear to be an essential human freedom.

Without law and order, there can be no justice.

Without law and order, there can be no freedom.

Sincerely,

Phillip W. Weiss

Phillip W. Weiss

Sources:

[Franklin D. Roosevelt speaks of Four Freedoms - HISTORY](#)

[After Feuding With MTA Over Subway Safety, NYC Agrees To Add Volunteer Police Officers Underground - Gothamist](#)

[Race For NYC Mayor: Crime Takes Center Stage After Another Weekend Plagued With Shootings Abc7 New York \(Abc7ny.Com\) - Bing News](#)

[75-Year-Old Asian Woman Gets Black Eyes After Sucker-Punched in New York: Cops \(msn.com\)](#)

[Defund police: New York City Council passes budget with \\$1 billion cut to NYPD amid City Hall protest - ABC7 New York \(abc7ny.com\)](#)

[Rights of Victims \(justice.gov\)](#)