

Candidates for State Committee Member, AD69

Richard Guberman: I'm a lifelong Upper West Sider—my dad walked me mornings to P.S. 87 I grew up on West End Avenue and am raising mt family on West 97th street — and I'm running for Democratic State Committee to represent all three local clubs and every registered Democrat in our district. I currently serve on the New York County Democratic Committee, and I've also served as an alternate Judicial Delegate. It would be horrific if any member of New York's Democratic congressional delegation were replaced. Adriano Espaillat, Dan Goldman, and Ritchie Torres need to be in Washington fighting for us. we can't fight each other now. We are living in unprecedented times. Munich 1938. We need party unity.

I started out young (and idealistic) as a teacher in Hunts Point, working at a District 79 alternative transfer high school for overage, undercredited students. Later, I spent a long stretch in the private sector, mostly running my own insurance brokerage. I also took some financial hits—but honestly, I just missed being around young people and doing work that felt real. So, I came back.

For the past six years, I've taught at the A. Philip Randolph High School Campus, a Title I school in Harlem. It's a mid-size, traditional comprehensive academic high school, and I'm a regularly appointed, tenured Special Education teacher. I teach in the Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) model—two teachers in the room: a content teacher and me, the learning specialist. I work with students with IEPs to make lessons accessible by modifying and differentiating instruction, so they can thrive in mainstream classes alongside their general ed peers. I've been lucky to serve on the 11th and 12th grade humanities team.

For nearly 20 years, I lived in a rent-stabilized apartment on the Upper West Side, so I know—personally—how much stable, affordable housing matters in this city.

After high school, I hung out in D.C. and somehow surprisingly managed to earn a B.A. in Sociology from The George Washington University. Later, I earned a master's in special education from Adelphi University, a postgraduate certificate in financial planning from NYU, and I was sponsored by an evil insurance company for an executive education program at The Wharton School (UPenn).

But the thing I'm proudest of? I'm the dad of an amazing 14-year-old daughter. Also: I'm overly obsessed with points-and-miles, assessing the calculations with the skill of a professional poker player. I have successfully redeemed close to three million AAdvantage miles and a similar number of hotel points. I've officially retired from being the world's okay-ish tennis player and reinvented myself as a decent advanced-beginner pickleball player.

My Commitments

- Attend every regularly scheduled meeting in person, no matter the location—downstate, midstate, or upstate.
- Carry the proxy for a fellow committee member who can't attend in person
- Provide reports to Broadway Democrats, West Side Democrats, and Three Parks.
- Fully engage in the party-wide conversation about whether Jay Jacobs should continue as Chair.

Why I Want the Position

I will use this platform to spotlight one urgent economic issue: New York's sky-high recidivism and the massive public cost of failing to reduce reincarceration—fast and dramatically.

I will use my volunteer position as a member of the New York State Democratic Committee to create an external resource and platform to promote, champion, and bring attention to one economic problem: the high recidivism rate—and the fiscal responsibility of immediately and dramatically reducing reincarceration rates.

www.oneanddone.solutions

I realize this isn't traditionally within the formal purview of a State Committee member. But I believe a job is what you make of it. We can do more. We can push ourselves, and we can expand what a role can be when the stakes are this high.

In New York State, the average cost to keep one person in state prison is often cited at about \$115,000 a year. Keep someone locked up for 10 years and taxpayers are on the hook for roughly \$1.15 million. That's not "tough"—it's expensive, and it pulls a potential worker, parent, and taxpayer out of the economy. Now flip it. If that same person holds a steady, full-time job at \$18/hour, they earn about \$374,400 over 10 years. Instead of draining public dollars, they help fund public services—through income taxes and payroll taxes paid by the worker and employer—adding up to roughly six figures over a decade.

So, the real choice isn't "prison or nothing." It's spend about \$1.15 million cycling someone back into prison, or invest earlier—during incarceration and right after release—so they're one-and-done: educated, trained, treated, housed, and supported enough to stay out.

Call it whatever you want—blue, red, liberal, conservative. Math doesn't care. Fiscal responsibility means fewer returns to prison and more returns to work.

If elected, I will dedicate my time and resources to developing and maintaining www.oneanddone.solutions as a major source of information and public discourse on the tragic, costly cycle of reincarceration. The goal is simple: elevate what works, challenge what doesn't, and keep sustained attention on practical, evidence-based reentry policies, education, job training, treatment, housing, and support—so fewer people return to prison and fewer taxpayer dollars are wasted.

I am going to create a platform from the position of State Committee member to convene allies, share credible research, spotlight effective programs, and build pressure for reforms that reduce recidivism and strengthen communities.

Jacob Kimbarow is a 28-year-old Jewish United States Air Force veteran, senior at Columbia University, and dedicated Democratic organizer with a lifelong commitment to public service. Raised in a family that instilled the values of service and community, shaped in part by his mother's career as a special education teacher and elementary school nurse, Jacob enlisted in the Air Force at 18, following the proud tradition of his grandfathers and brothers who had served before him. His connection to the community has always been central to his identity, grounded in his family's values.

After completing his active-duty service and transitioning to the reserves, Jacob continued serving his community through Democratic politics. He first became involved as Chair of Military and Veteran Students for the College Democrats of America, where he represented student veterans nationwide. In this role, he advocated for critical policy issues, including expanded campus veteran services and mental health support, and advised CDA leadership on platform positions affecting veterans and military families.

Jacob went on to serve as Chair of the Military and Veterans Caucus for the Young Democrats of America, where he built and led a national membership network, coordinated caucus initiatives, identified key issues affecting young veterans, and contributed to policy proposals and resolutions at the organization's highest levels. Simultaneously, he has supported Democratic organizing in New York City as Events Director for the Manhattan Young Democrats and Recording Secretary of the Broadway Democrats. He has accomplished all this while continuing to rise through the ranks of the United States Air Force, recently celebrating his tenth anniversary in the service. You may also recognize him from Saturday mornings at Rodeph Shalom.

Now, driven by his commitment to progressive values and his love for the community he calls home, Jacob Kimbarow is running for State Committeeman for the 69th Assembly District, bringing the voice of Morningside Heights to Albany and fighting for a stronger, more inclusive future for all.