



Monroe County Clerk
JAMIE ROMEO

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For Immediate Release

March 7, 2024

***** Media Release *****

County Clerk Jamie Romeo Calls On State Legislature To ‘Fix Tier 6’

(Rochester NY) – Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, public employees across many sectors became essential workers, including the staff of the Monroe County Clerk’s Office.

According to County Clerk Jamie Romeo “Staffing shortages in the public sector are at crisis levels, from public education to health care, transportation to emergency services. Employers at every level of government have sounded the alarm that they cannot recruit enough staff or encourage qualified individuals to stay in service. Our office is no exception to this. **In order to retain and invest in our staff, along with bolstering recruitment efforts, we must Fix Tier 6.**”

“We have continued to ask public employees to sacrifice on behalf of the greater good, to take on additional risks and burden in order to keep access to the vital services they provide to the public. Now it is time for New York State to give back and demonstrate to those essential workers their value and worth.”

“I implore the members of our local State Legislative delegation to **bring Tier 6 members into a fairer, more equitable pension system.** This will bring long-overdue benefit for our essential workers and create a strong competitive edge for public employers like the Monroe County Clerk’s Office.”

If you have questions or need more information please feel free to contact our communications officer Katelyn at mcclerkpress@monroecounty.gov

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Office of the County Clerk

Monroe County, New York

Jamie L. Romeo
County Clerk

Thaddeus I. Mack
Deputy County Clerk

March 5, 2024

Honorable Carl Heastie
Speaker, NYS Assembly
Legislative Office Building 932
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Speaker ^{Carl}Heastie:

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, public employees across many sectors became essential workers. This included the staff of the Monroe County Clerk's Office, as well as our peer County Clerk offices across New York State. We assisted grocers and healthcare workers in keeping vehicles on the road. We have kept the wheels of justice moving to ensure that essential court matters can continue to be recorded and processed. We supported local economies, keeping real estate transactions and car sales in motion through remote processing.

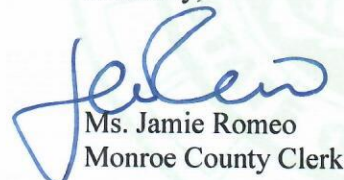
We have continued to ask public employees to sacrifice on behalf of the greater good, to take on additional risks and burden in order to keep access to the vital services they provide to the public. Now it is time for New York State to give back and demonstrate to those essential workers their value and worth.

Staffing shortages in the public sector are at crisis levels, from public education to health care, transportation to emergency services. Employers at every level of government have sounded the alarm that they cannot recruit enough staff or encourage qualified individuals to stay in service. Our office is no exception to this. **In order to retain and invest in our staff, along with bolstering recruitment efforts, we must Fix Tier 6.**

During your upcoming budget negotiations and one-house resolutions, I implore you to consider a proposal to bring Tier 6 members, both current and future, into a fairer and more equitable pension system. Not only will this be a long-overdue benefit for our essential workers, but also a strong competitive edge that public employers like the Monroe County Clerk's Office can use to recruit the next generation of public employees.

To discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at 753-1001 or jamieromeo@monroecounty.gov.

Sincerely,


Ms. Jamie Romeo
Monroe County Clerk