**What did you learn from your first legislative budgeting/ appropriation processes?**

“On the legislative end, I’m hoping to CASKEY social service infrastructure is crumbling. Our credit rating has been downgraded and our has caused incredible hardship for many indi

**What do you see as your biggest accomplishment from January to May?**

“We called our budget ‘The Big Ugly’ since it was such an arduous process. This was one of the rare times that our budget was late getting passed, and many members who had been here for decades said it was one of the most difficult budget negotiations we have had in a very long time. It was very much like a crash course in how our budget process gets done. It was very interesting to learn about the negotiations, and in the end, we accomplished some very important things like raising New York’s age of criminal responsibility in this year’s budget.”

“In the immortal words of Yogi Berra, ‘It’s over till it’s over.’ What I mean by that is the budget is a long negotiation where one day you may think there is little support for your priorities and then suddenly, seemingly without warning, the tide turns. The lesson learned from this experience is one that has served me well throughout my career—no matter how challenging things may appear, stick to your principles and do what is in the best interest of the people you serve.”

**How do you hope to spend your summer recess?**

“What I mean by that is the budget is a long negotiation where one day you may think there is little support for your priorities and then suddenly, seemingly without warning, the tide turns. The lesson learned from this experience is one that has served me well throughout my career—no matter how challenging things may appear, stick to your principles and do what is in the best interest of the people you serve.”

“Working! I’ve put a ton of effort working with colleagues and hear people out. I was able to pass five bills through both chambers and onto the governor’s desk. And throughout the process, it was clear that to be a successful legislator, one must be in constant communication of the time—with stakeholders, colleagues, opponents, staff, everyone.”

“In district, some of my biggest accomplishments are how many constituents care on an active summer calendar in terms of neighborhood festivals, block parties, community meetings and events. I plan to be all over the district getting to know more and more of my constituents. I am planning several neighborhood meet-and-greets hosted by my office. I will also be working with interns and volunteers on policy ideas for next session.”

“We don’t get the same kind of summer recess that some other state legislators have! We are just as busy as members return to their districts after six months in Albany. We will be continuing to hold our mobile district offices and working on local issues that our constituents want to consider. For example, we are holding a town hall with Exelon (an energy utility company) and the state’s Department of Environmental Conservation in late June about a recent oil spill in the East River. We also have significant storm resiliency needs in my district and the discussions are ongoing as we fight for flood protection resources.”

“What I mean by that is the budget is a long negotiation where one day you may think there is little support for your priorities and then suddenly, seemingly without warning, the tide turns. The lesson learned from this experience is one that has served me well throughout my career—no matter how challenging things may appear, stick to your principles and do what is in the best interest of the people you serve.”

“What I mean by that is the budget is a long negotiation where one day you may think there is little support for your priorities and then suddenly, seemingly without warning, the tide turns. The lesson learned from this experience is one that has served me well throughout my career—no matter how challenging things may appear, stick to your principles and do what is in the best interest of the people you serve.”