

# ACROSS THE BOARD

NOVEMBER 2022

VOLUME 44, NO. 5

## *District Manager's Report*

### *Municipal Services Update*

The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 10/31/2022 through 11/06/2022.

	Year-to-Date		
	2022	2021	%Chg
Murder	10	11	-9.1
Rape	20	23	-13
Robbery	185	122	51.6
Felony Assault	311	270	15.2
Burglary	155	121	28.1
Grand Larceny	372	235	58.3
GL Auto	115	84	36.9

The overall change year-to-date is **34.87**.

The Department of Sanitation cleanliness rating of our streets, known as the "scorecard" rating, was **88.43% for clean streets and 97.14% for sidewalks** for the month of October.

We urge everyone to adhere to the Department of Sanitation's residential enforcement routing times of 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Please clean in front of your properties and 18 inches into the gutter area of the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly. Thank you for your assistance in helping to keep the District clean.

### *FREE LEAF BAGS*

Community Board 8 has been given paper leaf bags for distribution. Even though CB8 has not been enrolled in the city's composting program yet, we can still work as a community to recycle leaves and put them to good use. Leaf bags are one way to do this.

We encourage anyone interested in recycling their leaves to schedule an appointment to pick up some leaf bags from the District office. Bags can be picked up regularly scheduled work days between 9 AM and 5 PM while supplies last.

### *COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS*

Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso will begin accepting community board membership applications on November 15, 2022. The application period will run through February 14, 2023. Prospective members are encouraged to apply early and attend meetings to familiarize yourself with community boards. Current members up for renewal are encouraged to submit their reappointment application early as well. To apply, go to <https://www.brooklyn-usa.org/departments/community-boards/>.

### *DEPT. OF BUILDINGS HAS RELOCATED*

The NYC Dept. of Buildings Brooklyn Borough Office is moving! The new office will be located

at 345 Adams Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. The Joralemon Street location will remain open through Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. The new location on Adams Street will open officially on November 21<sup>st</sup>. All contact information will remain the same.



### ***RESTRICTIONS ON PLASTIC BEVERAGE STRAWS, STIRRERS, AND SPLASH STICKS***

As of November 1, 2022, enforcement on restrictions against plastic beverage straws, stirrers, and splash sticks in New York City plastic commercial establishments are in effect. NYC food establishments must:

- Stop offering plastic straws, splash sticks, and stirrers.
- Maintain a supply of plastic straws and provide only upon request at no charge.
- Display a sign at each self-service area that states “Plastic straws available upon request.”

Compostable (paper, plant-based, wood) straws, splash sticks, and stirrers are acceptable. Establishments can download sample signs, and proprietors and customers can learn more about the law at [www.nyc.gov/straws](http://www.nyc.gov/straws), or by calling 311.



### ***HEAT SEASON***

Heat season is in effect from now until May 31, 2023. The Department of Housing, Preservation, and Development has strict minimum heat guidelines that all landlords must follow. Between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. if the temperature outside falls below 40 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Residents are encouraged to report the lack of heat and hot water to HPD via 311 immediately.



### ***HELP IDENTIFY SMOKE SHOPS***

The NYC Dept. of Consumers and Worker Protection (DCWP) is seeking your help identifying unlicensed smoke shops in District 8. If there is a smoke shop near you, please email us the name and address of the shop so that DCWP can verify that it is operating legally with the proper license.

Please note that this request is not for cannabis/cannabinoid products and is only for tobacco based products. Cannabinoid products are regulated by New York State, and being a city agency, DCWP is only concerned with city-regulated tobacco based items. However, that being said, if you see any cannabinoid (specifically marijuana) based shops, you can still send us the information as most of these shops are illegally operated. State officials are currently in the process of accepting and reviewing applications for cannabis premises licenses, but none have been issued to date.



### ***FREE MAMMOGRAMS***

The American Italian Cancer Foundation will be hosting a free mobile mammogram screenings on Friday, November 11, 2022 and Sunday, November 13, 2022. On the 11<sup>th</sup>, the mobile mammogram van will be in front of Councilmember Darlene Mealy’s office located at 400 Rockaway Avenue from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. On the 13<sup>th</sup>, the mobile mammogram van will be in front of the Brooklyn Public Library Grand Army Plaza branch at 10 Grand Army Plaza from 10 AM to 4:30 PM.

Any person 40+ can schedule an appointment so long as they are not pregnant and do not have breast implants. Insurance is not required for the medical service and all co-pays and deductibles will be waived. Call with a friend and schedule your mammogram.

Please contact Melissa del Valle Ortiz at 347-423-5818 with any questions.

## ***PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY***

Every year, as many as nine million Americans' identities are stolen. The process is long and difficult to recover from and prove. As such, to help protect your identity, follow these important tips:

1. Protect your personal information. Be alert to suspicious offers by phone, mail, text, and email. Avoid giving personal information over the phone, via text, via email, and on social media sites. Make sure to review your free credit report every year for any discrepancies. Never carry your social security card
2. Monitor your mail and be aware when your monthly bills and account statements typically arrive to know if any are missing or late. Consider electronic billing and online bill pay to avoid mail phishing.
3. Be aware when shopping and check your receipts. Make sure your receipts do not show your cards full account number and expiration date.
4. Act quickly if you think you are the victim of identify theft. Immediately close all fraudulent accounts and call the Fraud Department of each company where an account was fraudulently opened in your name or shows purchases you did not make. Report identity theft to your local police precinct and file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft). Place a fraud alert on your credit report with at least one of the three credit reporting agencies.

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## ***COVID-19 AND PAID SICK LEAVE***

Workers can still get paid sick leave. If you have Covid-19 or were in contact with someone with Covid-19, you can get sick leave/time off regardless of immigration status. State and local laws let workers take time off to care for themselves or a family member. Employers

cannot mistreat or punish workers for using or asking for sick leave.

All private and public sector workers are covered by Covid-19 sick leave laws. Paid sick leave is covered for most workers who must quarantine if they have tested positive for Covid and do not meet the criteria for leaving isolation or if they are not fully vaccinated and have been in close contact with someone with Covid. Depending on the size and income of the employers, workers can get between 5 and 14 days of paid sick leave by their employer.

Additionally, New York State Paid Leave for Covid-19 Vaccinations is in effect until December 31, 2022. This law entails that all workers of any size business or nonprofit in New York City (full-time, part-time, and even temporary workers) and all domestic workers (in households) are covered by this law. Workers get up to 4 hours of paid time per vaccine injection.

Call 888-469-7365 or visit [www.dol.ny.gov](http://www.dol.ny.gov) for more information or detailed explanations of the law.

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## ***GARDEN APPRENTICE PROGRAM***

Teens that participate in the Garden Apprentice Program at Brooklyn Botanic Garden learn about career skills, horticulture, and education through hands-on work in the Garden. Apprentices are eligible for community service credit and earn a monetary award of up to \$800 upon successful completion of the program.

Garden Apprentices work as environmental educators with children and visitors of all ages; learn about botany; grow, harvest, and cook their own fruit and vegetables; explore BBG's amazing plant collections and greenhouses; and develop professional skills including teamwork, communication, and responsibility.

Applications are due by Friday, December 9, 2022. For more information, visit [www.bbg.org/gap](http://www.bbg.org/gap).

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### ***PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IS BACK!***

Participatory Budgeting is back for the 35<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> Council Districts. Councilmembers Hudson and Osse will each set aside \$1 million in capital funding for community-selected projects on city property like schools, parks, and more. The time is now to start thinking about how you would spend \$1 million dollars in the community.

Councilmember Crystal Hudson's office can be reached at 718-260-9191, and Councilmember's Chi Osse's office can be reached at 718-919-0740.

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### ***NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH***

Celebrated every November, National Family Caregivers Month (NFCM) is a time to recognize and honor family caregivers across the country. It offers an opportunity to raise awareness of caregiving issues, educate communities, and increase support for caregivers. During National Family Caregivers Month, we recognize the love and sacrifice of more than 50 million Americans providing crucial care and medical assistance to parents, children, siblings, and other loved ones, ensuring their health and dignity.

Families are the primary source of support for older adults and people with disabilities in the U.S. Many family caregivers work and provide care, experiencing conflicts between competing responsibilities. Research indicates caregiving takes a significant emotional, physical, and financial toll. With nearly half of all caregivers older than age 50, many are vulnerable to a decline in their own health. Studies have shown that coordinated support services can reduce caregiver depression, anxiety, and stress, and enable them to provide care longer, which avoids or delays the need for costly institutional care.

No one should have to choose between a paycheck and looking after a loved one. President Joe Biden's administration is committed to easing that squeeze on working families and getting caregivers the resources and respect they deserve. The Department of Health and Human Services' National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers outlines nearly 350 actions the Federal Government can take to support family caregivers' health, well-being, and financial security. The American Rescue Plan provided \$145 million to help the National Family Caregiver Support Program deliver counseling, training, and short-term relief to family and other informal care providers.

For more information on services, programs, and funding available for family givers, visit <https://acl.gov/>.

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### ***ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS***

November is also Alzheimer's Awareness month. The Caregiver Support, Alzheimer's Services program at Sunnyside Community Services provides supportive services to family caregivers caring for an individual suffering from memory loss or some form of dementia. The program operates in Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island, is funded by the New York State Department of Health. Services are provided at no cost to the caregivers.

Care Consultations are provided to caregivers, families, and friends who provide support to individuals suffering from memory loss or other forms of dementia. These personalized assessments are conducted by social workers either in person, virtually, or via phone. Support Groups are provided to decrease caregivers' isolation by giving them opportunities to receive emotional support and a platform to share similar experiences with peers. Access to groups is available to caregivers living in all boroughs.

Education and Training sessions provide caregivers with the information necessary to

understand and respond to the progression of dementia or Alzheimer's disease. Respite services provide caregivers with a brief relief from the role of caregiver. Respite can be provided in the home or at a licensed adult day center. Wellness Programs provide caregivers with opportunities to participate in self-care activities. Activities include art therapy, musical performances, and sporting events.

For more information, please visit [www.scsny.org](http://www.scsny.org) or call 877-577-9337.

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### ***NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE NORTH FLATBUSH AVENUE BID***

The North Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District is collaborating with Camp Friendship and several local partners and businesses on a food collection drive for the holiday season. Donations of canned goods and pantry staples are being accepted now through November 16<sup>th</sup>, and volunteers can even donate money to sponsor a bird for a family.

Donation sites include Camp Friendship located at 339 8<sup>th</sup> Street Friday 6PM-8 PM and Saturday 9 AM to 2PM; D39 Office located at 456 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Monday thru Friday 10 AM to 4 PM; Old Stone House located at 336 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Friday thru Sunday Noon to 4 PM; and Roots Café located at 639 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Monday thru Sunday 8 AM to 4PM.

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NYC's Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) wants to hear from you and your community about what your neighborhood needs.

Please take the survey today and share with every New Yorker you know! To take the survey, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022CNANYC>.

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Tenant Rights in the Pandemic: After the Moratorium. The end of New York City's COVID-19 eviction moratorium has created renewed pressure on tenants in Brooklyn, and in Prospect Heights specifically. Now more than ever, it's important to know your rights as a tenant, as well as how to respond to harassment from your landlord. Join the Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council with representatives from the Legal Aid Society and IMPACCT Brooklyn to learn about what you can do to keep your apartment. The free public forum will be held at on Monday, November 14 at 6:30PM at the Brooklyn Public Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza in the Info Commons Lab.

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Apply for Student Loan Relief! The application is now open for President Biden's Student Loan Debt Relief program. Apply at <https://studentaid.gov/debt-relief/application>.

This program provides full or partial discharge of loans up to \$20,000 to Federal Pell Grant recipients and up to \$10,000 to non-Pell Grant recipients. The program is for individuals who made less than \$125,000 in 2021 or 2020, or families that made less than \$250,000 in 2021 or 2020. Apply today, and no later than Dec. 31, 2023.

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Save the date! Flatfoot Flatbush, the annual music and dancing parade in celebration of the Winter Solstice, is coming up on December 21st. Stay tuned for details, and reach out to the BID at [info@northflatbushbid.nyc](mailto:info@northflatbushbid.nyc) if you want to be involved! They are seeking sponsors for this event, which is a great way to increase visibility for your business. The information .pdf can be found at [https://mcusercontent.com/19423b51021f2b3546f26780a/files/12172a90-4206-4e79-c48b-238044e9dbe8/Flatfoot\\_Flatbush\\_Sponsorships\\_2022.docx.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/19423b51021f2b3546f26780a/files/12172a90-4206-4e79-c48b-238044e9dbe8/Flatfoot_Flatbush_Sponsorships_2022.docx.pdf).

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## ***THANKSGIVING FOOD DISTRIBUTION***

The Local Development Corporation of Crown Heights along with several community partners, is sponsoring a Thanksgiving Food Distribution on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 from 10 AM to Noon at the Crown Heights Apartments parking located on Sterling Place at Kingston Avenue, next door to David Chavis Apartments located at 230 Kingston Avenue.

For more information, please call 718-467-8800, ext 10.

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## ***FREE ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING***

Crown Heights Jewish Community Council announced a new program offering free classes on “Starting a Business Grow Your Sales”. The first class began on October 19<sup>th</sup>, kicking off the first of 12 sessions throughout the year broken into different groups. The location is Albany Avenue at St. John’s Place, but you do have to register. If you know anyone seeking to start or improve a business, please contact Rabbi Eli Cohen at [ECohen@CHJCC.ORG](mailto:ECohen@CHJCC.ORG) or Call 718-771-9000 ext. 7736. There is also a business counseling component as well.

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## ***OWN YOUR OWN HOME***

Do you want to become a homeowner? IMPACCT Brooklyn has the step-by-step information you need to get you there faster! Sign up for IMPACCT Brooklyn’s Homeownership Program and gain access to New York City’s increased and expanded Home First Down Payment Assistance Program. You may qualify for up to \$100,000 toward down payment or closing costs upon completion of IMPACCT’s Virtual Workshop Series.

For more information, contact Luis Hernandez at 347-435-9983 or email [luis\\_hernandez@impacctbk.org](mailto:luis_hernandez@impacctbk.org).

## ***LEAF CRUNCH BROWER PARK***

Love Brower Park? Support Brower by raking leaves on Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 11 AM to 2 PM. Leaves will be composted for use in greening projects throughout the year. Tools and snacks will be provided. Meet at the Park House at 10:45 AM.

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## ***FREE FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOPS***

IDCC-Crown Heights is offering free financial literacy drop in workshops on Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. every Wednesday. Sessions include the following topics: Support programs; Budgeting on a Shoestring; Banking; Understanding Credit; Savings and Future Financial Security; and Entrepreneurship. Classes will be in-person and via Zoom. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/3SRn6Yz> or email Arna Lipkind at [alipkind@interborough.org](mailto:alipkind@interborough.org).

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## ***NEED ASSISTANCE!***

Please reach out to the following resources:

**Food Help:** Find locations that offer Free Food (Food Pantries and Soup Kitchens) visit: [FoodHelp.nyc.gov](http://FoodHelp.nyc.gov).

**NYC Well:** Free, confidential mental health support in more than 200 languages, 24/7/365. Call 888-NYC-WELL or text “WELL” to 65173.

**Mental Health For All:** A comprehensive hub with helplines and services that offer a range of free, direct support to meet the needs of all New Yorkers.

**Buildings After Hours:** Free in-person information session with DOB staff every Tuesday from 4 PM to 7 PM at your local borough office.

**Notify NYC:** Enroll for free in New York City’s dedicated emergency public communications program.

**311:** Non-emergency municipal services available online, by texting 311-692, or by calling 3-1-1 from within the City or 212-NEW-YORK outside the five boroughs. TTY service is also available by dialing 212-504-4115.

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### ***COLLEGE AND CAREER EXPLORATION SERIES***

First Baptist Church of Crown Heights Hospitality Committee/Scholarship Fund is pleased to host a 5-session College and Career Exploration Series featuring workshops offering step by step guidance for those entering either college or the workforce. Workshops include writing an influential essay; determining the best school for you; what to wear and say; paying for college; and readiness. All sessions are free and will be held from 1PM to 3 PM on Saturdays.

For a list of dates and for more information, contact Sister Kay Gibbs at [kaybiggs1012@gmail.com](mailto:kaybiggs1012@gmail.com), Sister Jane Callender at [jayec2000@gmail.com](mailto:jayec2000@gmail.com), or Deacon Michele Goudy-Manzo at [fbscholarship@optonline.net](mailto:fbscholarship@optonline.net).

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### ***DIVERSE FUTURE SURGEON WEBINAR***

The call for diversity among various careers is at the forefront now more than ever and some careers require representation more urgently than others. Weill Cornell Medicine and the Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) have decided to act and lead the way for the equal representation of surgeons. Their goal is to provide a quarterly educational program for increasing diversity and inclusion in surgery for underrepresented students (African American, Latinx, Native American, Pacific Islander, low-income). Based on the success of their last webinar, they have announced a second for Monday, November 14th at 6 pm.

Participating students will have the opportunity to:

- Learn about starting a career in Surgery from diverse expert Surgeons

- Gain knowledge about their underrepresented background in surgery and have an improved understanding of what it will take to become a Surgeon
- Become aware of their role in their community and how providing care for underserved patients can impact their lives
- Learn various areas of expertise such as research or global surgery
- Connect with diverse Surgeons, Residents, and Medical and Undergraduate Students during scheduled ARC network events

Interested students can register via the link: <https://weillcornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0uceuppjgoHtRhrIMecmyuLYQIfMYar12y>. You can also find more information by visiting <https://surgery.weill.cornell.edu/diversity>.

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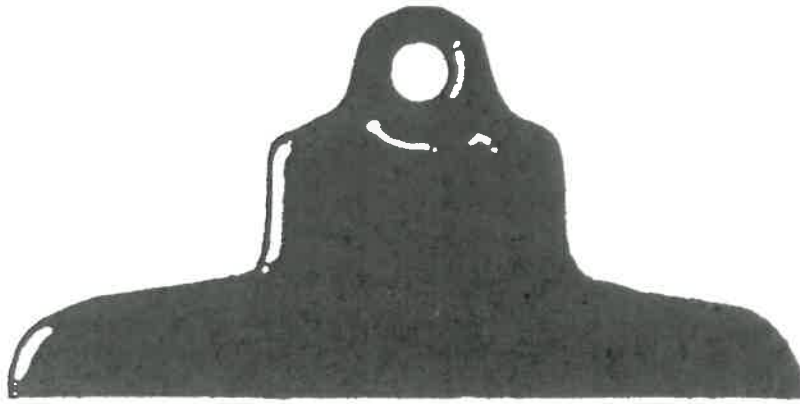
### ***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES***

**Community Board 8** is seeking to hire a College Aide! If you know of a college student looking for part time employment, please have them contact Michelle George, District Manager for more information and instructions.

**The United States Postal Service** is hiring for full time, part time and seasonal employment. Explore detailed information about some of the top jobs below and find the best fit for you. Visit [www.usps.com/applytoday](http://www.usps.com/applytoday) for a complete list of positions and to apply.

### **NYC MTA is accepting examination applications for the following:**

- Plant and Equipment Maintainer (HVAC), MaBSTOA Exam No. 3106 -- Application period closes on December 15, 2022
- Power Distribution Maintainer, Exam No. 3606 -- Application period closes on December 15, 2022
- Station Agent, Exam No. 3607 -- Application period closed on November 21, 2022



- Traffic Checker, MaBSTOA Exam No. 3210 -- Application period closes on December 15, 2022
- Promotion to Maintenance Supervisor (Structures – Group C), Exam No. 3706
- Bus Maintainer, Group A (Auto Body Technician), Open Competitive Exam No. 3604
- Bus Maintainer, Group B (Auto Mechanic), Open Competitive Exam No. 3605
- Revenue Equipment Maintainer, Open Competitive Exam No. 3602

To determine the minimum eligibility requirements to participate in an exam, applicants must read the Notice of Examination (NOE) carefully. To apply for exams, visit <http://web.mta.info/nyct/hr/appexam.htm> during their exams' application period(s).

We wish the happiest of birthdays to Ms. Glinda Andrews, Ms. Lisa Atkinson, Ms. Julia Boyd, Ms. Andrea Ferris, Ms. Gail Muhammad, Ms. Julia Neale, Ms. Audrey Taitt-Hall, and Mr. Mark Thurton, who will all celebrate birthdays in the month of November.

The next 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 7 PM. The meeting will be hybrid, with those desiring to meet in-person at Crown Hill Theater located at 746-750 Nostrand Avenue. For those that would prefer to join virtually, you may do so via Zoom: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604924465> Meeting ID: 160 492 4465.

You may also join by phone by dialing 646-828-7666 or 551-285-1373 and entering meeting ID: 160 492 4465.

The next 78<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 7 PM via Zoom. Go to [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com) and enter Meeting ID 161-557-9912, Password: 78\*CcMtg. You may also join by phone by dialing 646-828-7666 or 551-285-1373 and entering meeting ID: 161-557-9912.

The next Community Board 8 general meeting will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2022.

*ACROSS THE BOARD* is a monthly publication:

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**Michelle George, District Manager/Editor**  
**Julia Neale, Community Coordinator**

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