



CITY OF ALBANY  
COMMON COUNCIL  
ROOM 202, CITY HALL  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207  
TELEPHONE (518) 434-5087  
FAX: (518) 434-5081 [WWW.Albanyny.org](http://WWW.Albanyny.org)

July 9, 2018

Dear Albany Community,

We are saddened by the death of Elijah Cancer on July 7, 2018 and for the other victims of violence that have plagued our city this year. Too many families and communities are suffering from both the loss of a loved one and from the trauma caused by this sudden rash of violence on the streets of Albany.

Mr. Cancer, who was attempting to break up a fight, was shot to death when gunfire broke out early Saturday morning. Mr. Cancer was an outreach worker for 518 SNUG, a violence prevention program in Albany and he died while trying to accomplish SNUG's mission to prevent retaliation and further acts of violence.

Mr. Cancer had dedicated his present and future life to fight the violence that is happening in Albany. He changed his life around and began working as a violence interrupter and helping at-risk youths to find jobs and apartments so that they could escape the cycle of violence so many of our inner-city youth live with today.

Mr. Cancer became a role model for Albany's troubled youth by showing them that you can turn your life around and rise above past mistakes. This redirection of his life was recognized by the American Little League when they honored Mr. Cancer with the Fatherhood Award.

As we mourn the passing of Elijah Cancer and the other victims of violence in Albany, we are asking that the Albany community stop the senseless violence and put the knives and guns down. This will be the best way to honor Mr. Elijah Cancer and the other victims of violence in our city.

We are committed to working with our elected colleagues, the Albany Police Department, faith leaders, 518 SNUG and other community leaders and members who are fighting to put an end to violence in our city. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families who are mourning those who have lost their lives to violence. As the summer progresses, we are asking that everyone take part in helping to make Albany a safe place for all.

Sincerely,

CITY OF ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL  
Gerald Campbell, *Clerk of the Common Council & City Clerk*  
Council President, Hon. Corey Ellis  
Council President Pro Tempore, Ward 6, Hon. Richard Conti  
Council Majority Leader, Ward 4, Hon. Kelly Kimbrough

Council Member, Ward 1, Hon. Dorcey Applyrs  
Council Member, Ward 2, Hon. Derek Johnson  
Council Member, Ward 3, Hon. Joyce Love  
Council Member, Ward 5, Hon. Jahmel Robinson  
Council Member, Ward 7, Hon. Catherine M. Fahey  
Council Member, Ward 8, Hon. Jack Flynn  
Council Member, Ward 9, Hon. Judy Doesschate  
Council Member, Ward 10, Hon. Owusu Anane  
Council Member, Ward 11, Hon. Alfredo Balarin  
Council Member, Ward 12, Hon. Michael O'Brien  
Council Member, Ward 13, Hon. Ginnie Farrell  
Council Member, Ward 14, Hon. Joseph Igoe  
Council Member, Ward 15, Hon. Tom Hoey