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PROCEEDINGS
of the
ELECTORAL COLLEGE
STATE OF NEW YORK

1996



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PROCEEDINGS
of the
ELECTORAL
COLLEGE
of the
STATE OF NEW YORK



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SENATE CHAMBER
STATE CAPITOL
ALBANY, NEW YORK

DECEMBER SIXTEENTH, NINETEEN NINETY-SIX

OFFICERS
NEW YORK STATE ELECTORAL COLLEGE
December 16, 1996

Permanent President

SHELDON SILVER, New York

Temporary President

JUDITH HOPE, Suffolk

Permanent Secretaries

INEZ DICKENS, New York

MARTIN CONNOR, Kings

Temporary Secretaries

ELIZABETH VELEZ, New York

LEONARD WEISS, Albany

Tellers

DEBORAH GLICK, New York

JOHN SULLIVAN, Oswego

1996 COLLEGE OF ELECTO ELECTORAL VOTES

ELECTORAL VOTE RETURNS

	Clinton (Democratic)	Dole (Republican)
Alabama	—	9
Alaska	—	3
Arizona	8	—
Arkansas	6	—
California	54	—
Colorado	—	8
Connecticut	8	—
Delaware	3	—
District of Columbia	3	—
Florida	25	—
Georgia	—	13
Hawaii	4	—
Idaho	—	4
Illinois	22	—
Indiana	—	12
Iowa	7	—
Kansas	—	6
Kentucky	8	—
Louisiana	9	—
Maine	4	—
Maryland	10	—
Massachusetts	12	—
Michigan	18	—
Minnesota	10	—
Mississippi	—	7
Missouri	11	—
Montana	—	3
Nebraska	—	5
Nevada	4	—
New Hampshire	4	—
New Jersey	15	—
New Mexico	5	—
New York	33	—
North Carolina	—	14
North Dakota	—	3
Ohio	21	—
Oklahoma	—	8
Oregon	7	—
Pennsylvania	23	—
Rhode Island	4	—
South Carolina	—	8
South Dakota	—	3
Tennessee	11	—
Texas	—	32
Utah	—	5
Vermont	3	—
Virginia	—	13
Washington	11	—
West Virginia	5	—
Wisconsin	11	—
Wyoming	—	3
Totals	379	159

1996 COLLEGE OF ELECTORS

The electors, chosen by the Democratic Party, had been certified by the New York State Board of Elections, to be the choice of a plurality of the voters of the state.

The members of the college were convened by Secretary of State Alexander F. Treadwell and the proceedings began with a blessing offered by Rabbi Paul Silton of Temple Israel in Albany.

The Honorable Judith Hope of Suffolk County was named unanimously as the temporary president; the Honorable Elizabeth Velez of New York County and the Honorable Leonard Weiss of Albany County were named unanimously as temporary secretaries.

The college thereupon elected two substitutes for the absent electors.

The college then was invited by Secretary Treadwell to join him for lunch.

Following the luncheon, the college unanimously elected the Honorable Sheldon Silver of New York County as permanent president of the college.

Following the Honorable Sheldon Silver's address to the college, the electors unanimously elected the Honorable Inez Dickens of New York County and the Honorable Martin Connor of Kings County as permanent secretaries of the college.

In the formal balloting for president and vice president of the United States, the 33 electoral votes of New York State were recorded for Bill Clinton of Arkansas for president and Al Gore of Tennessee for vice president.

Each elector inscribed the ballot cast for president and vice president, then signed the formal certificates of election. The ballots will be returned to the electors as personal mementos while the certificates were directed to be filed with the appropriate federal, state and judicial officials as required by law.

Reverend Beresford E. Bailey of the Star of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Albany delivered the benediction.

Honorable Sheldon Silver, the permanent president of the college, closed the proceedings.

10
11

*Proceedings of the Electoral College of the State of New York, held in the
Senate Chamber of the State Capitol, Albany, New York,
on Monday, December 16, 1996*

Morning Session

Honorable Alexander F. Treadwell, Secretary of State, Presiding:

Ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to call to order this meeting of the Electoral College of the State of New York for the purpose of electing a President and Vice-President of the United States.

It is a privilege and honor for me to present to you Rabbi Paul Silton, Rabbi of Temple Israel here in Albany.

Rabbi Paul Silton:

Please rise.

Lord of all humanity, we ask Your blessings for our country, for its government, for its leaders and advisors, for all to exercise just and rightful authority based on insights from Your Bible; that they may administer all affairs of state fairly; that peace and security, happiness and prosperity, justice and freedom may forever abide in our midst.

Creator of all Flesh, bless all the inhabitants of our country with Your spirit. May citizens of all races and creeds forge a common bond in true harmony to banish all hatred and bigotry and to safeguard the ideals and free institutions which are the pride and joy of our country.

May this land under Your province be an influence for good throughout the world, uniting all people in peace and freedom and helping them to fulfill the vision of Your prophets, "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they experience war any more."

Let us say amen.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Thank you, Rabbi Silton.

Please be seated. Now, ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to recognize the distinguished Secretary to Governor George E. Pataki, the Honorable Bradford J. Race, Jr.

Mr. Race:

Mr. Secretary, I take pleasure in submitting, on behalf of the Governor of the State of New York, these certified lists of Electors for President and Vice-President of the United States.

(Whereupon the lists were handed to the Secretary of State.)

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Thank you, Secretary Race.

We will now call the roll of this College of Electors. First Deputy Secretary of State Ken Ringler will call the roll.

Mr. Ringler:

Thank you, Mr. Secretary, and I would ask that you acknowledge your attendance by saying "present" as I call your name.

Dominic J. Baranello	Present	Kathryn B. Mackey	Present
Michael Bragman	Present	Helen M. Marshall	Present
Paul F. Cole	Present	Marcella Maxwell	Present
Martin Connor	Present	H. Carl McCall	Present
Inez Dickens	Present	Mary Kay Paladino	Present
Edward F. Draves	Present	Audrey I. Pheffer	Present
Eileen Dugan	Absent*	G. Steven Pigeon	Present
Herman D. Farrell, Jr.	Present	Michael H. Reich	Present
Jeffrey C. Feldman	Present	Fran Reiter	Present
Thomas A. Fink	Present	Stanley Kalmon Schlein	Present
Esther Kate Fiore	Present	Sheldon Silver	Present
Deborah Glick	Present	John T. Sullivan	Present
Carl F. Grillo	Absent*	Gerard J. Sweeney	Present
Raymond B. Harding	Present	Elizabeth Velez	Present
Judith Hope	Present	Leonard Weiss	Present
Denise W. King	Present	Paula Redd Zeman	Present
Victor A. Kovner	Present		

* Alberta Madonna and Ann Galante were elected to fill vacancies.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

I certify that all are present with the exception of Eileen Dugan and Carl Grillo.

At this time, I think it is appropriate to honor these two electors who recently passed away and also remember former Assemblyman William Passanante, who died last night.

(Whereupon, bagpipes were played during a moment of silence for Assemblywoman Eileen Dugan, Honorable Carl Grillo and Assemblyman William Passanante.)

The chair recognizes that there are two vacancies.

The chair recognizes the Honorable Denny Farrell of New York County.

Mr. Farrell:

It is my pleasure to nominate the Honorable Judith Hope of Suffolk County as Temporary President of this Electoral College.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Helen Marshall of Queens County.

Ms. Marshall:

It is my pleasure to second the nomination of the Honorable Judith Hope as Temporary President of the Electoral College.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Thank you. The Honorable Judith Hope has been nominated as Temporary President of this College. Are there any further nominations?

None being offered, the nominations are closed.

I now ask those in favor of the election of the Honorable Judith Hope as Temporary President of this College to signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Contrary? (No response.)

The motion is carried, and the Honorable Judith Hope is unanimously elected.

I now ask that the Honorable Thomas Fink and the Honorable Mary Kay Paladino — if they would be kind enough to escort the Temporary President to the chair. (Whereupon, the Temporary President was escorted to the chair.)

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm pleased to present you your Temporary President, the Honorable Judith Hope.

Temporary President Hope:

Thank you, Mr. Secretary. It is a great honor to have a role in this historic occasion.

I want to, first of all, extend my gratitude to Secretary of State Treadwell and to his very able office, particularly Gwenn Lee, Public Information Officer; Deputy Secretary of State Ken Ringler; Jill Leonard; and especially to our own Tom Matthews of Rensselaer County, who has acted as the Local Arrangements Chair for the events of this great day; to Tom Wilkey of the State Board of Elections; to all of you, my very sincere gratitude for your hard work to make the events of this day what I know is going to be a great success.

1996 was a year when some pundits foresaw the possibility that no presidential candidate would, in fact, win the 270 Electoral College votes necessary to winning the offices of President and Vice-President. In fact, a couple of fellows wrote a book about it entitled, *The Electoral Primer*, which may be purchased on the New York State Democratic Party's Worldwide Web Site as www.nydems.org at 10 percent discount with a small commission going to the state party. (Laughter.)

I mention this not to promote this book nor the state party but because I want to be the first person in America to mention the Internet at a meeting of the Electoral College. This book puts forward an imaginary scenario in which a strong third-party candidate was able to win the popular vote in a few states, thereby denying the goal of 270 Electoral College votes to either major party candidate.

This could have produced two possible effects, either the presidential election would have been thrown into the U.S. House of Representatives or the Electoral College meetings that are about to be conducted throughout this country today would truly have been a great deal more exciting than they are probably going to be.

In any event, I can assure you that those of us who are assembled here today as the result of the overwhelming popular vote in New York State for Bill Clinton and Al Gore on November the 5th, 1996, are exceedingly satisfied with the actual results.

I am mindful today, as many of you are, that we have lost two of our Electoral College members in the brief period since election day. Assemblywoman Eileen Dugan and Liberal Party official Carl Grillo were two very distinct individuals from different political parties, but they shared a very strong common characteristic. Each of them acted upon a fierce commitment to the pursuit of excellence in government and politics and in an abiding faith in the ability of our political institutions to improve the lives of our citizens. This is not an easily held philosophy in this day of deep and widespread cynicism and of anti-government, sound-bite politics.

Each of you is here as an Elector today because you, like Eileen and Carl, have made a commitment to the political life and health of this great State of New York. You are here because, like them, you have chosen not to turn away but to try to make a difference with your lives, in spite of the fact that it is no longer fashionable to care passionately about such things nor to believe intensely in the importance of such things and that people who do are not held in particularly high regard; in spite of the fact that the pursuit of government and politics is increasingly complex, difficult, costly and, indeed, can even carry great personal risk and sacrifice.

As a political leader, I am grateful to you for your contribution, for the contribution that you choose to make. I know that each of us here today feels a keen sense of honor at being here, at being a part of the great historic fabric of this great state.

It is an honor and it is a compliment to you that you are here as Electors, but it is one that you have amply earned and that you well deserve.

Congratulations and, again, I do thank you.

I would now like to recognize the Honorable Raymond B. Harding of New York County.

Mr. Harding:

Madam President, I appreciate your remarks very much. I now offer the names of Elizabeth Velez of New York County and Leonard Weiss of Albany County as Temporary Secretaries.

Temporary President Hope:

I recognize the Honorable Paula Redd Zeman of Westchester County.

Ms. Zeman:

I second the nomination of the Honorable Elizabeth Velez and the Honorable Leonard Weiss as Temporary Secretaries of this College.

Temporary President Hope:

Are there any other nominations?

None being offered, all those in favor of the election of the Honorable Elizabeth Velez and the Honorable Leonard Weiss as Temporary Secretaries of this College, signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Opposed? (No response.)

The motion is carried, and the Temporary Secretaries have been duly elected, and I request that they take their place on the dais.

The next order of business is filling the vacancies of Electors Eileen Dugan and Carl Grillo. I will entertain a motion to fill the vacancies.

I recognize the Honorable Dominic Baranello of Suffolk County.

Mr. Baranello:

Madam Chair, it is my honor and privilege to nominate as Electors to this 1996 Electoral College to fill the two vacancies, Alberta Madonna and Ann Galante.

Temporary President Hope:

The chair recognizes the Honorable Marcella Maxwell of Kings County.

Ms. Maxwell:

Madam President, I am honored to second the nomination of Alberta Madonna and Ann Galante.

Temporary President Hope:

Are there any other nominations?

None being offered, all those in favor of the election of those nominated to fill the vacancies, signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Any opposed? (No response.)

It gives me great pleasure to announce that 31 votes have been cast for the Electors to fill the vacancies.

In view of the unanimous vote, I would like to announce the election of those people named: Alberta Madonna and Ann Galante.

I ask them to come forward and the Honorable Alexander F. Treadwell, Secretary of State, will administer the oath of office.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Please raise your right hands.

Do you solemnly swear to support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New York and that you will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Elector of President and Vice-President of the United States, according to the best of your ability?

Ms. Madonna: I will.

Ms. Galante: I will.

(Whereupon, the two Electors, having been duly sworn, were seated as members of the College of Electors.)

Temporary President Hope:

The Electoral College now consist of its legal 33 members and I do turn the podium back over to the Honorable Alexander F. Treadwell, Secretary of State.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Thank you very much, and congratulations to all the Electors.

I ask you to give us a few moments of your time so that our photographer, Fred Richards, can record this historic session. Will you please assemble here in front of the podium. (Whereupon, a photograph was taken.)

Please be seated, ladies and gentlemen.

It is my pleasure to invite the members of this Electoral College and distinguished guests to lunch.

I now give you your Temporary President, the Honorable Judith Hope.

Temporary President Hope:

I recognize the Honorable Gerard J. Sweeney of Nassau County.

Mr. Sweeney:

Madam President, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to move we accept the gracious invitation of the Secretary of State to join him for lunch.

Temporary President Hope:

I recognize the Honorable Esther Fiore of Ulster County.

Ms. Fiore:

Madam President, it gives me equal pleasure to second the motion of the Honorable Gerard J. Sweeney that we accept the invitation of the Honorable Alexander F. Treadwell to join him for lunch.

Temporary President Hope:

All in favor of the motion, indicate in the usual manner. (Response of aye.)
Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

I would now like to recognize the Honorable Edward Draves of Schenectady County.

Mr. Draves:

Madam President, I move the Electoral College now recess in order that we may accept the invitation of the Secretary of State and reconvene at 1:30 this afternoon.

Temporary President Hope:

I recognize the Honorable Kathryn Mackey of Kings County.

Ms. Mackey:

I second the motion that we recess for lunch and reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

Temporary President Hope:

All in favor of the motion, please indicate by saying aye. (Response of aye.)
Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

This session of the Electoral College is recessed for lunch, and we will reconvene at 1:30 in the afternoon.

Will you please remain seated for one more moment, ladies and gentlemen.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Before we leave the chamber, I would like to acknowledge the presence of the following distinguished public officials:

Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings and Senator Anthony Nanula.

Temporary President Hope:

Ladies and gentlemen, we are now recessed.

(Whereupon, at 12:25 p.m., the Electoral College was in recess.)



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Members of the 1996 Electoral College
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Afternoon Session

Temporary President Hope:

Ladies and gentlemen, I call the meeting back to order. (Whereupon, at 1:50 p.m., the Electoral College reconvened).

Would you take your seats, please, so we can continue with the business of the Electoral College.

I introduce you to New York's Secretary of State, Alexander F. Treadwell.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Thank you, Madam President. Good afternoon. It's an honor to be part of this constitutionally-required event, the 52nd convening of the Electoral College of the State of New York.

Today, the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December, 538 Electors are assembling in 50 state capitals and in the District of Columbia to finalize a wondrous quadrennial process, the free and peaceable selection of the leaders of our nation by its citizens.

On the 5th of November, 6,439,129 votes were cast by New Yorkers for candidates for President and Vice-President; and now you, 33 New Yorkers, chosen by your political party and certified by the New York State Board of Elections are Electors, the choice of the plurality of the voters of this state.

Today, in this beautiful chamber, a moment of history is alive and unfolding before us. It's good to see some students here. I studied the Electoral College in school, but that was a long time ago and I had forgotten many of the details, so I did some homework.

I read that the Electoral College was created at the Constitutional Convention held in Philadelphia in 1787. There, the delegates decided the best way to elect a President and Vice-President was not by popular vote or by votes of members of Congress but by a complex compromise between the two. Each state legislature would appoint Electors, as many as that state's total number of Senators and Representatives in Congress.

The idea was that the chosen Electors would be the wisest and most responsible people in their respective states. The method of selecting these best and brightest was not specified and was left up to the states. New York's Electoral College got off to a creaky start. The trouble was that the anti-Federalist Assembly and the Federalist Senate couldn't agree on how to choose either New York's Presidential Electors or Senators.

The dispute became an impasse that lasted from early January 1789 to mid-July. I guess sometimes history does seem to repeat itself. (Laughter.)

Anyway, the matter wasn't resolved until four months after the first federal Congress had convened, and so New York was one of three states that missed participating in the election of the country's first President and Vice-President.

The opening of New York's Electoral College was, therefore, delayed until 1792, when 12 Electors convened in Poughkeepsie and took part in the re-election of George Washington and John Adams. Every four years thereafter, your predecessors met, in Hudson from 1796 to 1808 and then, beginning in 1812, here in Albany.

Over the years, the Electoral College has had many critics, Presidents among them. Constitutional amendments calling for the reform or even the abolition of the Electoral College have periodically been introduced in Congress. But the Electoral College endures as something uniquely American, a ceremonial reminder of the nation's heritage as a democracy, and, about this, there is no controversy.

To be an Elector has always been a great honor, one enjoyed by only some 1,500 New Yorkers in 204 years. On behalf of Governor George E. Pataki, I wish to congratulate you on your participation in this Electoral College and for the constitutional duty that you are about to perform.

Thank you.

Temporary President Hope:

Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

I would like to acknowledge the presence of a dignitary amongst us. State Supreme Court Justice Marsha Steinhardt is here with us today. Welcome.

The next order of business is the election of a Permanent President, and I recognize the Honorable Michael Bragman of Onondaga County.

Mr. Bragman:

Madam Temporary President, it is my privilege, my pleasure and honor, to nominate as Permanent President of this Electoral College the Honorable Sheldon Silver of New York County.

Temporary President Hope:

Thank you. I now recognize the Honorable Audrey Pheffer of Queens County.

Ms. Pheffer:

Thank you. It is my pleasure to second the nomination of the Honorable Sheldon Silver.

Temporary President Hope:

Are there any further nominations?

Since there are none, I would ask all in favor of the unanimous election of the

Honorable Sheldon Silver as Permanent President of this College to indicate by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Any opposed? (No response.)

I declare the Honorable Sheldon Silver unanimously elected as Permanent President of this Electoral College.

I now appoint the Honorable Jeffrey Feldman and the Honorable Denise King to escort President Silver to the podium.

(Whereupon, the Permanent President was escorted to the chair.)

President Silver:

Thank you. Thank you, all.

In deciding on an Electoral College, the Founding Fathers rejected the idea of electing a President by popular vote alone. History tells us — and we've had several lessons today in history — but history tells us that the framers of the Constitution did not doubt the people's intelligence but rather their access to information about all of the candidates for office. Two hundred years later, opponents of the Electoral College claim that it does not accurately reflect the will of the American people as a whole. After all, these days it's easier to obtain information about the private affairs of a candidate than it is to vote, but it is the information issue that I believe is precisely the reason why this body must remain.

Yes, information is plentiful, but the volume, it's the quality that concerns us. Ask yourself what's more important, whether a candidate smiles and waves the right way or their grasp of the economy? Yet image and sound bites dominated the media in the last election, and I believe this trend is likely to continue into the future. Here, in New York, "Communications Capital of the World," most of us get enough information in the course of a year to sift out the chaff and get to the grain. But what about voters in Small Town, America? If a local paper or radio or television station had to choose between a sensational story about a candidate's past or their stance on the environment, what do you think is going to run?

The Electoral College brings stability to our Electoral process. It provides a body of people who more accurately than not can reflect the true will of the nation and not the emotions elicited by tabloid journalism. Criticizing the Electoral College is like blaming the car when you get lost.

Yes, much needs to be done to improve the political process in this country; but, until then, this body is as important now as it has ever been, and I am just as proud to be a part of it as I'm sure each and every one of you are, here today.

Thank you for making me the President of this Electoral College. I will treasure that for all my days to come.

I now propose we get on with the business before us.

The next order of business is the nomination of Permanent Secretaries to this Electoral College.

I recognize the Honorable Paul Cole of Albany County.

Mr. Cole:

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, it is my pleasure to present the names of the Honorable Inez Dickens and the Honorable Martin Connor as Permanent Secretaries of this College.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Fran Reiter of New York County.

Mr. Reiter:

Mr. President, it is with honor that I second the nomination of the Honorable Inez Dickens and the Honorable Martin Connor as Permanent Secretaries of this College.

President Silver:

Are there any other nominations?

There being none, I ask all in favor the election of the Honorable Inez Dickens and the Honorable Martin Connor as Permanent Secretaries of this College to indicate by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Opposed? (No response.)

The Chair declares that the Honorable Inez Dickens and the Honorable Martin Connor are the Permanent Secretaries for this Electoral College.

The Chair again recognizes the Secretary of State, the Honorable Alexander Treadwell.

Secretary of State Treadwell:

Thank you, Mr. President.

It is my privilege to present to you the listing setting forth the names of the Electors certified by Governor George E. Pataki.

Mr. President, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I also present to you on behalf of the Electors of this College a memento of this historic occasion, a gavel.

(Whereupon, a gavel was presented to the Permanent President by the Secretary of State.)

President Silver:

Thank you. (Applause.)

The next order of business is the casting of ballots for President of the United States.

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Victor Kovner of New York County.

Mr. Kovner:

Mr. President, it is my great pleasure to move that we proceed with the balloting for President of the United States.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Steven Pigeon of Erie County.

Mr. Pigeon:

Mr. President, it is indeed a pleasure for me to second the motion that we proceed with the balloting for President of the United States.

President Silver:

It has been moved and seconded that we proceed with the balloting for President of the United States.

All those in favor, signify in the usual manner. (Response of aye.) Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

The chair appoints the Honorable Deborah Glick of New York County and the Honorable John Sullivan of Oswego County as Tellers, to count the votes which are about to be cast. Will the Tellers please take their places by the ballot box.

Let me remind you that we will be casting separate ballots for President and Vice-President. So that you may retain your ballots as a souvenir, please print your name on the back of each ballot so it may be returned to you.

The Chair now recognizes the Honorable Michael Reich of Queens County.

Mr. Reich:

Thank you, Mr. President. May I suggest the ballot box be taken to the distinguished Comptroller of the State of New York, the Honorable Carl McCall, so he may have the honor of casting the first ballot for President of the United States.

President Silver:

Proceed.

(Whereupon, the ballot box was taken to the Comptroller of the State of New York.)

Comptroller McCall:

Mr. President, it is with great honor that I cast my ballot for Bill Clinton as President of the United States. (Applause.)

President Silver:

Proceed with the balloting.

(Whereupon, the Electors proceeded to the ballot box located at the front of the Senate Chamber and cast their ballots for President of the United States.)

President Silver:

It appears all the ballots have been cast, and I request the Tellers to count them and, when ready, to announce the results.

Ms. Glick:

Mr. President, after counting the ballots, we find that we have 33 votes for Bill Clinton of Arkansas for President of the United States. (Applause.)

President Silver:

The Chair announces that the entire membership of this Electoral College of the State of New York have cast their ballots for the Honorable Bill Clinton as President of the United States.

The College will now proceed with the balloting for the Vice-President of the United States, and at this time the Chair recognizes the Honorable Stanley Schlein of Bronx County.

Mr. Schlein:

Mr. President, I move we now proceed with the balloting for the position of Vice-President of the United States.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Mary Kay Paladino of Erie County.

Ms. Paladino:

Mr. President, I take pleasure in seconding the motion to proceed with the balloting of Vice-President of the United States.

President Silver:

It has been moved and seconded that we proceed with the balloting for Vice-President of the United States.

All those in favor, signify in the usual manner. (Response of aye.) Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

Be sure to sign your ballots so they may be returned to you by the Secretary of State as a souvenir of this occasion. The College will now proceed with the balloting for Vice-President of the United States.

(Whereupon, the Electors proceeded to the ballot box located at the front of the Senate Chamber and cast their ballots for Vice-President of the United States.)

President Silver:

It appears all the ballots have been cast. I request the Tellers to count them and announce the results.

The Chair recognizes the Honorable John Sullivan of Oswego County.

Mr. Sullivan:

Mr. President. After counting the ballots, we find 33 votes cast for the Honorable Al Gore of Tennessee for Vice-President of the United States. (Applause.)

President Silver:

Thank you. The Chair announces that the entire membership of this Electoral College has voted for the Honorable Al Gore for Vice-President of the United States.

At this time, I ask each member of this College to come to the dais to sign the Certificates of Election which Secretary Treadwell has prepared for your signature. You will be required to sign your name twelve times. (Whereupon, the members of the College of Electors proceeded to sign the Certificates of Election at the dais.)

President Silver:

Secretary Treadwell announces that the Certificates have been duly signed by each Elector of this Electoral College.

The Chair recognizes Honorable Victor Kovner of New York County.

Mr. Kovner:

Mr. President, I offer the motion that the Permanent Secretaries be authorized and directed to file through the Department of State the Certificates which we have signed, with: the President of the United States Senate, the Secretary of State of the State of New York, the New York State Board of Elections, the Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York and the National Archives and Records Administrator.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Thomas Fink of Monroe County.

Mr. Fink:

Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to second the motion made by the Honorable Victor Kovner.

President Silver:

The motion has been made and seconded.

All those in favor of the motion, signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.)
Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Leonard Weiss of Albany County.

Mr. Weiss:

Mr. President, I move that the proceedings of this Electoral College be printed and bound and that copies of the proceedings be distributed to all of the members of this Electoral College.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Elizabeth Velez of New York County.

Ms. Velez:

Mr. President, it is my privilege to second the motion made by the Honorable Leonard Weiss.

President Silver:

The motion has been made and seconded.

All those in favor, signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

The Chair now recognizes the Honorable Denise King of Columbia County.

Ms. King:

Mr. President, it is my pleasure to move that the President and the Secretaries and the Officers of this College be thanked for their services.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Inez Dickens of New York County.

Ms. Dickens:

Thank you. Mr. President, I second the motion made by the Honorable Denise King.

President Silver:

The motion has been made and seconded.

All those in favor, signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Contrary? (No response.) The motion is carried.

At this time, I would like to express my personal appreciation and gratitude to the Officers of this College for their dedicated efforts in organizing these proceedings, for the marvelous luncheon and for all of the gracious considerations extended to us in this very beautiful chamber on this historic day.

The Chair now recognizes the Honorable Alberta Madonna of Schenectady County.

Ms. Madonna:

Mr. President, it's my pleasure to offer a resolution of appreciation to the Honorable Alexander F. Treadwell, Secretary of State, for arranging this meeting of this Electoral College and for his hospitality.

President Silver:

The Chair now recognizes the Honorable Ann Galante of Nassau County.

Ms. Galante:

Mr. President, I take pleasure in seconding the remarks made by the Honorable Alberta Madonna.

President Silver:

The motion has been made and seconded.

All those in favor, signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

Again, Mr. Secretary, we express our deep gratitude to you and the members of your staff.

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Carl McCall of New York County.

Comptroller McCall:

Mr. President, I move that the Electors of this College unanimously agree to donate their compensation as Electors to assist in the work of the Gay Men's Health Crisis.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Martin Connor of Kings County.

Mr. Connor:

Mr. President, I second the motion of Mr. McCall.

President Silver:

It has been moved and seconded that the compensation of the Electors of this 1996 Electoral College be donated to assist the work of the Gay Men's Health Crisis.

All those in favor, signify in the usual manner. (Response of aye.) Contrary? (No response.) The motion is carried.

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Judith Hope of Suffolk County.

Ms. Hope:

Mr. President, I move that the 1996 Electoral College of the State of New York be adjourned.

President Silver:

The Chair recognizes the Honorable Jeffrey Feldman of Kings County.

Mr. Feldman:

Mr. President, I second the motion to adjourn.

President Silver:

The motion has been made and seconded.

All in favor, signify by saying aye. (Response of aye.) Opposed? (No response.) The motion is carried.

The Chair introduces Reverend Beresford E. Bailey of Albany of the Star of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church.

Reverend Beresford E. Bailey:

Let us stand for the benediction.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for this notable and historic occasion when the New York State College of Electors, comprising men and women of all walks of life in the varied geographic settings, the diverse color of skins, customs, cultures, language, religion, can come together to exercise their inalienable rights in this democratic process and to cast their ballots for the President and Vice-President of these great United States.

O God, we recognize You as God of history in whose almighty hands are the fears and destinies of men and nations; and so in the quietude of this moment, it is appropriate and befitting for us to reflect on the words of one of Your prophets of old who said, "Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord and the people whom he has chosen for an inheritance"; and, God, we thank You, for certainly we are a blessed nation and a chosen people to be able to enjoy the legacy of such a heritage

and the freedom and democracy that You have extended to us as to no other nation on Earth.

Lord, bless our beloved President and his Vice-President and his administration. Grant to our President a clear and precise vision of new prosperity as he leads us across that bridge of hope into the 21st Century. May his administration be conducted in fairness, equality, mercy and justice for all people, the rich, the poor, the needy, the hungry, the homeless, the hopeless, the disadvantaged, the unemployed, the outcasts and the very fringes of our society.

Imbue, O God, with divine spirit of wisdom, the deliberation of Congress and all those elected officials whom Your people have entrusted with the authority to govern that there may be justice and peace and equality here at home and among the nations of the world.

Lord, we ask for Your Almighty presence as we confront the overwhelming issues of the day, our threatened environment, the decay and blight of our inner cities, increased drug addiction, crime in our streets and the threat of war abroad and terrorism here at home and within our borders.

Break down, O God, the barriers that separate peoples and nations from one another and may Your peace be as a river and Your righteousness as the waves of the sea.

Father, forgive us our individual and corporate and national sins and may Your strength sustain us, may Your power preserve us, may Your hands protect us, may Your ways direct us, may Your grace defend us and may Your love surround us and go with us, both now and forever more.

Amen.

President Silver:

Thank you, Reverend Bailey. I now declare this 1996 Electoral College adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 2:50 p.m., the 1996 Electoral College adjourned.)

1996 NEW YORK STATE ELECTORAL COLLEGE
as constituted at its meeting in the
STATE CAPITOL, ALBANY, NY, DECEMBER 16, 1996

Electors of the Democratic Party

Dominic J. Baranello	5 Atlantic Avenue, Blue Point	11715
Michael Bragman	8285 Thomson Road, Cicero	13039
Paul F. Cole	16 Birchwood Court, Loudonville	12211
Martin Connor	61 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn	11201
Inez Dickens	2153 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Blvd., New York	10027
Edward F. Draves	1009 Eaton Corners Road, Delanson	12053
Eileen Dugan		
Herman D. Farrell, Jr.	159-00 Riverside Drive West, New York	10032
Jeffrey C. Feldman	2650 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn	11235
Thomas A. Fink	157 Monteroy Road, Rochester	14618
Esther Kate Fiore	189 N. Manor Avenue, Kingston	12401
Ann Galante*		
Deborah Glick	853 Broadway, Suite 2120, New York	10003
Carl F. Grillo	76 Hancock Street, Staten Island	10305
Raymond B. Harding	3135 Johnson Avenue, Bronx	10463
Judith Hope	9 Two Holes of Water Road, East Hampton	11937
Denise W. King	15 Middlebrook Drive, Valatia	12184
Victor A. Kovner	27 W. 67th Street, New York	10023
Kathryn B. Mackey	80 Garfield Place, Brooklyn	11215
Alberta Madonna**		
H. Carl McCall	320 W. 86th Street, New York	10024
Helen M. Marshall	103-02 27th Avenue, East Elmhurst	11369
Marcella Maxwell	35 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn	11215
Mary Kay Paladino	282 Potters Road, Buffalo	14220
Audrey I. Pfeffer	22-87 Mott Avenue, #2 A, Far Rockaway	11691
G. Steven Pigeon	703 Admirals Walk, Buffalo	14202
Michael H. Reich	57-11 223rd Street, Bayside	11364
Fran Reiter	170 Second Avenue, New York	10003
Stanley Kalmon Schlein	481 King Avenue, Bronx	10464
Sheldon Silver	550 G Grand Street, New York	10002
John Sullivan	59 West Fifth Street, Oswego	13126
Gerard J. Sweeney	123 Williams Street, East Williston	11596
Elizabeth Velez	350 Fifth Avenue, New York	10118
Leonard Weiss	190 Marion Avenue, Albany	12208
Paula Redd Zeman	400 Guard Hill Road, Bedford	10506

* *filled Grillo vacancy*

***filled Dugan vacancy*