

**Ways & Means Committee  
& Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee  
Special Joint Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** October 23, 2019 – 5:30  
**LOCATION:** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building,  
244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Lynn Archer, Chairman of Ways & Means and Lynn Eckert,  
Chairman of Law Enforcement & Public Safety  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Richard Gerentine, Heidi Haynes,  
Johnathan Heppner, Laura Petit, and Legislative Chair  
Tracey Bartels  
**ABSENT:** Legislators Julius Collins, David Donaldson, Mary Beth  
Maio, Joseph Maloney, Kenneth Ronk  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** District Attorney; Holley Carnright, Bill Weishaupt, Ulster  
County Sheriff; Juan Figueroa, Jason Bruck, Det. Lt. Abram  
Markiewicz, Lt. Joseph Scitutto, Deputy County Exec; John  
Milgrim, Benjamin Center of SUNY New Paltz; Dr. Benjamin,  
James Arthur Garcia II

- **Chairman Archer called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM**
- 

Chairwoman Lynn Archer explained that the Ways & Means Committee requested a report from the Benjamin Center at SUNY New Paltz regarding the Ulster Regional Gang Enforcement Narcotics Team (URGENT).

Dr. Benjamin, of the Benjamin Center, gave an overview of the URGENT Report from 5:34 to 5:45.

Juan Figueroa, Ulster County Sheriff, discussed URGENT from 5:47-5:57, providing the Committees with an overview of what the task force does, how oversight and authority are managed, and how he would like the task force managed in the future.

Holley Carnright, Ulster County District Attorney, discussed URGENT from 5:57- 6:09, providing a brief history of the task force, an overview of his Department's role in the task force, and how he would like the task force managed in the future.

Discussion ensued regarding the history, current state, and future of URGENT.

---

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

---

Chairman Archer asked if there was any other business or questions. There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made to adjourn.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Petit  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Time:** 7:24 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Natalie Kelder  
**Minutes Approved:** December 10, 2019