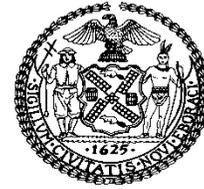


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***** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE *****

***Statement by Council Member Gale A. Brewer on the
Recent Hate Crimes Against the LGBT Community***

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I join all New Yorkers in denouncing the recent hate crimes toward the LGBT community, most recently the senseless murder of Marc Carson on May 17, 2013 in Greenwich Village. It is unacceptable that any citizen or resident of this city should have to suffer discrimination or violence due to race, gender or sexual orientation. I stand with Speaker Quinn and my colleagues in the New York City Council to raise awareness in order to prevent crimes like these from occurring in the future and to stop the hate that leads to them. In response to these attacks, and thanks to leadership from the Speaker and the Department of Education's Chancellor Walcott, educational Respect for All programs in schools will be strengthened, and by the end of this school year, each individual New York City school will be engaging in discussions in some format that deal with ending hate. New York must fulfill the promise of acceptance for all its residents.