



CHARLES ECKERT

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ars later

criticisms of NYPD treatment of blacks and Hispanics.

"It happened on the watch of a mayor who was elected on the promise to make sure that that nonsense does not happen," Foy said.

Councilman Jumaane Williams (D-Brooklyn) accused de Blasio of squandering his electoral mandate to change the NYPD.

"How dare you use the lives of black and brown people who have been killed with impunity!" Williams said, adding that the cops should be fired immediately.

De Blasio spokesman Eric Phillips declined to comment.

Garner's death, during an arrest for selling untaxed cigarettes on Staten Island — and recorded on cellphone video by a bystander with dying words "I can't breathe" — became a literal rallying cry for the Black

Lives Matter movement, which seeks to highlight what its backers consider inequitable and abusive policing of Hispanics and blacks.

The medical examiner ruled that the chokehold was the chief cause of Garner's death — which Pantaleo's labor union, the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, disputes as a "political" finding.

Thursday's case, by the Civilian Complaint Review Board, alleges that Pantaleo used a long-banned chokehold and restricted Garner's breathing.

Police Commissioner James O'Neill said Tuesday: "I know it's been a long time."

"We do want to get this done. It'll be done sometime next year," O'Neill said at an unrelated news conference about record-low crime rates. "Hopefully, it'll be concluded."

With Anthony M. DeStefano

ELLIS ISLAND TO HOST INAUGURATION

BY MICHAEL GORMLEY
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ALBANY — Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo will hold his third inauguration Jan. 1 at Ellis Island, the historic gateway to immigrants, as he vows to protect today's immigrants from hard-line policies of President Donald Trump.

"In these stormy times, Ellis Island is an enduring symbol of who we are as a nation," Cuomo said Tuesday. "This historic gateway to America reminds us of the core values that built our state and our country, and it will serve as a fitting location to launch a new term fighting for New Yorkers and for the soul of this nation."

"New York has always been a beacon of hope and opportunity, and today more than ever we are called upon to lead the way forward and set a progressive example for the rest of the country to follow," Cuomo, the grandson of immigrants, said in a statement.

Cuomo has long said immigration is the life blood of New York and the nation, and has criticized Trump for his plans to build a wall at the Mexican border and to restrict immigration. Trump has said the measures are needed to se-



CRAIG RUTTLE

Ellis Island is "a symbol of who we are as a nation," the governor says.

ecure the nation's borders and protect Americans from criminals.

In June, Cuomo signed a measure to keep immigrant children with their parents despite a federal directive to separate them in certain cases. In January, Cuomo directed state funding to keep Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty open during a brief federal government shutdown.

The historic site was the na-

tion's busiest immigration station from 1892 to 1954, ushering in 12 million immigrants.

Cuomo's past inauguration events have been in Albany, Manhattan and Buffalo.

Most of Ellis Island is part of New Jersey, according to a court decision, but the federal building where Cuomo plans his inauguration is part of New York State, his aide said.

'Wolf' can't use consumer credit protection

BY JOHN RILEY
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A Brooklyn federal judge has shot down the latest effort by Jordan Belfort, Long Island's one-time "Wolf of Wall Street," to shield his assets from victims ripped off by his stock swindles who are still owed \$97 million.

U.S. District Judge Ann Donnelly ruled that Belfort, whose 1990s Lake Success boiler room antics were portrayed in the Leonardo DiCaprio film, can't use consumer credit protections to block garnishment of an equity stake he got for promoting Delos Living LLC, a real-estate firm.

"Congress adopted the garnishment limitation . . . to relieve countless honest debtors driven by economic desperation from plunging into bankruptcy in order to preserve their employment and insure a continued means of support for themselves and their families," the judge wrote. "Nothing about the defendant's arrangement with Delos Living is consistent with that goal."

Belfort, formerly of Old Brookville, was sentenced to



EVAN AGOSTINI / INVISION / AP / EVAN AGOSTINI

Jordan Belfort at the "Wolf of Wall Street" premiere in 2013.

serve 42 months in prison in 1999 for conspiracy, securities fraud and money laundering, and ordered to pay restitution of \$110.3 million to victims of pump-and-dump stock manipulation schemes. He has paid back just over \$12 million, the judge said.

At issue in the latest government collection bid was a stake in Delos Living LLC, a company promoting real estate projects based around wellness, paid to Belfort since 2016

through a company he set up called JB Global Holdings.

Belfort argued the stake was a form of "earnings" and federal law capped any garnishment at 25 percent. But Donnelly said it didn't meet the test because the convicted fraudster doesn't rely on his Delos stake for support.

She said he co-owns four companies 50/50 with his fiancée — an arrangement the government has claimed is used to try to shield income — that he uses to market his "wolf" persona, including the chance to "experience the magic of . . . two full days of masterminding, brainstorming & one-on-one consulting and . . . an intimate dinner with him at his private residence."

The judge also said that, while owing victims nearly \$100 million, Belfort's companies — owned by him and his fiancée — paid for their personal expenses of \$1.4 million, \$2.7 million and \$3.7 million from 2013 to 2015, as well as paying "hundreds of thousands" to his children.

Belfort's lawyer did not respond to requests for comment. Donnelly's ruling was issued Friday.