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Antonio Delgado drops democratic primary bid



New York State Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado speaks during a town hall event at Rockland Community College March 30, 2025. Delgado has dropped his long-shot bid to challenge Gov. Kathy Hochul in a Democratic primary after courting progressive support for months but only falling further behind in polls. SETH HARRISON/THE JOURNAL NEWS

Leaves Hochul, Blakeman contest for governor

Chris McKenna
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USA TODAY NETWORK

Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado has dropped his long-shot bid to challenge Gov. Kathy Hochul in a Democratic primary after courting progressive support for months but only falling further behind in polls.

Delgado announced his decision on Tuesday, Feb. 10, four days after Hochul trounced him by 85% to 15% among party delegates at an endorsement convention. It came as a surprise after he had vowed to stay in the race and collect petition signatures to get on the June 23 pri-

mary ballot.

"After much consideration, I've concluded that there simply is no viable path forward," Delgado said in a statement. "And though my campaign has come to an end, I fully intend to do all I can in our effort to build a more humane, affordable and equitable state that serves all New Yorkers."

Delgado's exit after eight months of campaigning spares Hochul a primary and narrows the 2026 governor's race to a head-to-head contest between the incumbent and Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, the sole Republican candidate.

Delgado entered the race last June when it appeared more competitive and would-be rivals were circling, including two Republican House members eager to take on a governor with shaky poll numbers. Hochul had appointed Delgado – then a second-term upstate congressman – as her running mate in 2022, but her lieutenant governor split with her early in 2025 as he prepared to challenge her.

He never got anywhere close in the polling.

Hochul led him by 64%-11% – a 53-point margin – in the latest poll of Democratic voters released by Siena College on Feb. 3. Hochul also had improved her

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County announces new team for threat assessment

Casey Pritchard
Utica Observer Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

A new threat assessment management team in Oneida County, comprised of the department of mental health and sheriff's office, is strengthening the county's approach to violence prevention and public safety.

The Oneida County Threat Assessment Management team utilizes a multidisciplinary framework to help schools, businesses and community partners identify concerning behaviors early, assess potential risk and connect individuals to appropriate supports before violence occurs.

"Violence prevention is most effective when public safety and mental health work side by side," said Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente Jr. in a statement. "This collaboration between our Department of Mental Health and the Sheriff's Office reflects Oneida County's commitment to proactive, prevention-focused strategies that protect our communities while supporting individuals before a crisis escalates."

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Forestport fatal fire investigated

Casey Pritchard
Utica Observer Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Oneida County Sheriff's Office is investigating a fatal fire in the town of Forestport, according to a statement from law enforcement.

At around 10:07 p.m. on Feb. 8, the Oneida County Sheriff's Office received a call and dispatched deputies to Ill Deer Run Road, in the town of Forestport for reports of a structure fire.

Upon arrival, deputies located the residence fully involved with reports of an individual still inside. After the fire was extinguished, an individual was located deceased inside the residence.

"At this time, the name of the deceased individual will be withheld pending a positive identification by the Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office and next of kin notification," Oneida County Sheriff's Office officials said in a statement. "At this time, the investigation is still ongoing, and additional information will be released at a later time."

The sheriff's office assisted on the scene by the Forestport Fire Department, Woodgate Fire Department, Barneveld Fire Department, Remsen Fire Department, Stittville Fire Department, Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office, NorthStar Ambulance Service, National Grid, Town of Forestport DPW, and Bronze Contracting.

When will you get your tax refund?

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USA TODAY NETWORK

Have you filed your taxes yet? Here's what to know this tax season – from when your refund may arrive to how to check its status.

When are taxes due?

The Internal Revenue Service started accepting federal tax returns in late January. Federal income tax returns are due on **Wednesday, April 15**.

New York state income taxes are also

due on April 15.

The IRS expects about 164 million individual tax returns for tax year 2025 to be filed ahead of the mid-April deadline.

To file for an extension on your federal income tax, taxpayers can fill out Form 4868 by April 15 to. Filling out this form will give filers six more months to complete their tax return, to Tuesday, Oct. 15.

Tax returns can still be filed after April 15 without filing for an extension, but you may be subject to a penalty if you owe taxes.

To file for an extension on your state income tax, fill out the appropriate form

– Form IT-201 for New York residents' personal tax returns. Completing the form will give filers another six months to complete their return. Note that if you file for an extension on your state income tax and owe, you must make your extension payment by the due date.

Key changes for taxes

Tax refunds this year are expected to be larger than usual due to changes in key tax rules for 2025 filing.

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