

## DeCillis, Michael

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**From:** Malcolm A. Punter <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 9, 2022 5:26 AM  
**To:** Public Testimony  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Districting Commission - Central Harlem District 9

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Greetings Districting Commission 2022,

I am writing to provide testimony against the districting on Central Harlem - District 9 that will result in a change that would eliminate the populace that lives above 155th Street and Frederick Douglas Boulevard in the current district 9.

As a life long resident of the Harlem community, and a third generation Harlem resident I believe it is imperative to the cultural, economic, and political viability of the Central Harlem community to remain intact. The residents above 155th Street along Frederick Douglas Boulevard are integral to the community. To incorporate that area into a Washington Heights district would be inaccurate from a cultural, economic, and political standpoint. Further, it would further serve to isolate the residents on the NYCHA communities in the Polo Grounds, Ralph Rangel Houses, and Public Schools, the homeless shelter that make up and are part of Central Harlem. The geographic characteristics of the corridor is directly connected to Central Harlem as a oppose to Washington Heights by the natural topography which places Frederick Douglas Boulevard on sea level and barriered by the tatic plate of Jackie Robinson and Highbridge Parks. Finally, the Holcombe Rucker Park and basketball court is a world famous basketball venue associated with Central Harlem. To have this iconic neighborhood redistricted to another community district would be incompatible.

For the foregoing reasons the Central Harlem district 9 must remain intact and not changed or redistricted.

Thank you for accepting my testimony.

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