On September 6, 2021, pursuant to Labor Law § 218-b and the associated regulation at 12 NYCRR 840.1, I designated COVID-19 as a highly contagious communicable disease that presents a serious risk of harm to the public health in New York State, in which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified the level of transmission of such disease as “substantial” or “high.” I hereby continue this designation until October 31, 2021, at which point I will review the level of transmission of COVID-19 in New York State and determine whether to continue this designation.