

IF NEW YORK GOT A LATE START, THEN TRUMP HASN'T EVEN STARTED YET

One of President Trump's current attempts to dodge accountability is to blame New York's spiking COVID-19 deaths on its late start.



Donald J. Trump  @realDonaldTrump... 16m

Somebody please explain to Cryin' Chuck Schumer that we do have a military man in charge of distributing goods, a very talented Admiral, in fact. New York has gotten far more than any other State, including hospitals & a hospital ship, but no matter what, always complaining.....

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Donald J. Trump  @realDonaldTrump

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...It wouldn't matter if you got ten times what was needed, it would never be good enough. Unlike other states, New York unfortunately got off to a late start. You should have pushed harder. Stop complaining & find out where all of these supplies are going. Cuomo working hard!

8:57am · 2 Apr 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

New York – and the nation, and the world – would have been far better off if Andrew Cuomo had imposed a shut-down on March 7, when he declared an emergency. But that was six days before Trump declared an emergency, perhaps because he was busy throwing a party on March 7 at which COVID was probably spread among his guests.

New York would have been far better off if it had imposed a state-wide shutdown instead of imposing a containment zone in New Rochelle on March 10. It would have been better off had

Cuomo issued a stay-at-home order on March 16 instead of simply shutting down non-essential businesses and canceling gatherings of more than 50 people. But from that day on, Cuomo's measures were more severe than anything Trump has recommended, which to this day only recommends seniors and those with pre-existing conditions stay at home.

It was probably too late when Cuomo issued a full stay-at-home order on March 20. Nevertheless, it was just one day after California's, the only earlier full-state stay-at-home order, and it was actually before Washington's (Tuesday Dr. Birx repeatedly commended Washington's response).

So yes, New York didn't respond as early as it should have (and Bill De Blasio in particular was irresponsible and slow).

But New York has always been – and remains – far ahead of what Trump has done.

So if Trump wants to accuse New York of responding slowly, he should first explain why he has always lagged New York's response.