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[November 2022] Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6

Full Newsletter: [<https://us9.campaign-archive.com/?u=73e8e9414b5a25e31f84f3b3f&id=bb7a682adc>]

Highlights

1. Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg announced the creation of the Office's first-ever Housing & Tenant Protection Unit, which will target systemic criminal harassment of tenants and abuse of government programs by landlords and developers. "New York City is in the midst of a housing crisis, and that means tenants are particularly vulnerable to unscrupulous landlords," said DA Bragg. "The creation of this unit represents our firm commitment to fully utilizing the resources of our office to ensure Manhattan residents can exercise the right to live safely and securely." Areas of focus will be harassment of rent-regulated tenants, deed fraud and defrauding of government subsidy programs by landlords and developers. This is the first time the Office will have a unit chief and cross-designated Assistant District Attorneys specifically assigned to housing matters. You can call the Unit to submit a complaint at (212) 335-8900.
 - Here is a link to the full press release for those interested in learning more: <https://www.manhattanda.org/d-a-bragg-announces-creation-of-the-offices-first-housing-tenant-protection-unit/>
2. DA Bragg announced the indictments of six developers for renting out designated affordable apartments at substantially higher rates than legally allowed while still receiving millions in 421-a tax benefits. These developers allegedly abused a government program, meant to provide New Yorkers access to desperately needed affordable housing. This case is the first indictment under the new Housing & Tenant Protection Unit.
3. Manhattan DA Alvin Bragg and NYPD Commissioner Keechant Sewell announced the indictment of Jose Rivera for manufacturing multiple ghost guns, including assault weapons, in his Lower East Side Manhattan apartment. "The allegations in this case once again make clear how easy it is for anyone to assemble a semi-automatic weapon in their own home," said DA Bragg. "Thanks to the work of our prosecutors and the hardworking detectives at the NYPD, we have prevented these firearms from hitting our streets and causing harm to New Yorkers."
 - Here is a link to the full press release for those interested in learning more: <https://www.manhattanda.org/d-a-bragg-commissioner-sewell-announce-32-count-indictment-in-ghost-gun-takedown/>