

FACT SHEET



George E. Pataki, Governor
Joseph H. Holland, Commissioner

A PUBLICATION OF NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL
OFFICE OF RENT ADMINISTRATION

#17 Harassment

Harassment by an owner is a course of action intended to force a tenant out of his/her apartment or to cause a tenant to give up rights granted the tenant by the Rent Stabilization Law or Rent Control Law.

No owner or anyone acting for the owner may interfere with a tenant's privacy, comfort, or quiet enjoyment of the tenant's apartment. Interference includes reducing services or engaging in baseless court proceedings.

Harassment is a serious violation of a tenant's rights. The New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR) established the Enforcement Unit specifically to handle harassment cases. The Unit is staffed with attorneys who specialize in this area of the rent laws. They respond to all complaints of harassment made within New York State related to rent regulated housing.

Owners found guilty of tenant harassment are subject to fines of up to \$1,000 for each violation against a rent controlled tenant and up to \$2,500 for each violation against a rent stabilized tenant. In addition, DHCR will permit no rent increases once there has been a finding of harassment until there is a finding that the harassment has ended.

If you think you are a victim of harassment, you may obtain a "Tenant Statement of Complaint"(s) - Harassment (DHCR Form RA- 60H), from your Borough or County Rent Office, or write to:

DHCR Enforcement Bureau
156 William Street
New York, NY 10038

For more information or assistance, call the DHCR Rent InfoLine, or visit your Borough or County Rent Office.

Central
92-31 Union Hall Street
4th Floor
Jamaica, NY 11433
(718) 739-6400

Brooklyn
250 Schermerhorn Street
3rd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Upper Manhattan
163 W. 125th Street
5th Floor
New York, NY 10027
North side of 110th St. and above

Nassau County
50 Clinton Street
6th Floor
Hempstead, NY 11550

Westchester County
55 Church Street
White Plains, NY 10601

Lower Manhattan
156 William Street
9th Floor
New York, NY 10038
South side of 110th St. and below

Bronx
1 Fordham Plaza
2nd Floor
Bronx, NY 10458

Staten Island
60 Bay Street
7th Floor
Staten Island, NY 10301

Rockland County
94-96 North Main Street
Spring Valley, NY 10977