Supervisor Lesko and Councilman Fiore-Rosenfeld Announce Quality of Life Task Force Action on Illegal Multi-family Rooming House in Stony Brook
posted on 3/1/2011 4:49:57 PM

Investigators report that the dwelling was home to 14 or more college students

Farmingville, NY - On February 10, Brookhaven Town Task Force Investigators, with assistance from the Suffolk County Police Crime Control Unit, executed a search warrant at 150 Christian Avenue in Stony Brook. The premises had been under surveillance and investigation for some time, stemming from reports of disturbances and allegations that it was a multi-family dwelling with too many vehicles. It was reported that about 14 college students resided in the building, with other persons staying overnight after parties or other activities.

The large dwelling, which was nearly 7000 square feet, was divided into three apartments plus the main level living area, all with key-locked bedrooms. There was a large finished basement apartment area with a kitchen, bathrooms and bedrooms; the main level had an apartment that included a kitchen, bathroom and a bedroom; the upper level included a kitchen, bathrooms and bedrooms. The premises did not have the required smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

The students had denied Town Investigators access for a safety inspection on several occasions and ignored warnings that some of the parties were causing disturbances. On this occasion they were cooperative because of the search warrant, which made for quicker documentation of the dwelling. Town Investigators will be issuing 10 Appearance Tickets to the property owner and a court date is set for April 14.

"The Quality of Life Task Force has once again proven that they can make a huge impact on the community," said Supervisor Lesko. "The activities that were going on at this residence were not consistent with the character of the neighborhood and caused a great deal of hardship for those who live in the area. This action sends another strong message that the Town will not tolerate those who violate our codes and disregard the health and safety of our residents."

"I applaud the efforts of our Quality of Life Task Force investigators," said Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld. "As a sponsor of our Law Department's Quality of Life Task Force I support their unwavering efforts to continue to follow up on any and all resident reports of disturbances or allegations of absentee landlords and illegal multi-family dwellings."

Supervisor Lesko established the Quality of Life Task Force in June of 2009. From June 2009 through December 2009, fines levied on code violations increased by 170% compared to the same time period in 2008. In 2010, the Quality of Life Task Force continued its success. Compared to 2009, fines levied in 2010 nearly doubled to almost $1 million. Fines are levied through tickets issued to property owners with properties that have seriously unsafe or hazardous conditions.

If residents believe that a property is in violation of any Town of Brookhaven codes, they can call 451-TOWN to file a complaint.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor
One Independence Hill • Farmingville • NY 11738 • Phone (631) 451-6595 • Fax (631) 451-6258