Quality of Life Task Force Shuts Down Illegal Four Family Home In Port Jefferson Station

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Farmingville, NY 2010 - Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilwoman Kathleen Walsh announced that the Quality of Life Task Force coordinated an action against an alleged illegal conversion of a house located at 153 Stuyvesant Drive, Port Jefferson Station. The search warrant was executed with the aid of the Suffolk County Police 6th Precinct Crime Control Unit on Thursday May 6, 2010. The dwelling was a two-story colonial converted from a single family house into a four family dwelling. Two of the apartments in the home had 3 bedrooms and the other two were small studio basement apartments without egress windows, GFI outlets, smoke detectors or carbon monoxide detectors. There were doors in the rear of the dwelling leading to all four apartments. One of the studio basement apartments had a makeshift set of wooden steps leading to the below-grade living space, continuing through the entry area. All of the four apartments had full working kitchens and bathrooms.

Councilwoman Walsh stated, "Our Quality of Life Task Force did a magnificent job. Illegal conversions are a flagrant violation our town code. They not only negatively impact our communities, but are particularly dangerous for their occupants as well. Those who seek to profit by denigrating our communities and jeopardizing the safety of our residents will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of our laws."

The Quality of Life Task Force was formed in 2009 by Supervisor Lesko and the Town Board to aggressively enforce the Town's codes and take on the worst-of-the-worst violators across Brookhaven. "Our Quality of Life Taskforce is working to ensure there is no safe haven for slumlords in Brookhaven. I applaud the efforts of everyone involved in enforcing our town code," stated Supervisor Mark Lesko. The heightened level of investigation, enforcement and prosecution has resulted in pursuing absentee landlords, and hauling tons of garbage and debris out of yards and homes.

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