June 21, 2013

Farmingville, NY - Brookhaven Town investigators condemned a Farmingville single family house this afternoon that had been divided into four apartments, after finding that the building was unsafe, had no smoke or carbon monoxide detectors and blocked exits. Brookhaven officials were called to the house by Suffolk County Police responding to a call there for emergency medical personnel.

"Houses like this, which are operated by unscrupulous landlords, pose a clear and present danger to both their tenants and the homes nearby. I'm sending a message that I hope they hear loud and clear: 'We're cleaning up Brookhaven, and your days of profiting at the expense of your neighbors are over,' " said Supervisor Romaine. "Brookhaven has tightened our housing laws, sharply increased our fines, and we are vigorously enforcing our codes. If we catch you, expect us to pursue the maximum allowable punishment - including jail time."

Brookhaven Town Fire Marshals, Building Inspectors and Law Department Inspectors responded to the house at 2 Highland Court, where they found a hoarding situation inside of the building. The house was condemned by the Building Department, and emergency housing was secured for all tenants.

In addition to condemning the building, Brookhaven investigators issued over a dozen appearance tickets against the property owner for a number of violations, including: failing to obtain a rental registration; building without a permit; occupying without a certificate of occupancy; illegal accessory apartments; unsafe premises; violation of required space for occupancy; unregistered vehicles; unlawful structure; and failure to maintain property.