Supervisor Lesko and Deputy Supervisor/Councilwoman Walsh Announce Quality of Life Task Force Action at Farmingville Bar

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Farmingville, NY - On Friday, September 17, the Brookhaven Town Quality of Life Task Force Law Investigators and two Fire Marshals joined the Suffolk County Police Department Sixth Precinct Crime Control Unit and two State Liquor Authority (SLA) Investigators to execute an SLA Inspection on the Tiki Hookah Bar located at 1075 Portion Road in Farmingville. The investigation revealed that the premises was unlawfully occupied by approximately 54 persons and did not have a valid Place of Assembly Permit from the Fire Marshals. Fire Marshals also discovered multiple fire code and electrical violations and the occupied office and the location had no valid Building Permit for the interior renovations. In addition, they did not have a valid Certificate of Occupancy from the Town of Brookhaven Building Division.

During the SLA inspection, two persons were arrested and taken into custody by officers from the SCPD 6th Precinct, including the owner/operator of the bar who was charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon 4th Degree and another individual who was charged with Harassment 2nd Degree, Resisting Arrest and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 4th Degree. A Quality of Life Task Force Investigator issued four misdemeanor Appearance Tickets including one for no building permit and three for no Certificate of Occupancy. In addition, the Fire Marshall issued four misdemeanor Appearance Tickets including two for operating a place of assembly without a permit and two for maintaining a hazard.

Supervisor Mark Lesko said, "Those who operate illegal businesses such as this are putting the health and safety of our residents at risk." He continued, "The action taken by our Quality of Life Task Force makes it clear that the Town will do everything in its power to fine those who violate our codes and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law."

"I commend our Quality of Life Task Force and all departments involved for their actions against this illegally operated establishment," said Deputy Supervisor / Councilman Kathleen Walsh, who represents the 3rd District in which the business is located. "By conducting such a thorough investigation, the Town has taken a critical step to help ensure the safety of the local residents and surrounding community."

If residents believe that a business owner is in violation of Town building and fire codes, they may call the Town Law Department at 451-6500 and file a complaint. If they believe a property is in violation of any other Town of Brookhaven codes, they can call 451-TOWN to file a complaint.

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