On October 6, the Town of Brookhaven's Quality of Life Task Force took action on a non-owner occupied, multi-family home at 377 Old Town Road in Port Jefferson Station. Investigators found that there was an illegal apartment with locked doors and no smoke or carbon monoxide detectors. The home was also without hot water and electric service. It also appeared that cooking took place using a barbeque with a propane cylinder. Due to these violations, a mold condition, and the dwelling's overall unsanitary state, a member of the Task Force later condemned the residence.

The landlord, who was issued six misdemeanor appearance tickets, had previously been issued 15 appearance tickets dating back to September of 2008 for violations including a basement apartment, which was subsequently removed. A few weeks later, an investigator found that the basement apartment was re-installed and more tickets were issued. After a number of "no appearances" and a "bench warrant," the landlord pleaded guilty on all counts and a judgment was entered in October of 2009.

"The Quality of Life Task Force continues to make a positive impact on neighborhoods throughout Brookhaven Town and I thank them for the great work that they do," said Supervisor Lesko. "Every action they take sends a strong message that we will not tolerate those who disregard the health and safety of our residents."

"We are committed to cracking down on absent landlords who violate our health and safety codes and erode our community's quality of life," said Councilman Fiore-Rosenfeld. "As a sponsor of our Law Department's Quality of Life Task Force I commend them for doing such a great job investigating these properties, building the case on behalf of our law-abiding residents, and enforcing our codes to keep our neighborhoods safe and secure."

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