

Brookhaven/SCPD Joint Investigation Results in Four Drug Arrests, Condemnation of House in East Patchogue

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Farmingville, NY - Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine today announced the results of a joint enforcement action with the Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD). The action resulted in the arrest of four individuals on drug related charges and the condemnation of an illegal three-family house in East Patchogue.

Supervisor Romaine said, "This is another fine example of the cooperation between our Law Department and the Suffolk County Police to clean up neighborhoods. A house like this is a danger to everyone who lives nearby and we will continue to crack down on property owners who disregard Town Codes and threaten our quality of life."

SCPD Deputy Chief Kevin Fallon said, "The Suffolk County Police Department is committed to making our county safer by working collaboratively with the community and other government and law enforcement agencies. This joint investigation with the Town of Brookhaven resulted in four individuals being arrested on drug charges and is an exemplary example of a collaborative effort producing positive effects for the residents of Suffolk County."

On December 2, Brookhaven Town Law Department Building Inspectors responded to 17 Haig Avenue and found that the property, which is owned by "The Estate of Louise Kuklis," was a non-owner occupied illegal three-family house, with one of the units being an illegal basement apartment. A Senior Building Inspector ordered the structure condemned and determined to be unfit for occupancy. Shortly thereafter, the Law Department began a Chapter 73 action to have the house boarded and secured. Chapter 73 of the Town Code provides a "fast track" to rid neighborhoods of unsafe structures. If declared to be an unsafe structure, the cost of demolition and debris removal is the responsibility of the property owner. The Town places a lien on the property that is then placed on the tax bill. The County reimburses the Town and they collect the money from the property owner.

The following Appearance Tickets were issued to the property owner by Law Department Building Inspectors :

- Building without a permit
- No Certificate of Occupancy
- No Smoke Detectors
- Locked egress doors

A court date has been set for March 19, 2015.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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