

Valerie S. Mason  
Chair

Will Brightbill  
District Manager



505 Park Avenue, Suite 620  
New York, N.Y. 10022-1106  
(212) 758-4340  
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)  
www.cb8m.com – Website  
info@cb8m.com – E-Mail

**The City of New York  
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

January 21, 2025

Hon. Eric Adams  
Mayor of New York  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

**RE: The creation of a unit within the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) or another agency to enforce rules and laws pertaining to commercial tenant harassment**

Dear Mayor Adams,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on January 15, 2025, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 33 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

**WHEREAS** there are instances of commercial tenant harassment; and

**WHEREAS** there are specific rules and laws that prohibit tenant harassment; and

**WHEREAS** the City has no mechanism to enforce compliance with the anti-commercial tenant harassment; and

**WHEREAS** the City provides other types of support and resources for small businesses; and

**WHEREAS** the SBS has no power to enforce; and

**WHEREAS** without enforcement, there is no remedy for small businesses that have been subject to landlord harassment other than going to court; and

**WHEREAS** going through litigation to pursue a remedy against a harassing landlord could take years and cost upwards of \$100,000;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** Community Board 8 calls on the City to create a unit within the SBS or another agency to enforce rules and laws pertaining to tenant harassment.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Valerie S. Mason*      *Bill Angelos and Alida Camp*

Valerie S. Mason  
Chair

Bill Angelos and Alida Camp  
Co-Chairs, Small Business Committee

CC: Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York

Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Jerry Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District  
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District  
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District  
Honorable Alex Boses, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District  
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District  
Honorable Diana Ayala, NYC Council Member, 8th Council District  
Honorable Oswald Feliz, NYC Council Member, 15th Council District  
Honorable Erik Bottcher, NYC Council Member, 3rd Council District  
Honorable Vickie Paladino, NYC Council Member, 19th Council District  
Honorable Sandra Ung, NYC Council Member, 20th Council District  
Honorable Shekar Krishnan, NYC Council Member, 25th Council District  
Honorable Selvena N. Brooks-Powers, NYC Council Member, 31st Council District  
Honorable Susan Zhuang, NYC Council Member, 43rd Council District  
Honorable Dynishal Gross, Commissioner, Department of Small Business Services  
Natasha D. Joseph, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Small Business Services  
Balanda Joachin, Campaign Organizer, Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development  
Abigail Ellman, Director of Planning and Development, Cooper Square Committee