

Facing 25 Years in Prison, Slumlord Steve Croman Spotted in the Wilds of Mott Street

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The above is a blurry photo of reviled landlord Steve Croman entering 221 Mott Street. In the wild. Considering the man is potentially staring down the barrel of twenty-five years in prison, and that he's allegedly still harassing (<http://thevillager.com/2016/12/15/hes-still-harassing-us-croman-tenants-claim-as-landlord-faces-prison/>) tenants in his properties via phone calls, this is an intriguing sight.

This particular tenement – 221 Mott Street – has a long history with the Croman enterprise. The property was apparently his first big purchase after stepping into the business twenty-seven years ago at age 24. Two years later, the building was his.

In recent years, the address saw a spate of upscaling activity. Ongoing renovations and remodeling. And, to give you an idea of the greed (<http://newyork.craigslist.org/mnh/nfb/5972317417.html>) – it's \$3,395 for a small one-bedroom, a disclaimer of which accompanies real estate listings.

Croman has been charged with twenty felonies including grand larceny (<http://www.boweryboogie.com/2016/05/slumlord-steve-croman-arrested-faces-20-felony-charges-fraudulent-activity/>), falsifying business records, tax fraud, conspiring to defraud, and offering a false instrument; his mortgage broker Barry Swartz faces fifteen felonies including grand larceny, falsifying records, and conspiring to defraud. The two could get up to twenty-five years in prison apiece if convicted.

Anyway, hearings for Croman's criminal case will be held tomorrow (<http://evgrieve.com/2016/11/steve-croman-case-adjourned-until-feb-7.html?m=1>); the civil suit is to be heard (<http://www.cromantenants.org/indictment>) on March 7. Unless it changes again.