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# Notorious landlord Steve Croman sentenced to one year behind bars

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Cynthia Chaffee, 65, who lives in one of Croman's Gramercy Park buildings, blasted her landlord for intimidating tenants by shutting off hot water and refusing to make repairs.

In addition to jail time, Croman will have to pay \$5 million in fines and will forfeit his brokerage license.

On Tuesday morning, notorious landlord Steve Croman was officially sentenced to one year in jail. Early Tuesday Croman finally faced the music...

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's prosecutors have been investigating Croman for more than a year, and in May 2016 hit him with multiple counts of mortgage fraud and tax evasion.

Croman admitted to acquiring \$45 million in loans for his properties by passing off rent-stabilized apartments as market rate units.

At sentencing, Croman was dressed in black skinny jeans and black-and-white sneakers. But today, he begins a sentence in Rikers Island for perpetrating an elaborate scheme that was meant to push out rent-stabilized tenants...

"Rikers ain't the Ritz", declared Justice Jill Konviser, who last month [agreed to delay Croman's sentencing](#) during the High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Konviser also referenced the two-week extension she'd granted Croman two weeks earlier - his sentencing had been scheduled for September 19, but his attorneys asked for an extension so he could observe the High Holy Days.

"I hope that you spend your days thinking about the religious principles that this case was postponed for".

Steven Croman at his sentencing in State Supreme Court on October 3.

"The measures Mr. Croman took to boost his own bottom line- while blatantly disregarding the wellbeing of his tenants - are shocking", said Schneiderman in a statement. My office will continue to ensure that all landlords play by the rules - and pursue anyone who doesn't to the fullest extent of the law.

Croman allegedly built his real estate empire by buying up cheap buildings filled with rent-regulated tenants then embarking on a campaign of harassment to get them out, according to the AG.