Croman Tenants at 159 Stanton Street Displaced Due to Perilous Living Conditions

Posted on: February 27th, 2017 at 5:17 am by Staff (https://www.boweryboogie.com/author/staff/)



"I can't sleep here, the ceiling could come down on me while sleeping." –Scared Tenant, 159 Stanton Street

The timing was tragic.

Two days after New York City Housing Court demanded slumlord Steve Croman (aka 9300 Realty) address structural problems on the third floor, two apartments were vacated by order of the city. Several residents had already relayed fears of living in their homes (http://www.boweryboogie.com/2017/02/croman-tenants-159-stanton-street-head-back-court-living-conditions-worsen/) before, during, and after the hearing. And their concerns proved accurate.

Department of Buildings inspectors issued partial vacate orders on Saturday morning (http://www.boweryboogie.com/2017/02/breaking-vacate-orders-issued-steve-cromans-152-stanton-street/) to second-floor front apartments for "partial ceiling collapse due to construction activity (http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/OverviewForComplaintServlet?requestid=2&vlcompdetlkey=0002086286) in apartments above on 3rd floor." There are also a handful of stop-work orders on the property, the latest (http://a810-

bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/OverviewForComplaintServlet?requestid=2&vlcompdetlkey=0002086056) of which was issued on Saturday for "failure to safeguard" tenants from the ongoing construction.



Makes sense. We learned from said hearing that joists supporting the third floor are allegedly sagging significantly and one is actually braced. These longtime occupants, including a man and his twelve-year-old son, were forced to relocate (with the assistance of Red Cross) and it's unknown if and when they'll return to 159 Stanton Street.

"It is unacceptable and infuriating that Steve Croman continues to push tenants out of their homes here on the Lower East Side," said Assemblymember Niou in the wake of Saturday's vacate. "The pattern of tenant harassment at 159 Stanton is clear, and we now have tenants being ordered to vacate their homes due to unsafe conditions. Just a few days ago, I wrote a letter to Croman demanding immediate repairs at this building, along with my colleagues. These deplorable housing conditions must be fixed right away, and I will continue to push for repairs and tenants' safety."



The letter Niou referenced was a joint effort with other local electeds – Borough President Brewer, State Senators Squadron and Hoylman, and Councilmembers Chin and Mendez – to end the "deplorable living conditions" at 159 Stanton Street.

Elected Officials Call on Steve Croman to End Harassment (https://www.scribd.com/document/339971513/Elected-Officials-Call-on-Steve-Croman-to-End-Harassment#from_embed) by BoweryBoogie (https://www.scribd.com/user/65951747/BoweryBoogie#from_embed) on Scribd





February 21, 2017

Mr. Steve Croman 9300 Realty 632 Broadway, 7th Floor New York, NY 10012

Mr. Croman:

We write regarding the housing conditions at one of your properties, 159 Stanton Street, on the Lower East Side. We have been contacted about deplorable housing conditions at this building and we demand that you work to address all repairs and safety issues here right away.

Our offices have been contacted about several issues at 159 Stanton Street, which houses rent regulated tenants and seniors, such as: makeshift staircases made from plywood; broken windows; water leaks throughout the building; multiple break-ins due to lack of basic security measures; hazardous construction; and a general lack of repairs. These conditions are simply unacceptable, they translate to tenant harassment, and we urge you to address them quickly.

Our offices are familiar with the patterns of disrepair, neglect, and harassment your management company is known, and currently being investigated, for. For these reasons, we have advocated for the City to send out inspectors to 159 Stanton Street to survey conditions.

We look forward to continuing discussions with tenants, advocates and your management company to bring quick and safe repairs to 159 Stanton Street. Should you have any questions, you may contact us via Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou at 212-312-1420 or niouy@nyassembly.gov.

Sincerely,

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