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What's New

Commissioner Announces Special Enforcement Recruitment Drive



On August 15, 2007, Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster announced a recruitment drive to hire 67 new employees to serve on special operations teams and supplement existing units charged with raising the bar for construction safety standards citywide. The special operations teams will utilize multi-disciplinary enforcement tactics to stop repeat offenders and abuses of construction site regulations. Applications are now being accepted from those interested in joining the Buildings Department as an architect,

engineer, inspector, lawyer, analyst, or investigator and working to carry out the Department's [Special Enforcement Plan](#) announced by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, City Councilman James Oddo, and Commissioner Lancaster in July. Interested in applying? Visit our website for more [Career Opportunities](#). To learn more about the recruitment drive, view today's [press release](#).



Due to the severe weather on August 8, property owners of buildings that were damaged need to hire an architect or engineer to assess the damage, provide a remediation plan for repair work, file applications with the Department of Buildings and obtain permits to conduct the necessary repair work. If your building was vacated by the Buildings Department because of weather-related damage,

please call 311 or the Buildings Customer Service Center at (212) 227-4416. Buildings Customer Service representatives will be available to assist those affected by the storm Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday and Sunday 9am to 5pm. For more information about storm repair, view our [FAQs](#) (29 kb-pdf). For information on architects in Brooklyn, contact the [American Institute of Architects](#) Brooklyn Office at (718) 259-0070.

Stop Work Order Patrol Expands

Dedicated to Safety



On August 15, 2007, Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster announced the expansion of the Stop Work Order Patrol program to the Bronx and Staten Island. The Stop Work Order Patrol partners Buildings inspectors with City Sheriffs from the [Department of Finance](#) to proactively monitor sites with active Stop Work Orders. Setting the framework for the Buildings Department's [Special Enforcement Plan](#), which will utilize Stop Work Orders to crack down on those who disobey Building Code and Zoning regulations, the Stop Work Order Patrol monitors sites with Stop Work Orders, conducts proactive inspections of these sites and issues additional violations with increased penalties if work is taking place. To learn more about the Stop Work Order Patrol, view the [press release](#).

Reminder

"No Penalty" Retaining Wall Inspection Program

Dedicated to Safety



Take advantage of our "No Penalty" Retaining Wall Inspection Program before it ends on September 3, 2007! For the duration of the inspection program, homeowners may call 311 and request a visual examination of their private retaining wall by a Buildings Department inspector. Under the "No Penalty" program, violations will not be issued for the condition of the retaining wall. View the [press release](#)

for more information about the program. To learn more about [retaining walls](#) (709 kb-pdf) visit our website at www.nyc.gov/buildings.

Did You Know?

Did you know that in 2006, the Buildings Department's Elevator Division conducted approximately 500 spot checks of amusement rides during evening and weekend hours? Since 2002, the number of amusement ride inspections performed by Buildings Department's Elevator inspectors has increased by more than 70%. To learn more about our inspections of temporary amusement rides, view the [press release](#).

Visit our [Homepage](#) for more information on any of these announcements.

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