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## What's New

### Annual Safety Report Card Released



On November 20, 2007, Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster announced overall construction-related fatalities significantly decreased in 2007 as construction activity continued at a sustained pace. Buildings released this information as part of an annual [Safety Report Card](#), (4,643 kb) which provides a citywide overview of construction accident, injury and fatality data. The Department collects and analyzes statistics to identify trends and to work with the industry to take steps to improve construction safety. The Report was released at the annual [Building Trades Employers' Association](#) Safety Conference by Commissioner Lancaster and First Deputy Commissioner [Robert LiMandri](#). To learn more, view the [press release](#) or [photos](#) from the event.

### Buildings Department Unveils New Uniforms

Information You Need To Know



On November 15, 2007, Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster announced that the Department's inspectorial staff and field responders are now uniformed. Marking our latest step to further our professionalism, the uniforms will help demonstrate a visible presence on construction sites. All new uniforms include navy blue jackets with the Department's logo on the front, while the rest of the uniform varies depending upon the employee's position in the Department. For more information about the uniforms, view the [press release](#).

## New Trash Compactor Room Requirements

### Information You Need To Know

To facilitate Sanitation Department garbage removal, beginning December 10, 2007, the Buildings Department will require trash compacting systems to be installed in certain types of multiple dwelling buildings. View the [service notice](#) (40 kb) for more information about this new requirement.

## Buildings Around Town

### New York Building Congress



On November 14, 2007, Commissioner Lancaster represented Mayor Bloomberg at the [New York Building Congress](#) Industry Recognition Dinner to applaud the contribution of the Building Congress in helping to shape the economic growth of New York City . View [photos](#) from the event.

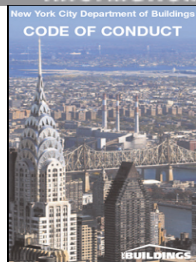
### Elevator and Escalator Safety Week

On November 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, staff members from the Elevator Division as well as elevator mascot, "Safe-T Rider," visited three schools to provide safety awareness classes to educate students about safe elevator and escalator practices. This program is a joint venture with the MTA, Elevator Conference of New York, Department of Education and the National Safety Foundation.

## Reminder

### Buildings Rules Against Receiving Gifts

#### Information You Need To Know



As the holiday season approaches, please remember that our "No Gift Policy" prohibits Buildings employees from receiving any item of any value, including money, flowers, candy, meals or other consumable items, from any member of the public. Additionally, Buildings employees are required to report gifts received to the Department of Investigation. To learn more, view our [Code of Conduct](#) .

### New Q-MATIC Ticket in Brooklyn

#### Making It Easier

To make it easier for the public to do business with us, on November 12, 2007, the Brooklyn Borough Office began utilizing a Q-MATIC "N" ticket for customers wishing to make up to five corrections to an application. The Q-MATIC ticket reduces the hassle of waiting on line and enables Buildings representatives to better assist those seeking customer service. To learn more about this new "N" ticket, view the [service notice](#) (24 kb).

### Department Closed for Thanksgiving

#### Information You Need To Know

The Buildings Department will be closed Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> in honor of Thanksgiving. Visit us online for the Department's [holiday schedule](#).

## ***Did You Know?***

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Did you know you can apply for electrical permits online using the Department's e-Filing System? Located on Buildings' homepage, [e-Filing](#) reduces time to complete an electrical application and eliminates the need to visit the Department in person to obtain an electrical permit.

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