

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 96

November 20, 2006

OFFICE OF SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS, New York City has numerous agencies with inspectors dedicated to enforcing laws to ensure that quality of life is maintained throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, a coordinated effort among these agencies is often required to effectively address issues and combat adverse conditions that can impact quality of life, including those that threaten public safety, community livability and property values and can lead to serious crime; and

WHEREAS, such issues and conditions have historically been associated with notorious adult use locations, noisy or lawless clubs, trademark counterfeiting bazaars, and apartment buildings that have been illegally converted into hotels; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Midtown Enforcement has engaged in coordinating such enforcement activities in midtown Manhattan since 1976, and, together with its partner City agencies, has achieved great success through closing nightclubs that have facilitated narcotics trafficking and prostitution, seizing more than \$50 million of counterfeit trademarked goods and shutting down 17 large-scale counterfeit distribution centers, each of which posed major fire hazards; and

WHEREAS, the enforcement coordination functions of the Office of Midtown Enforcement should be continued and implemented on a Citywide basis to ensure that more communities in the City can reap the benefits of this approach;

NOW, THEREFORE, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of New York, it is hereby ordered that:

Section 1. Establishment of the Office of Special Enforcement. The Office of Midtown Enforcement shall now be known as the Office of Special Enforcement (“Office”). The Office shall, on a Citywide basis, continue to implement the enforcement coordination functions of the Office of Midtown Enforcement as further described in section 2 of this Order. The Office shall be located within the Office of the Criminal Justice Coordinator, and be headed by a Director who shall report to the Deputy Mayor for Administration. The Director shall be accountable for

the Office's performance to the Criminal Justice Coordinator, Deputy Mayor for Administration and Mayor.

§ 2. Functions of the Office. The Office shall be responsible for overseeing response to conditions at properties throughout the City that threaten quality of life and require a coordinated response from multiple agencies or otherwise demand special attention. The scope of the Office's activities shall include, but not be limited to: coordinating investigations of the conditions, ownership and tenancy of problem properties; coordinating joint inspections by agency staff detailed to assist in Office initiatives; coordinating issuance of notices of violations and implementation of other remedies by such agency staff for violation of the City's Building, Fire Prevention and Health Codes; supervising measures to bring identified properties into compliance with all City codes; and, consistent with a delegation from the Corporation Counsel pursuant to Chapter 17 of the City Charter, filing civil litigation to abate nuisances or otherwise further the functions of the Office. The Office also shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Criminal Justice Coordinator, Deputy Mayor for Administration and Mayor. The Office shall carry out these functions in cooperation with federal, state and City agencies as appropriate.

§ 3. Agency Cooperation. City agencies, including but not limited to the Fire Department, Police Department, Law Department and Departments of Buildings, City Planning, Consumer Affairs, Environmental Protection, Finance, Health and Mental Hygiene, and Housing Preservation and Development shall cooperate with the Office as requested by the Director. Such cooperation shall include, but not be limited to, detailing agency staff to assist Office staff consistent with agency and Office functions and reporting to the Office on quality of life issues and related enforcement efforts.

§ 4. Effective Date. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor