

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Hempstead Village Cracks Down on Illegal Rentals *Administration plans to require permits for rental housing*



Village of Hempstead Mayor Wayne J. Hall Sr. and the Board of Trustees plan to require permits for rental housing in an effort to weed out landlords renting illegal apartments. The Village Board will vote on this measure at a meeting scheduled for February 17, 2009.

"This is the next in a series of steps the village is taking to combat the issue of illegal housing," stated Mayor Hall. "This legislation will curb dangerous occupancy violations and better enforce our existing laws. It will also provide protection for our residents as well as our firefighters, preventing living situations that are deemed dangerous."

Property owners would pay a minimum \$150 fee to apply for a two-year rental registration permit under the proposed ordinance. They would also be required to submit detailed information about the premises, including the number of residents expected to live there. The law would apply to tenants who sublet apartments and exclude co-ops and dwellings operated by the public housing authority along with low to moderate-income housing for senior citizens owned by nonprofit corporations.

"We plan to aggressively weed out overcrowding in apartment buildings and address other matters such as how to deal with building code violations," added Mayor Hall.