



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jeffrey D. Klein

Klein, Dinowitz, Community Celebrate Closure of Objectionable Massage Parlor in Riverdale

JEFFREY D. KLEIN May 24, 2012

| ISSUE: **CONSUMER PROTECTION, CRIME, HUMAN RIGHTS**

Months Long Investigation Results In Closure Order

RIVERDALE, BRONX, N.Y. – Senator Jeffrey D. Klein (D-Bronx/Westchester) joined with Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz (D-Bronx) and leaders in the Riverdale Community to celebrate the closure of “New Healing Touch” massage parlor which has long been a source of concern to many in the surrounding area. The parlor was closed after two arrests in the last six months for prostitution. Senator Klein wrote to Commissioner Raymond Kelly in December of last year asking that the site be investigated.

“I’m extremely grateful to Commissioner Kelly, Captain Kevin Burke of the 50th Precinct and the staff and personnel of the NYPD Legal Bureau who took this concern so seriously” said Senator Klein “We need to put a stop to shady businesses that offer a legitimate service in the window, but ply a sleazy, illegal trade in the backroom. That’s why Assemblyman Dinowitz has joined with me to sponsor legislation that will enable the State Department of Education to quickly suspend such licenses.”

"I thank the 50th Precinct for taking strong action and closing this blight on our community. It's important that we always respond quickly and decisively when the quality of life in our neighborhoods is threatened. That's why Senator Klein and I have introduced legislation that would toughen penalties for these types of violations." Said Assemblyman Dinowitz.

"Kudos to our elected officials and the 50th Precinct for working so diligently to eradicate this blight on our community. Businesses like the Healing Touch have no place in our city" said Community Board 8 member Damian McShane, who originally brought this matter to Senator Klein's attention.

Klein and Dinowitz legislation S.1030/A.9337 are still awaiting a hearing in the higher education committees of both chambers.

Residents of the 34th Senatorial District who believe they know of locations that enable prostitution are encouraged to contact the New York City Police Department. Should additional information be required, they can reach out to Senator Klein's Office at (718) 822-2049 or at jdklein@nysenate.gov.