

Good Afternoon,

My name is Lori Kelley and I am the Secretary of 111 Linden Street HDFC which is now in TPT.

I have lived in my building since April of 2000.

When we first moved into the building it was a drug den. Drugs were being sold in the front vestibule of our building and all up and down on our block. There were no lights in our hallways and the whole 3rd floor was a drug den for the addicts.

Once we moved in and paid for our apartment and found out how the building was being ran we knew we had to take it upon ourselves and make our home safe not only for our family but for the other families that lived in fear in the building as well. We held elections and elected a new board. With this new board in place we began to clean out our building and pour every dollar we collected on extensive legal fees, oil and repairs. We evicted 6 apartments and enrolled our building in the safe hallways program with the 83rd precinct and worked with the officers to keep our tenants safe. Once the den was emptied not only did our building change but the neighborhood began to change as well. The drug dealers and addicts moved on.

We then began the real work. We had to repair all of the damage and neglect that our building had endured for so many years. Every dollar we took in was used to keep this building afloat and to provide a safe and affordable place to live not only for our family but for other shareholders and tenants families as well.

Our building was in need of major renovations and updates. Our boiler was the first thing we needed repaired. We realized that the amount of money that we were taking in was not enough to do these repairs. We fixed the vacant apartments the best we could and rented them to generate income. We were our own handyman, super and board all in one. We then realized that we needed to not only repair but we needed to upgrade the apartments. The only way we could do that was to cut the dead weight we were carrying and we began another round of evictions 6 in total. We needed to find tenants that could possibly become shareholders. This time we decided that we needed to really upgrade the apartments. With money being tight because of all out legal fees we decided to use our personal money to upgrade the apartments. We renovated all of our vacant apartments with new appliances and flooring and LED light fixtures. We hired people that could do the major work and we the board members and shareholders did all of the manual labor. (Ripping up floors, painting, bagging up and removing all garbage). We are finally in a position that we can sell apartments and move forward in the right way and we can show everyone what we knew all along. Our building is worth it. It is our home! When we found out that our building was going on the TPT list we went to HPD to see what could be done. They referred us to the Lower East Side Credit Union to apply for a loan for tax and water arrears. The Loan officer then sent us to UHAB who would be more than happy to help us put a package together for a fee. Our maintenance at the time was \$475.00 monthly. They wanted to raise it to \$1300.00 a month. We could not commit to that. We continued to update apartments and rent them. We reached out to our city council member Antonio Reynoso. We met his assistant in their office and explained what was going on. He said that he would look into it and speak to the CM. CM Reynoso's assistance Boris Santos came to our building and even looked at all of the repairs that we made and he was very impressed. He told us that he was on board and would help us get off the TPT list. We agreed to fill out the article XI resolution We filled it out and hand delivered it to HPD only to never get a response from them and still remained on the TPT list. We later found out that the Article XI packet was left on an employee's desk that retired and nothing was done with it. We could not make an agreement for water because they wanted a huge amount to even enter into a payment agreement and without that we couldn't get an agreement for taxes. We ultimately received an email from Boris Santos stating that they would not help us. We understand that yes things have gone wrong, but what we also know is that this is our home and we have tried repeatedly to reach out for help and haven't received any. We have

been left to alone to try to figure all of this out with no guidance. Since Riseboro has taken over in September 2018 we have not received and leases, there has not been any repairs. We have a leak in out basement from the boiler that began about 2 ½ months ago that still has not been repaired and it ruining the basement. Every 21-25 days we are out of oil so we have no heat or hot water. If we do not inform them we need oil they would never know. I have called our property manager on several occasions and no one has called us back. I have gone as far as emailing the VP of Riseboro's housing division Emily Kurtz because we had no oil for 4 days. She responded on Monday and told me should would look into the issue and get back to me the next day. I still haven't heard from her. We have no after hour contact information and the office is only open M-F 9:00am-4:00. If something happens after hours we have to wait until the next business day to contact them. We have lived here when no one else wanted to and we are asking please help us keep our home and help us keep affordable housing in Bushwick.

Thank you for your time.