

**LOCAL LAWS
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FOR THE YEAR 2020**

No. 56

Introduced by Council Members Torres, the Speaker (Council Member Johnson), Kallos, Van Bramer, Chin, Powers, Rivera, Louis, Rosenthal, Vallone, Lancman, Constantinides and Menchaca.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to amending the definition of harassment to include threats based on a person having been impacted by COVID-19

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Subparagraph f-4 of paragraph 48 of subdivision a of section 27-2004 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 163 for the year 2017, is amended to read as follows:

f-4. repeatedly contacting or visiting any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of such unit (i) on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays, (ii) at times other than the hours between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. or (iii) in such a manner as can reasonably be expected to abuse or harass such person, provided that if such person has notified such owner in writing that such person consents to being contacted or visited at specified hours or in a specified manner, such owner may also contact or visit such person during such specified hours and in such specified manner, and provided further that an owner may contact or visit such person for reasons specifically authorized or mandated by law or rule; [or]

§ 2. Subparagraph f-6 of paragraph 48 of subdivision a of section 27-2004 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as added by local law number 48 for the year 2018, is amended to read as follows:

f-6. requesting identifying documentation for any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of such dwelling unit that would disclose the citizenship status of such person, when such person has provided the owner with a current form of government-issued personal identification, as such term is defined in section 21-908, unless such documentation is otherwise required by law or is requested for a specific and limited purpose not inconsistent with this paragraph[.]; *or*

§ 3. Paragraph 48 of subdivision a of section 27-2004 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new subparagraph f-7 to read as follows:

f-7. threatening any person lawfully entitled to occupancy of such dwelling unit based on such person's actual or perceived status as an essential employee, status as a person impacted by COVID-19, or receipt of a rent concession or forbearance for any rent owed during the COVID-19 period; provided that for the purposes of this subparagraph:

(1) the term "COVID-19" means the 2019 novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV;

(2) the term "COVID-19 period" means March 7, 2020 through the later of (i) the end of the first month that commences after the expiration of the moratorium on enforcement of evictions of any tenant residential or commercial set forth in executive order number 202.8, as issued by the governor on March 20, 2020 and extended thereafter or (ii) September 30, 2020, inclusive;

(3) the term "essential employee" means a person employed by or permitted to work at or for a business classified as an essential business by the New York state department of economic

development in accordance with executive order number 202.6, as issued by the governor on March 18, 2020 and extended thereafter; and

(4) the term “person impacted by COVID-19” means a person who has experienced one or more of the following:

(i) such person was diagnosed with COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and seeking a medical diagnosis;

(ii) a member of such person’s household was diagnosed with COVID-19;

(iii) such person was providing care for a family member or a member of such person’s household who was diagnosed with COVID-19;

(iv) such person became unemployed, partially unemployed, or could not commence employment as a direct result of COVID-19 or the state disaster emergency declared in executive order number 202, as issued by the governor on March 7, 2020; or

(v) such person became primarily responsible for providing financial support for the household of such person because the previous head of the household died as a direct result of COVID-19;

§ 4. This local law takes effect immediately.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, s.s.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on May 13, 2020 and approved by the Mayor on May 26, 2020.

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

I hereby certify that the form of the enclosed local law (Local Law No. 56 of 2020, Council Int. No. 1936-A of 2020) to be filed with the Secretary of State contains the correct text of the local law passed by the New York City Council and approved by the Mayor.

STEPHEN LOUIS, Acting Corporation Counsel.