



Inspection & Compliance Services 2012/2013 Bureau Projects and Objectives

➤ **Enhance our Lead Wipe Testing Program to provide more Flexible and Convenient Service to our Customers.**

To date the majority of our lead dust wipe testing efforts have been performed by our Property Conservation Inspectors as a follow up to the initial inspection conducted by our Code Enforcement Officers (CEO's). While there are many reasons why that structure allows us to be most efficient in utilizing our limited resources, we hope that this change will make our processes more convenient for our customers. Over the past year we have secured the necessary EPA certification for most our CEO's who service the Lead "High Risk" areas. This will allow the CEO an opportunity in certain situations, involving one or two family dwellings, to perform the necessary Wipe Test in conjunction with their scheduled inspection. This effort will minimize the number of inspectors involved with a particular case and it should help to expedite the process in a more timely fashion.

➤ **Implement Changes to the Certificate of Occupancy Program to Eliminate the Overlap with the RHA Section 8 Inspection Program**

This past year RHA amended their Quality Housing Standards, used as part of the Section 8 Program inspections, they are now more in line with both city and state code. In addition, RHA recently brought their Section 8 Program inspections back in-house. These property maintenance inspections are now being performed by qualified RHA inspectors with direct oversight from RHA staff. Because of this and due to the fact that both types of inspections can be perceived as duplicative, we've amended our Certificate of Occupancy legislation, these changes will eliminate this overlap in certain situations. You will find more information about these new amendments on our main page of this web-site under the heading "Important Bureau Information and Updates".

➤ **Develop a Program to Hold Financial Institutions Accountable for Properties in Foreclosure**

In accordance with New York Real Property Actions & Proceedings - Article 13 §1307- Duty to Maintain Foreclosed Property law, financial institutions are responsible for complying with certain sections of the New York State Property Maintenance Code once they have secured a judgment of foreclosure. This objective is designed to minimize the negative impact our privately owned vacant and blighted structures have on the surrounding neighborhoods by ensuring the responsible party is acting in a responsible manner.

