

Media Advisory

Date: June 7th, 2019

Contact: Brandon Kielbasa

BKielbasa@coopersquare.org & 212-228-8210 x4

&

Contact: Jodie Leidecker

JodieL@coopersquare.org & 212-228-8210 x116

Tenants Rally at Jared Kushner-Owned Building Where Flagrant Use of Rent Increase Loopholes & Construction-as-Harassment Have Run Rampant

Tenants Demand Action on Rent Law Reform Package in Albany
Pass All Nine Housing Justice for All Bills NOW!!!

What: Tenants will rally in front of two buildings, 118 & 120 E. 4th Street, owned by Jared Kushner. Kushner's company has a pattern of purchasing portfolios of rent-regulated buildings where either previous landlords (e.g. [Ben Shaoul](#)) have displaced low-to-moderate rent-paying tenants and then used Individual Apartment Improvements (IAIs), or where Kushner's company themselves would do this work. Earlier this year, NYC Dept. of Buildings issued a Stop Work Order for unpermitted construction work at 120 E 4th St. and [dangerous lead paint contamination](#) occurred at 118 E. 4th St. in late 2018. These instances document a pattern indicative of construction-as-harassment. The problem of rent increase loophole abuse is a critical part of the rent reform package being considered in Albany this month.

When: Friday, May 7th, 10 a.m.

Where: In front of 120 East 4th Street, Manhattan

Who: Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Member Carlina Rivera, State Senator Brad Hoylman, tenants from numerous local buildings owned by Jared Kushner, and other well-known bad acting landlords such as Steve Croman.

Why: Tenants are pushing for the passage of a [platform of nine bills](#) this month in the New York State legislature to protect tenants and affordable housing. One of the key issues is closing the Individual Apartment Improvements (IAI) rent increase loophole. This IAI loophole is used extensively by landlords such as Jared Kushner to raise rents as part of a [business plan of speculative investment](#) that comes at the expense of tenants and affordable housing. Kushner has been known for extensive use of IAIs and reported use of construction-as-harassment in numerous local buildings, especially [170-174 E 2nd Street](#).

Media Visuals: A large and colorful rent law banner as a backdrop, chanting tenants.

###