



NYC Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH)
The City's Independent and Impartial Administrative Law Court

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NYC OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE TRIALS AND HEARINGS (OATH)
ANNOUNCES OPENING OF NEW, CONSOLIDATED HEARINGS DIVISION
OFFICE IN QUEENS, NY

On Tuesday, December 19, 2017, OATH opened its brand new, state-of-the-art Hearing Office in Long Island City, Queens. OATH permanently closed Hearings Division office in Jamaica, Queens.

New facility expands on space already occupied by the OATH Hearings Division; by expanding the space, OATH now has one location in Queens where residents can go to handle any type of summons filed with OATH for a hearing.

New location has full range of OATH Hearings Division services, including walk-in hearings, on-site community service and assistance provided to self-represented respondents from the OATH Help Center.

Queens, NY - OATH's Commissioner and Chief Administrative Law Judge, Fidel F. Del Valle, is pleased to announce that it has expanded its existing space at the [Falchi Building](#) in Long Island City after it closed the OATH Hearings Division space located at 144-06 94th Avenue in Jamaica, NY last Friday, December 15, 2017.

The opening of the expanded Hearings Division in Long Island City makes it possible for OATH to hold hearings on all summonses issued in Queens at one Queens hearing office location, regardless of what type of summons it is or what agency issued the summons.

“Consolidating space for hearings at one, central location in Queens, rather than having two different locations that handle different types of cases simplifies the hearing process for the public. OATH is proud to be providing one place in each borough where all summonses can be

handled through one, streamlined process,” said **OATH’s Commissioner and Chief Administrative Law Judge, Fidel F. Del Valle.**

For the past two years, OATH has held hearings on summonses issued to vehicles for hire by the TLC, NYPD and Port Authority Police, as well as Health Department summonses that are issued to restaurants, child care facilities, and other establishments in its space on the 3rd floor of the Falchi Building.

During that same time, OATH was holding hearings on summonses issued by the Departments of Sanitation (DSNY), Buildings (DOB), Environmental Protection (DEP), Fire (FDNY), among many other types of summonses at its Hearings Division location in Jamaica, Queens. The space opened today and where these summonses will now be heard is on the adjoining 4th floor of the Falchi Building.

An additional reason OATH consolidated space and moved locations was that the OATH Hearings Division space located at 144-06 94th Avenue in Jamaica was no longer sufficient for OATH’s increased size and caseload. In recent years OATH has seen new case types and caseloads come to the Hearings Division, including, all of the summonses that used to be filed at the City’s Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Tribunal as well as summonses that are issued by the NYPD and Parks Department for offenses that were historically sent to criminal court under the Criminal Justice Reform Act that went into effect in June of this year.

About OATH

The NYC Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) is the City’s independent administrative law court where nearly all City enforcement agencies- including the Departments of Sanitation, Buildings, Health, Parks, Environmental Protection, Fire, NYPD, Consumer Affairs, and the Taxi and Limousine Commission, among many others- file their summonses for hearings. OATH, however, is not the court that is responsible for holding hearings on parking tickets or traffic tickets.

Last year, the OATH Hearings Division received nearly **850,000 summonses** and the Criminal Justice Reform Act (CJRA) is expected to divert 100,000 cases from Criminal Summons Court to OATH each year. OATH made a quick 2 minute video that explains the CJRA and options for responding to summonses at OATH, including the new community service option that is offered for CJRA cases. The [informational video](#) is available on the OATH website.

In addition to in-person hearings, OATH offers recipients of the most commonly issued summonses convenient [hearing options](#) such as Hearings Online, Hearings by Phone, Hearings by Webcam and Hearings by Mail. It also offers free translation services for all hearings as well as for all document/form submissions.