



Issuance #36

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
60 HUDSON STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10013  
CHARLES M. SMITH, Jr., R.A., *Commissioner*

CHARLES R. FOY, Esq.  
General Counsel

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Informational Notice #3/87

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To: All Employees  
From: Charles R. Foy, General Counsel  
Date: August 7, 1987  
Re: Local Law 45-1984: Confidentiality of Complaints

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Local Law #45 of 1984 (Sec. 26-104 of the Building Code) is designed to protect the identity of complainants when they lodge a complaint regarding any building. According to this law the names and addresses of complainants shall not be given out to members of the public. While the law specifically applies to the complaint logs maintained in each borough office, it is well within the spirit of the law to expand it to include inquiries about complaints made over the phone. Therefore, when you receive inquiries from the public regarding previously made building complaints, whether these inquiries are made in person or over the phone, all employees are directed not to divulge the names or addresses of complainants.

By maintaining the confidentiality of complainants, we encourage the citizens of the city to come forward, and, by so doing, enable us to serve them better.