The City of New York
Housing and Development Administration
Department of Buildings

Directive No. 35 of 1970

To: Borough Superintendents

From: Thomas V. Burke, Director of Operations

Subject: Window Cleaning Scaffolds - Section 202 Labor Law

Date: August 31, 1970

Under the provisions of Section 202 of the Labor Law, as amended in May, 1970, the Labor Department was given exclusive jurisdiction over means used for cleaning windows and exterior surfaces of buildings, for all "public buildings," as defined in the Labor Law, which includes all buildings more than one story in height, except dwelling houses less than three stories in height, or dwellings occupied by less than three families.

At a meeting in the Commissioner's office on June 2, 1970, with representatives of the Labor Department, it was agreed that this department would submit a memorandum of understanding to the Labor Department, which would specify other permitted uses of scaffolds approved for window cleaning. The purpose would be to prevent duplication of efforts of the two departments.

Scaffolds approved for window cleaning may be used for the following additional purposes, without a permit from the Building Department:

1. Replacement of window glass and caulking of glass and frames, painting and repair of windows.

2. Pointing up masonry joints, waterproofing of walls, cleaning, painting and repair of walls and window frames.

The permissible net load on the scaffold, exclusive of the weight of scaffold, shall be indicated by a permanent, durable sign attached to the scaffold.

Permitted loading of scaffolds, including the weight of persons thereon, shall not be exceeded.

Uses of scaffolds not set forth herein as permitted, are not to be allowed unless an application is filed and a permit is obtained from the Department of Buildings, for the additional use.

Thomas V. Burke
Director of Operations

TVB/df

CC: Exec. Staff
    Industry
    Judge Salvatore and Messrs
    Mattei and Klein of the N. Y.
    State Labor Dept.