



*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER
FERNANDO CABRERA*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Council Member Cabrera and OATH Commissioner Del Valle Kick-off
CourtESy Program in West Bronx at BronxWorks Morris Senior Center
to Assist Seniors During Enforcement Actions**

Council Member Fernando Cabrera, joined by Fidel F. Del Valle, Commissioner and Chief Administrative Law Judge of New York City's Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH), will kick-off OATH's Court ESy (Court Education for Seniors) program at BronxWorks Morris Innovative Senior Center on Friday, August 4th at 11:00 AM.

"CourtESy is a new program that helps seniors who have received a summons from City enforcement agencies to easily respond at their convenience and avoid traveling to attend a hearing in person," said Cabrera. "For many of the homeowners in this district who are seniors, receiving and answering a summons can be stressful and frightening. The CourtESy program shows seniors how to contest a summons using Remote Hearing Methods and provides helpful information on what to do if they receive a City-issued summons. I applaud Commissioner DelValle and OATH for launching this innovative program."

BronxWorks Morris Innovative Senior Center, located at 80 E. 181st Street, is the first senior center in the West Bronx to host OATH's CourtESy presentation.

"As the City's central independent administrative law court, OATH's top priority is to make it as easy as possible for those who have been issued summonses from City enforcement agencies to have their day in court," said **OATH Commissioner and Chief Administrative Law Judge, Fidel F. Del Valle**. "OATH recognizes that there are many reason why it may be difficult to attend a hearing in person so we have worked diligently to make it possible for recipients of the most commonly issued summonses to fight those summonses remotely by using OATH's Hearings Online, Hearings by Mail, Hearings by Phone or Video (webcam) Hearings. Through our CourtESy program, OATH is working to make sure that the City's senior residents know about these convenient hearing methods and how to utilize them effectively."

OATH is the independent administrative law court where nearly all City enforcement agencies- such as the Departments of Sanitation, Buildings, Health, Parks, Environmental Protection and Consumer Affairs, among many others- file their summonses for hearings. Last year, OATH received approximately 850,000 summonses from the City's various enforcement agencies.

WHAT: West Bronx Kick-off of CourtESy (Court Education for Seniors)

WHERE: BronxWorks Morris Innovative Senior Center 80 E. 181st Street Bronx, NY 10453

WHEN: Friday, August 4th 11:00 AM

WHO: Council Member Fernando Cabrera, Fidel F. Del Valle, Commissioner and Chief Administrative Law Judge, New York City Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings, Senior Citizens

[Councilman Fernando Cabrera](#) has served the 14th Council District of the Bronx since January 2010

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