

City of Newburgh

Press Release

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City of Newburgh Police Launch Trespass Affidavit Program

From Tampa to Denver, communities across the country are using the Trespass Affidavit Program (TAP) to attack public safety problems associated with vacant and abandoned buildings. Now, the City of Newburgh Police Department is implementing TAP as part of the City Manager's community revitalization initiative.

Chief Eric Paolilli said "Along with the Office of the Corporation Counsel, we researched best practices to curtail trespassing and related offenses in vacant properties. The community of Troy, N.Y. is currently using TAP with good results. We felt it was practical and workable for us."

How does TAP work?

- First, the owner of a vacant or abandoned building files a formal Permission & Authority affidavit at Police Headquarters. This document basically states that no one can be on their premises.
- In order for TAP to be enforced, signs must be clearly posted at participating properties stating that no one is allowed to be there.
- Police then routinely check the buildings at various times of the day and night,
- If someone is found trespassing, additional enforcement action can be taken.

The City is already in the process of marking its buildings, and the Police Department is positioned to enforce trespass regulations at City-owned properties.

“This program is another tool to help bring about the City’s renaissance,” City Manager Jean-Ann McGrane explained. “By making vacant and abandoned buildings less attractive to those who use them for drug and gang activity or prostitution, we enhance the value and marketability of the properties, our neighborhoods are safer and more desirable to live in, and the City as a whole benefits.”

Any building owner wishing to participate in TAP should call the Southeast Community Police Unit at 562-0073, or the main Police number at 561-3131.