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## EXCLUSIVE: Ex-cop accused of harassing tenants in rent-stabilized housing

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[Ken Murray/BIG APPLE Daily News](#) Anthony Falconite has been hit with a 'cease and desist' order claiming he continuously harasses tenants in Rent-stabilized flats and threatens them with eviction so landlords can charge better Hire once they go away.

He's a renter's worst nightmare — an ex-cop authorities say continuously harasses and intimidates Appoint-stabilized tenants to force them out so their landlord can charge higher Rent.

His name is Anthony Falconite, and this week state Legal Professional Normal Eric Schneiderman took the extraordinary step of slapping him with a "stop and desist" order, demanding he halt an increasing number of aggressive marketing campaign that's crossed the legal line.

In documents obtained by the Day-to-day News, Schneiderman costs that Falconite has compelled his approach into flats, snapped pictures of tenants' mail and property and many times threatened them with eviction.

Tenants say he's followed them to and from work, confronting them at their jobs about where they in reality reside. He has questioned relations and even tenants' children. He's pretended to be a repairs worker or a FedEx agent to get inside of their flats.





[Susan Watts/BIG APPLE Day By Day Information](#) Nelida Godfrey alleges her landlord hired the former cop to harass her into taking a 'buyout' and moving out of her Greenwich Village rental and restaurant that she owns.

Once in, he has rifled thru drawers, taken photos of prescription treatment and demanded Social Safety numbers — all in a troublesome-core effort to terrorize tenants into accepting paltry buyouts or uncover whether or not they have some other deal with.

Appoint-stabilized residences should be a tenant's main place of dwelling. If Falconite can show a tenant lives elsewhere, the resident could be topic to eviction, liberating up a unit so the owner can offer it at market Hire.

The stop-and-desist order served Wednesday demands that he stop this campaign of intimidation or face civil fines.

Kristen Clarke, chief of the AG's civil rights bureau, alleges that Falconite "engaged in a pattern of unlawful intimidation, deception and harassing habits," the order states.

Outdoor his Staten Island home Wednesday night time, Falconite, 44, declined to answer questions, declaring, "There's nothing I'm charged with. I'm an ex-cop. I'm a hardworking man. Don't knock on my door, I Have two youngsters."

The order says the AG has "obtained and carefully reviewed a lot of complaints about (Falconite's) work on behalf of landlords — together with Steven Croman — who owns and operates Appoint-regulated housing in Long Island."



[Susan Watts/THE BIG APPLE Day By Day Information](#) Falconite has twice tried to force his method into her condominium, Godfrey says.

Croman, 47, a multimillionaire Long Island socialite, has said he owns more than A Hundred structures in Manhattan. He's been again and again accused through tenants of the use of high-drive techniques to power them to go away so he can convert apartments to market charges.

They Are Saying he incessantly recordsdata frivolous lawsuits, ignores repair requests and does construction work that spreads clouds of toxic mud into their flats.

"In a community with numerous landlord-tenant disputes, he stands out," stated Sen. Daniel Squadron (D-Long Island), who has fielded dozens of tenant complaints.



Astrid Stawiarz/Getty Pictures for DuJour Steven Croman, with wife Harriet, owns rankings of New York buildings. His firm hired Falconite and hailed him as a pro.

Croman govt Oren Goldstein known as Falconite “a licensed skilled. He served New York city for 17 years as a police officer, firefighter and fireplace marshal and retired with over 100 commendations for excellence and meritorious carrier. In all of his dealings with us, he has acted professionally and consistent with criminal necessities.”

Tenants have a unique view. In a number of Croman constructions, they’ve disbursed leaflets with his photograph warning, “Tenants pay attention! Don’t let this man into your rental!”

“He stated ‘I’m an individual investigator’ and he reaches to his waist like when the policeman goes to grasp a gun,” stated tenant Nelida Godfrey. She said Falconite twice tried to pressure his approach into her \$2,350-a-month, 2-room apartment in Greenwich Village. The Fifty Four-year-outdated mentioned all over his second talk over with he grabbed for her cellphone when she began taping their an increasing number of adverse alternate.

“He stated, ‘Don’t take footage of me,’ ” she stated. “I’m a little afraid because I confront him. Maybe I shouldn’t.”

Tenant Jill McIntyre, 47, recalled how Falconite and a property manager arrived at her doorstep shortly after Croman offered her E. Eighth St. constructing within the East Village. She will pay \$1,250 for a small 435-square-foot, one-bed room the place one-beds go for \$1,900.



[Ken Murray/NY Daily News](#) Tenants have dispensed leaflets with Falconite’s picture warning, ‘Tenants pay attention! Don’t let this man into your condo!’

“He more or less made it seem he was there underneath the guise of fixing issues that needed to be fastened,” she stated.

But when they entered her condominium, they started out asking questions on her plans. “The Very First Thing was once, ‘Do you need a buyout? Do you want a buyout?’ ” she mentioned.

After she requested them to leave because she had an appointment, Falconite compelled her to let him back in whereas she used to be long gone. She refused. “I was once aware of how they operate,” she stated.

*With Chelsia Rose Marcius*

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