

EV Grieve

EV Grieve is an East Village blog where you'll find local news on the real estate, restaurants and residents of the East Village NYC.

Friday, October 10, 2014

Reader report: Someone dumped motor oil in 2 Steve Croman-owned buildings



On Wednesday night between 8-8:30, someone entered 521 E. Fifth St. and made an awful mess with a canister of motor oil.

"They spashed the oil on doors, walls and mailboxes on the ground and first floors," according to an EVG reader in the building between Avenue A and Avenue B. "It was frightening actually, not to mention that the smell is horrible."

The NYPD did interview tenants.







Apparently there was a similar incident around the same time at another building on East First Street. Both buildings are owned by Steve Croman, aka 9300 Realty, who is not the most popular landlord in the neighborhood. One *theory* is that this was the work of a disgruntled contractor.

According to [public documents](#), 9300 Realty bought the building last November.

Updated 1:46 p.m.

Sorry, we were wrong. The Cromans took over the building in 2005. At that time there were 20 rent-stabilized tenants; now there are only three remaining.

Previously on EV Grieve:

[Report: Steve Croman facing another lawsuit from East 8th Street residents](#)

[Report: East 8th Street residents sue landlord Steve Croman, allege intimidation, harassment](#)

[Watch a lot of people speak out against Steve Croman and 9300 Realty](#)

[Report: State Attorney General launches Steve Croman investigation](#)

Grieve at 5:10 AM



15 comments:



Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 7:20 AM](#)

Another theory is that it was planned in the comments section of this blog.

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 8:51 AM](#)

The best art installation I've seen in in decades. I guess the realtors were spot on when they refer to the "artsy East Village".

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moe [October 10, 2014 at 9:26 AM](#)

Looks like that wacky ink-smearing gal stopped by for a party. Sure they start with ink and think its all fun and games, then they graduate to the 'hard stuff', motor oil, molasses, you name it. Sad story.

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Brandon [October 10, 2014 at 9:29 AM](#)

Well if they're pissed at the landlord its more like theyre just sticking it to the tenants here.

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 9:40 AM](#)

Thats great, Im sure Steve will be the poor slob cleaning it up.

[Reply](#)



Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 9:42 AM](#)

Anonymous @7:20 wins the day.

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 10:42 AM](#)

I feel bad for the minimum wage paid people who will be cleaning this up. They work hard enough and stuff like this is just dumb.

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Dave - Everywhere [October 10, 2014 at 11:39 AM](#)

Another theory is that this is an owner-sponsored event to scare off existing tenants. How much ya wanna bet?

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 12:56 PM](#)

Maybe big oil is behind the landlord and it just couldn't make it to the toilet in time, worst part nobody was there to hold their hair.

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 2:47 PM](#)

When it's a pretty model throwing ink for a solid month all over an apartment that houses an innocent cat, it's art! I'm sure the cleanup crew are falling over themselves to repaint a onetime Italian Vogue model's apartment, but this here? Just vandalism, probably by ugly non models. So let's be outraged. And probably not publish my comment.

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 3:06 PM](#)

Steve and Harriet Croman have stiffed so many contractors and screwed so many of their employees, it's a wonder they are still alive.

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 3:23 PM](#)

Sherlock Holmes would ask-" did the house painter get paid? "

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Moishe [October 10, 2014 at 3:55 PM](#)

Dave nailed it. Anyone who is unfortunate enough to know the Cromans and how they operate, will know that the Cromans most likely staged this to scare the tenants into leaving their apartments so that they can jack up the rents.

Hey, that hallway oil mess pales in comparison to what living hell the Cromans make their tenants live though when they do their reckless renovations and blanket their tenant's homes with toxic, renovation dust and contaminated construction debris and living with the loud daily demolition noise like a combat zone.

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Anonymous [October 10, 2014 at 4:10 PM](#)

This used to be such a clean neighborhood?

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Giovanni [October 10, 2014 at 5:07 PM](#)

Ok guys fess up, who did it? I know it wasn't Pinhead because Pinhead's much too busy making flyers for the creepy bald flier guy, and it couldn't be Crazy Eddie because he's crazy but not the crazy,

N.O.T.O.R.I.U.S. LIBERATION already has enough street cred so that leaves him out.

I hear Moe, Dr Bop, Gojira, Ahoy Polloi, IzF and Makeout were all having a nice quiet gluten-free farm-to-table dinner at Ken from Ken's Kitchen that hour, so they all have an alibi.

Eden Bee perhaps? Nope, she's way too nice to do anything like that.

Shmnyc is way to pro-development for this kind of thing, and nygrump is too busy keeping those young whippersnappers off his lawn.

Red head über-model Ellen Turrietta only covers herself and her own apartment in black ink, and all the local gas stations are closed so it couldn't be them either.

East Village Today is too busy offering Ray some store renovation tips, so that leaves EV Grieve himself, but since there weren't any giant red arrows at the xceneit that leaves him out.

That leaves just one other possibility: It must have been Amanda Bynes, I hear the microchip in her head has really been malfunctioning lately.

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