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17TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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September 26, 2006

Shaun Donovan
Commissioner
New York City Department of
Housing Preservation and Development
100 Gold Street
New York, NY 10038

Dear Commissioner Donovan:

I want to thank you for your swift action in conducting an audit of the Tracey Towers development. I am continuing to review the audit and the annual financial statement as I seek ways to improve the situation for all residents of Tracey Towers.

Recently, members of my staff have had the opportunity to visit the Towers and see first hand many of the issues facing residents. I believe that HPD and Tracey Towers management should move immediately to address any and all safety issues that exist. For example, my staff witnessed many stairwells that did not have any working lights. Should a fire break out, insufficient lighting will seriously hamper escape and firefighter access. My staff also found that outside doors were easily opened without keys. Further, they also saw elevator call buttons with exposed wiring. I urge you to do a site inspection and make all necessary safety repairs.

Again, thank you for your assistance in this matter. I look forward to working with you to make Tracey Towers a great place for all its residents.

Sincerely,



Eliot L. Engel
MEMBER OF CONGRESS