

Update

April 2015

Recent Successes . . .

**MFY Prevails in Challenge of Denial of Access-A-Ride for a Disabled Four-Year-Old**

****MFY gets many complaints that New York City Transit rarely approves children for Access-A-Ride (AAR), arguing that a parent should be able to help a child with disabilities navigate the subway or bus system. For our client, a four-year-old with severe developmental disabilities that prevented him from sitting upright and resulted in serious balance problems, this was unrealistic. His mother also had serious physical problems and suffered from depression. After submitting additional documentation from doctors at a post-denial hearing, MFY argued that NYCT’s decision was inconsistent with the facts, the opinions of the doctors, and federal guidance on paratransit. NYCT reversed its denial and our young client will be able to take AAR to his twice-weekly therapy appointments.

**Decision Bolsters the Enforcement of Housing Standards**

In *Revilla v. 620 West 182 Street Heights Associates LLC*, the court clarified that when a tenant sues a landlord in Housing Court for poor living conditions, the tenant’s request for relocation expenses from his landlord is a viable claim. The decision rejects the argument that the Housing Court lacks jurisdiction to order relocation expenses and emphasizes that this type of relief may be an appropriate method for ensuring the enforcement of housing standards under the NYCCCA.

**MFY Thwarts Destruction of a Single-Room Occupancy Hotel**

MFY clients who live in a small SRO in a gentrifying Brooklyn neighborhood complained of harassment and illegal construction throughout the building. MFY found problems with the landlord’s filings with the Buildings Department (DOB) and through advocacy got the DOB to investigate. As a result, the DOB issued a stop work order and the city’s Department of Housing Preservation & Development has stepped in to ensure that no construction will take place until issuance of a Certificate of No Harassment, showing that the landlord has not harassed the tenants or neglected the building in the last three years.

MFY in the News . . .

The New York Law Journal quotes supervising attorney Elizabeth Lynch on [Foreclosures Approaching Time-Barred Status](http://www.newyorklawjournal.com/home/id=1202724987611/Foreclosures-Approaching-TimeBarred-Status?slreturn=20150330113241)

AM-New York covered MFY’s work to restore an 80-year-old tenant to her apartment after an illegal eviction: [Evicted Upper East Side Tracy Morisada Gets Her Apartment Back after a 20-Month Nightmare](http://www.amny.com/news/evicted-upper-east-side-tracy-morisada-81-gets-her-apartment-back-after-a-20-month-nightmare-1.10233096)

The Brooklyn Eagle reports on the ongoing battle to save the tenancies of a number of seniors at Prospect Park Residence: [Judge Appoints Receiver for Beleaguered Park Slope Assisted Living Facility](http://www.brooklyneagle.com/articles/2015/4/24/judge-appoints-receiver-beleaguered-park-slope-assisted-living-facility)