

Update

June 2015

Recent Successes . . .

MFY’s Advocacy for Three-Quarter House Residents Prompts City to Act

****After more than five years of work by MFY defending three-quarter house residents from illegal evictions and operator abuses, including several class action lawsuits and a major exposé in the New York Times, the city announced it would allocate [$5 million](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/24/nyregion/new-york-city-allocates-5-million-to-move-tenants-out-of-three-quarter-homes.html) to inspect and fix conditions in the home and to relocate residents to more appropriate housing. MFY is participating in an [emergency task force](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/01/nyregion/new-york-city-task-force-to-investigate-three-quarter-homes.html) formed by the Mayor to address this unregulated and abusive industry and is a leading force in the Three-Quarter House Reform Coalition, which is advocating for policy changes on the city and state levels to address the issue over the long term.

Habeas Petition Allows Nursing Home Resident to Attend Granddaughter’s Graduation

****When Merle, a 73-year-old resident of a Queens nursing home, wanted to attend her granddaughter’s graduation in the Bronx, the home refused to give her a “day pass” unless her family signed her out. Merle is capable of traveling on her own using Access-A-Ride. When advocacy with the home on Merle’s behalf hit a dead-end, MFY filed a civil petition seeking a writ of habeas corpus in Queens Supreme Court two days before the graduation. The judge signed the writ, scheduled the hearing for the next day, and, to rectify the immediate problem, ordered the nursing home to let Merle attend the graduation and to pay for an aide to go with her. After attending the graduation, Merle reported back that she had “a splendid day.” To our knowledge, no one has ever successfully used habeas in this context.

MFY in the News . . .

MFY Attorney Jason Blumberg is quoted in the New York Times: [Long-time Tenants in Manhattan See an Effort to Push Them Out](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/19/nyregion/longtime-tenants-in-manhattan-see-an-effort-to-push-them-out.html?smprod=nytcore-ipad&smid=nytcore-ipad-share)

MFY Attorney Tanya Kessler is quoted in the New York Times: [NY Comptroller Taking Aim at Three-Quarter Homes Urges City Agencies to End Referrals](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/19/nyregion/longtime-tenants-in-manhattan-see-an-effort-to-push-them-out.html?smprod=nytcore-ipad&smid=nytcore-ipad-share)

MFY Supervising Attorney Marti Weithman helped prepare advocates for housing rallies in Albany: [Symposium Preps Advocates for Albany Housing Rally](http://chelseanow.com/2015/06/symposium-preps-advocates-for-albany-housing-rally/)

MFY continues to advocate for elderly residents at the Prospect Park Residence: [Brooklyn Judge Orders Prospect Park Residence to Turn on AC](http://www.brooklyneagle.com/articles/2015/6/22/brooklyn-judge-orders-prospect-park-residence-turn-ac)