



NEWS FROM...
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ERIC ULRICH

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

***Ulrich Warns Homeowners to be on Alert for
Unsolicited Offers for Chimney and Furnace Repairs***

New York, NY – After receiving numerous complaints from local residents, Council Member Eric A. Ulrich (R-Queens) is warning area homeowners to be on alert for companies making unsolicited offers to repair and clean chimneys and turn on furnaces. These companies operate under names similar to current or former utility companies to create confusion. Following the inspection, homeowners are told they will be reported to the FDNY for violations if they don't agree to pay for costly repairs.

Ulrich said, "These companies are taking advantage of homeowners by scaring them into paying for costly and unnecessary repairs. Homeowners should always contact their energy company directly before agreeing to pay for any maintenance or repair work."

The Council Member's office has passed details of the homeowners' complaints along to the local police precincts and community boards, and reported the incidents to the City Department of Consumer Affairs and the Better Business Bureau.

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