



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

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Honorable Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President

MS. EVONNE CAPERS
Board Chairperson

MR. JOHN SANCHEZ
District Manager

Senior Citizens Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 22, 2021

Mrs. Virginia Bird, Committee Chairperson

The Senior Citizens Outreach Committee Meeting met on Thursday, April 22, 2021 via Zoom Audio and Video Conferencing. The following members were present: Nicole Carter, Matthew Martinez, Rosa Peraza, Reggie Powell, Carmen Rivera, and Jacquetta Whaley.

The following item was discussed:

- Department of Finance's Rent Freeze Program

The Department of Finance informed us about their Rent Freeze Program. The Rent Free Program includes the Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) program that is for tenants with a disability and the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) program is for Senior Citizen (62 years or older). Tenants must rent an apartment that is rent regulated (rent controlled, rent stabilized, hotel stabilized or Mitchell-Lama), have a combined household income for all members of the household that is \$50,000 or less and spend more than one-third of their monthly household income on rent to qualify to have their rent frozen at their current level and be exempt from future rent increases. The Rent Free Program covers legal increases in their rents by applying credits to your property tax bill. The Department of Finance also informed us that the longer an individual is in the program, the greater the benefit. If an individual enters the program today, continue to renew and meet all eligibility requirements, the current amount they pay for rent today could be the same in 20 years. Once a tenant applies and is approved for the program, the Department of Finance sends a notification letter to the tenant and the owner/landlord. The letter will show the exemption benefit period, the amount the tenant is responsible for paying and the tax abatement credit (TAC) the landlord will be credited for that tenant. Individuals can apply for the Rent Freeze Program utilizing the NYC Tenant Access Portal (TAP). TAP can also be used to access benefit information and application status, update household member information and update tenant representative information. Individuals can submit their Rent Freeze Program application and documents by mail if they prefer to do so.