LOCAL LAWS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK FOR THE YEAR 2017

No. 148

Introduced by Council Members Rosenthal, Williams, Chin, Johnson, Levine, Reynoso, Torres, Rodriguez, Dromm, Kallos, Lander, Rose, Menchaca, Richards, Perkins, Levin, Salamanca and Cohen.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to remedies for the breach of the duty of an owner to refrain from harassment of tenants

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section 27-2115 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new subdivision o to read as follows:

(o) In any action brought by a lawful occupant or group of lawful occupants under subdivision h of this section for a violation of subdivision d of section 27-2005 of this chapter, the housing part shall, in addition to any other relief such court determines to be appropriate, award to each such occupant (i) compensatory damages or, at the election of such occupant, one thousand dollars and (ii) reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. Such court may also, at its sole discretion, award punitive damages.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 90 days after it becomes law.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, s.s.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on August 9, 2017 and approved by the Mayor on August 30, 2017.

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

I hereby certify that the form of the enclosed local law (Local Law No. 148 of 2017, Council Int. No. 347-B of 2014) to be filed with the Secretary of State contains the correct text of the local law passed by the New York City Council and approved by the Mayor.

STEPHEN LOUIS, Acting Corporation Counsel.