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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Shalom Tenants Coalition to communicate my strong support for the acceptance of their recently submitted grant application. If awarded, the grant will facilitate the goals of the coalition including tenant outreach and the retaining of professionals such as engineers and lawyers who will authenticate the illegal practices of the Ohebshalom family and help defend tenants otherwise unable to afford private counsel in court.

While the Ohebshalom family owns only a few buildings in my district, the impact of their abusive tactics and neglect is widespread and, despite our continuous advocacy, remains unabated. They tirelessly pursue ridding their buildings of rent-controlled and rent-stabilized tenants and subsequently use scare-tactics in the hopes of evicting tenants. The Ohebshalom family allows their buildings to deteriorate and ignores numerous violations for housing and buildings codes.

Unfortunately, the problem is only getting worse. According to the Shalom Tenants Coalition, the Shalom family has to date has acquired over 85 buildings, an increase of 55 buildings since last year alone. Our own communications with the Shalom Tenants Alliance have made us increasingly aware that the callousness with which the Shalom family bullies and coerces many of our low and middle-income citizens is the same for all of its tenants citywide.

While the occasional spats and disagreements are a foreseeable part of the interaction between tenant and landlord, it is the right of all individuals and families to live without fear of eviction. Thus far, the Shalom Tenants Alliance has done an admirable job of organizing tenants and standing up to the Ohebshalom family. I am confident that their progress will only continue, but they must have the appropriate financial resources to do so. Awarding the Shalom Tenants Alliance with this grant will be one small, but important step in communicating to the Ohebshalom family that their conduct is illegal and unacceptable.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Scott Stringer  
Assemblymember, 67<sup>th</sup> A.D.