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PRESS RELEASE

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D.A. McMahon Announces Ongoing Efforts to Stem the Incidents of Illegal Dumping Activities on Staten Island

Richmond County District Attorney Michael E. McMahon today announced the results of an enforcement operation between the DA's office and the NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY) regarding ongoing efforts to stem the incidents of illegal dumping activities on Staten Island.

In June of this month the rear of 820 Henderson Ave was identified as a problematic area of illicit dumping. DSNY and RCDA's Detective Investigators conducted surveillance at the location as part of a joint investigation. On June 15, 2019, at approximately 3:58 PM a white 2019 Toyota Tundra color was captured on video surveillance entering the targeted location and a male exiting the same vehicle unloading various items of refuse from the rear bed of the truck to the grounds of the location.

A joint investigation between DSNY Sanitation Police and the RCDA Detective Investigators led to the identification of the registered owner of the vehicle. The DI's assisted multiple times with surveillance operations in attempts to locate the subject vehicle. On June 27 during another joint surveillance operation, the subject vehicle was observed in the vicinity of Willowbrook Road and Denton Place where the vehicle was stopped without incident.

The vehicle was impounded pending hearing and/or payment of \$4000 fine.

"Our collective efforts to combat illegal dumping continue to yield positive results in holding bad actors accountable and improving quality of life on Staten Island," said District Attorney Michael E. McMahon. "With this important partnership between my office, DSNY, the Parks Department, and SIEDC/West Shore BID, we are sending a clear message that this type of behavior will not be tolerated in our communities. We will continue to utilize new tools and technology to help us crackdown on illegal dumping and deter others from polluting our neighborhoods."

The joint initiative between the District Attorney's Office, DSNY, the New York City Parks Department (Parks), and the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation (SIEDC)/West Shore Industrial BID was formed earlier this year to address and prevent the issue of illegal dumping on Staten Island.

In recent years, illegal dumping has become rampant in parts of Staten Island – particularly the West Shore and other vacant, industrial, or City or State owned parks property. Seeking to address this quality of life issue and recognizing the limited enforcement resources previously available, RCDA convened meetings with both public and private partners to identify problematic locations and develop a strategic enforcement plan with these partners to hold bad actors accountable and raise public awareness to this issue.

As a multi-agency collaboration, the primary goal of the initiative announced today is to investigate and bring appropriate civil or criminal action against those illegally dumping on Staten Island. RCDA has agreed to commit a number of investigative resources to this initiative including but not limited to offering personnel and man power hours to conduct surveillance and make arrests, cameras and related equipment, and ongoing funds to support the installation, maintenance and dismantling of any surveillance equipment.

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