

**10. RESOLUTION TO REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING AND INVESTIGATION BY
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN ORDER TO ADOPT A NON-
SOLICITATION ORDER**

WHEREAS: THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HAS RECEIVED NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS OF HARASSING ACTIVITY BY CERTAIN REAL ESTATE BROKERS; AND

WHEREAS: THERE IS SIGNIFICANT EVIDENCE OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE BROKERS SENDING MULTIPLE UNSOLICITED COMMUNICATIONS TO HOMEOWNERS, INCLUDING LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND EVEN KNOCKING ON DOORS URGING HOMEOWNERS TO SELL THEIR HOMES, WHEN THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION BY HOMEOWNERS OF AN INTEREST IN SELLING THEIR HOMES; AND

WHEREAS: AS A RESULT, THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HAS PRINTED SIGNS FOR HOMEOWNERS INDICATING THAT SUCH SOLICITATIONS ARE UNWANTED; AND

WHEREAS: THE CONTINUED HARASSING AND UNINVITED SOLICITATIONS COME WITH IMPLIED THREATS OF LOSS OF VALUE TO THOSE UNWILLING TO SELL NOW, BEFORE THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGES, AND

WHEREAS: THE ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE TOWN BOARD AMOUNT TO THE CLASSIC DEFINITION OF BLOCK BUSTING, WHICH IS DEFINED AS “THE PRACTICE OF PERSUADING OWNERS TO SELL PROPERTY CHEAPLY BECAUSE OF THE FEAR OF PEOPLE OF ANOTHER RACE OR CLASS MOVING INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD, AND THUS PROFITING BY RESELLING AT A HIGHER PRICE”; AND

WHEREAS: SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE CREATING FEAR AND ANXIETY AMONG PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY CALLS UPON THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, TO INVESTIGATE THE ACTIVITIES BEING CONDUCTED IN THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES AND TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING AND CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION PURSUANT TO REAL PROPERTY-LAW SECTION 442-H AND TO THEN ADOPT A NON-SOLICITATION ORDER PREVENTING SOLICITATION IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW; AND

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE SUPERVISOR IS REQUESTED TO COMMUNICATE THIS RESOLUTION AND THE SENSE OF THIS BOARD TO THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE’S DIVISION OF NEW YORK REAL ESTATE LICENSING.

**HAVERSTRAW TOWN BOARD
MARCH 13, 2017**