



Ithaca Renting Company

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Ithaca, NY 14850

June 27, 2023

Press Release relating to decision in State of New York v. Commons West LLC et al, decided June 27, 2023.

Today's decision by Justice Masler striking down as unconstitutional the 2019 amendment to the Landlord Tenant law (which compelled participation by landlords statewide in the voluntary federal section 8 program) is a victory for the rights of small business owners and the civil liberties of every citizen. Ithaca Renting Company is thankful that the Court studiously considered our arguments and found that they were correct.

The Constitution protects everyone's rights to be free from unreasonable government interference – regardless of whether you are a tenant or property owner.

As we said when the Attorney General filed this lawsuit just before election day, her lawsuit flew in the face of longstanding case law at both the state and federal levels and it was a glaring example of improper governmental overreach.

Neither the NY Legislature nor the NYS Attorney General have the power to compel citizens to give up their constitutional rights in order to work or live in this state.

This decision demonstrates that our country still operates under a Rule of Law, and the important role our Courts play in protecting everyone's civil liberties first spelled out in both the US and New York Constitutions.