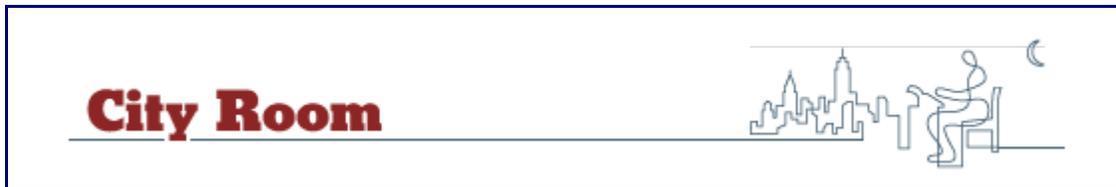


CAGE-NY Founder Comments on New Anti-Graffiti Law

Fred Kress shared these comments with Queens Civic Congress (QCC) upon learning of new legislation, sponsored by City Council Public Safety Chair, Peter F. Vallone Jr. to strengthen enforcement against acid-etching (The law requires all stores to record contact information of everyone purchasing etching acid.): “Now that's a good thing as etching acid is all over bus shelters and window glass. Quite dangerous for all as its very strong! Many vandals have wound up in the hospital because it leaked on them. So even the smart-alecks who know everything have fallen victim to their own weapons of civil destruction.” Fred is founder of Citizens Against Graffiti Everywhere (CAGE), QCC's anti-Graffiti partner. (May 15, 2009) New York Times excerpt below:



May 6, 2009, 4:35 pm

To Curb Vandalism, Council Regulates Etching Acid

By Jennifer 8. Lee

In an effort to further combat “scratchiti” — graffiti etched into glass — the city will soon require stores to record the names and addresses of people who buy glass-etching acid.

Unlike spray paint, etched glass graffiti is all but impossible to remove, and typically results in the replacement of the entire sheet of glass. Subways have become a major target of scratchiti, as have bus shelters. Store owners have also seen their windows vandalized.

The purchase information — which includes the buyer’s name and address, amount of acid and date — must be kept for up to one year and made available to the police on request.

“This will have a deterrent effect if people know their identification will be kept on record,” said Councilman Peter F. Vallone Jr., a Queens Democrat who is chairman of the Public Safety Committee and who negotiated with the mayor’s office to get the bill passed by the Council on Wednesday.

Read entire story at <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/05/06/to-curb-vandalism-council-regulates-etching-acid/>