DCA SWEEPS PROBLEM FRUIT AND VEGETABLE STANDS

May 20, 2004

The New York City Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) today led a sweep clearing more than 5,000 pounds of fruits, vegetables, and plants from two problem sidewalk stands in Brooklyn. The team was comprised of the DCA, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the Department of Sanitation.

The businesses, Marine Park Farmers Market located at 2961 Avenue U, and Kingsway Produce located at 1629 E. 17th Street, have been the source of multiple complaints from neighborhood residents and public officials.

All confiscated fruits and vegetables will be distributed to food centers by City Harvest. In addition, confiscated plants will be distributed throughout nursing homes, homeless shelters, and hospitals.

DCA enforces the consumer protection laws and other related laws at thousands of businesses throughout New York City. DCA licenses more than 60,000 businesses in 55 different categories in New York City and educates both consumers and businesses alike through free community seminars, licensing forums, and other informational materials.

To file a complaint or for more information, call 311 or visit the DCA online at www.nyc.gov/consumers.