

**TO:** New York City Council

**FROM:** NYC Department of Small Business Services

**DATE:** October 1, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Report on Legal Services to Covered Small Business Tenants which was part Local Law 90 Adopted in Fiscal 2020

The NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) helps unlock economic potential and create economic security for all New Yorkers by connecting New Yorkers to good jobs, creating stronger businesses, and building thriving neighborhoods across the five boroughs. As a condition of the administrative code of the city of New York Chapter 10. Section 22-1006, the Department of Small Business Services shall submit to the Council, no later than October 1, 2024, a report detailing the number of small businesses served through the Department's Commercial Lease Assistance Program, disaggregated by borough, postal code, number of persons employed, net income of business, and type of business. For each of these disaggregates, please review Attachment A – FY24 Report on Legal Services Analysis. Such report shall cover the period beginning on July 1, 2022, and ending on June 30, 2024.

NYC Boroughs	Number of Businesses	
	FY23	FY24
Bronx	79	85
Brooklyn	175	217
Manhattan	156	252
Queens	119	118
Staten Island	10	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>685</b>

Commercial Lease Assistance is designed to:

- Deliver high-quality pre-litigation services to eligible small businesses with commercial lease related issues
- Resolve existing commercial lease issues quickly and without litigation
- Resolve tenant harassment issues covered under Local Law No. 77 of 2016, Council Int. No. 851-B of 2015 codified at NYC Admin Code. § 22-902 to 904; and
- Ensure that the high cost of commercial lease services is not onerous or prohibitive for a small business on a lean budget.

Provided services include:

- Signing a new commercial lease
- Amending, renewing, extending, terminating or reviewing an existing commercial lease
- Negotiating with landlords and addressing harassment issues
- Addressing commercial lease-related issues

Legal services provided by the following organizations:

- Brooklyn Legal Corporation Services A (Brooklyn A) - Brooklyn, NY
- Rha Kim Grossman & McIlwain, LLP - Manhattan, NY