

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

## **NYC DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS SHUTS DOWN QUEENS GAS STATION FOR LABELING INCORRECT OCTANE LEVELS**

*DCA Conducts Comprehensive Inspections Citywide to Make Sure Drivers Get  
What They Pay For and Cars are Protected*



The New York City Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) padlocked the gas pumps at Ozone Park Service Station, located at 90-71 Pitkin Avenue in Queens, for inaccurately labeling the levels of octane. After samples of the gas registered different octane levels than what was advertised on two separate occasions, DCA shut down the station's pumps. Ozone Park Service Station faces maximum fines and will remain closed until the owner reaches a compliance agreement with the Department ensuring that these violations will not reoccur.

"Lower-than-disclosed octane levels won't just hit a consumer's wallet, but it can also harm a car's engine, reduce its performance, and affect regular maintenance," said Jonathan Mintz, DCA Commissioner.

DCA ensures that consumers get what they pay for and cars are protected by conducting inspections at gas stations throughout the city to test octane levels, check for incorrect price posting, water levels in gas tanks, and short measure at the pump. Overall compliance for octane, price posting and pump accuracy for the City's gas stations is high at 98%. DCA inspects approximately 14,000 pumps citywide each year, visiting every station at least once, and many times twice or more.

To file a complaint, call 311 (or 212-NEW-YORK outside the five boroughs) or go online at [www.nyc.gov/consumers](http://www.nyc.gov/consumers).