

Mayor-appointed
goons have evicted
1,807 New Yorkers
so far this year.

Marshals got rich by throwing you neighbors onto the street. In 2020, they made \$14 million. They operate on a fee-for-service basis.

They are commission hungry

pigs

Marshals profit most during times of **crisis**

While the 2008-2009 Great Recession devastated working people, Marshals' profitability grew, with just one Marshals rating in

\$5 million

They are the behemoths, the dogs, and as such they target the most vulnerable, filling their bellies by picking at the bones of working people.

In the recession crisis spurred by developers and politicians, along with the mayor's office, Marshals deliver the

Final Blow.

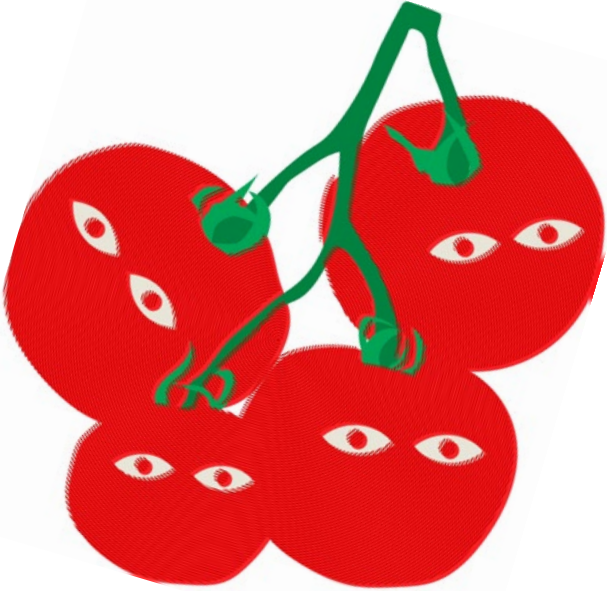
Are we going to let them

terrorize
our communities,

then head straight to the bank?

for more info

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| <p>Winters, David A. Badge #25 718-948-1402 219 St St, 11228 NY Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>Wagner, Richard Badge #78 718-948-1404 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>Wang, Tony Badge #85 718-948-1408 2075 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>Walters, Edward Badge #81 718-948-1401 215 104th Ave, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> | <p>Wang, Charles Badge #61 718-948-1403 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>BROOKLYN</p> <p>Wang, Jeffrey Badge #67 718-948-1406 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>MARSHALS</p> <p>Wang, Liang Badge #66 718-948-1405 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> | <p>Wang, Nathan Badge #12 718-948-1402 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>Wang, Richard Badge #79 718-948-1404 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>Wang, Tony Badge #85 718-948-1408 2075 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>Wang, Edward Badge #81 718-948-1401 215 104th Ave, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> | <p>Wang, Charles Badge #61 718-948-1403 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>BROOKLYN</p> <p>Wang, Jeffrey Badge #67 718-948-1406 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> <p>MARSHALS</p> <p>Wang, Liang Badge #66 718-948-1405 201 Ave 104 St, 11228 Brooklyn, NY 11228</p> |
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September 2022
tomato season collective

Only the bold demands
and collective action
of the tenant movement
have won us relief.

On January 15, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul allowed the New York state eviction moratorium to expire a final time. *Since then, 1,807 New Yorkers have been evicted, and over three million warrants have been issued.*

Governor Cuomo first enacted a moratorium on most evictions in March 2020, following the crisis of the Covid-19 pandemic. From this first executive order, the protections have been far too limited, providing loopholes for landlords to continue evictions despite the global health crisis and its economic devastation. Cuomo set the first moratorium to expire only a [mere weeks later on April 19, 2020](#). Through executive orders, Cuomo nudged along the moratorium, extending it by small amounts of time, until December when lawmakers passed the COVID-19 Emergency Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Act. This legislation stayed some evictions until May 2021 and introduced a barrier to qualification for tenants: completion of paperwork which declared that the tenant had suffered financial hardship from the pandemic.

Inaction by elected officials forced tenants to fight to keep even these meager protections in place. After weeks of tenant struggle to extend the moratorium, legislators claimed that a [“technical error”](#) in the bill prevented a vote before the May 1, 2021 expiration. On May 3, 2021, twenty-two eviction cases were scheduled for court in Brooklyn. Tenants shut down these courts and legislators passed the extension through August 2021 at 5pm that day. Then a similar story transpired in August. Elected officials hurled excuses and made a performance of dragging their feet for their real estate-aligned funders while allowing cases to advance in court after the moratorium was struck down by a [US Supreme Court ruling](#).

In short, this government which is supposed to represent the people has never--even in times of unprecedented crisis--adequately protected its people from the violence of eviction nor has it ever intended to do so.

There is no end to evictions without abolishing those who carry out the violence of eviction.

This project understands that eviction marshals intervene at the very end of the confusing, winding path to an eviction. Most evictions happen before marshals are granted a warrant. Whether through harassment from a landlord, inability to obtain a lawyer, or other barriers, often tenants “self-evict,” or leave their homes because of the threat of eviction before one is ordered. We do not mean to imply that eviction marshals are the only or even the most “productive” agents of evictions. Our claim is a structural one. We understand eviction marshals and their direct causation of homelessness to be the threat that enforces all evictions. When a tenant self-evicts, it is because of the existence of marshals. Self-eviction becomes a rational choice when it prevents interaction with eviction marshals, which always includes entanglement in the legal system and very often includes interaction with police.

For this reason, we demand an end to eviction marshals and the marshal system. There is no coherent end to evictions without abolishing the enforcement mechanism which enacts the violence of eviction. There can be no just remediation of homelessness in a world in which allows evictions. The path to ensuring unconditional adequate housing for all can begin in good faith when the violence of displacement ends.

Marshals do not comprise the full picture here, but they are a fulcrum on which the whole machine teeters.

**Abolish eviction marshals.
Abolish evictions.**

We understand the capitalist state's project of policing and its project of eviction to be entangled, dependent, and mutually amplifying efforts against the working class.

The eviction machine is a declaration of war by landlords, developers, financiers, and the state against the working class. The machine is run by a wide array of actors who keep their activities intentionally confusing. The marshals' role is perhaps the most straightforward, but no less appalling, profit-seeking, and corrupt for it.

Marshals are aligned with cops, often call the cops for backup, and are even former cops themselves, like marshal Stephen Biegel, a [retired police lieutenant](#). Just like cops are the violent arm of the state's war against poor Black and Brown communities, the marshals (who have the same duties as sheriffs) are the violent arm of the state's war against longterm Black and Brown tenants. As a direct result, in the past ten years the city's homeless population has exploded by 200% to 80,000 people -- the vast majority being longterm Black and Brown residents of this city. We hear that this crisis occurs because there is not enough housing, and yet there are more empty apartments in the city than homeless people.

As legislators increasingly push forward laws which criminalize homelessness and Cop-Mayor Adams orders his NYPD goons to brutalize those who live on the street, tenants must be defined expansively as anyone who does not control their own housing and evictions must be understood within the landscape of policing.



Marshals operate on a fee-for-service model. Every eviction is a payday for these scavengers. Collections on civil court judgments can pay very well, with cashouts in the millions of dollars. On top of fees charged, marshals are entitled to keep 5% of the total money collected in judgments.

While marshals, their professional association, and their paid spokesperson try to portray their work as community service in the press, it is clear that they are among the ranks of the wealthy and property-owning. In 2015, the father-son duo of Martin and Gregg Bienstock banked nearly \$7 million. Acting as the hideous combination of capitalists and sheriffs, they are commission-based pigs.

Because marshals get rich by creating misery for the working class, they profit exceptionally well during times of crisis. The New York Post reported one marshal earned \$5 million at the height of the Great Recession in 2010. In fact, 2010 marked their most lucrative year. These vultures arrive at scenes of carnage and fill their bellies with the scraps. In 2015, marshal George Essock Jr. drove an elderly man to fatally shoot himself inside his Murray Hill apartment when Essock arrived to evict him. The marshals' spokesperson Michael Woloz shirked responsibility and claimed that "everything was done by the books." It is tragic and perhaps a too-clear example that when evictions function correctly, they kill.

Even during the supposed eviction moratoriums of 2020, marshals collected nearly \$4 million from judgments.

In 2019, marshals banked \$14 million.

With backlogged and new eviction cases overwhelming the court system, they are sure to profit handsomely this year.

Inside the belly of the beast:

New York City Marshals are public officers, appointed by the Mayor to five-year terms, but they are not paid employees of the City of New York. Marshals are private business owners, deputized by the state to perform the duties of sheriffs and empowered to collect money from such activities. Unsurprisingly, this has led to no shortage of corruption.



Candidates are chosen from the Mayor's Committee on City Marshals, and the proceedings of the committee are private. They work for the Civil Court, and collect money judgments for the New York State Supreme Court and the Family Court. They are supervised by the Department of Investigation (DOI).

Marshals are also self-employed business owners. They are paid by entities like landlords, banks, and utility companies to collect on a debt, known as "poundage." Their tasks are handed down from New York City Civil Court cases and include towing cars for unpaid parking tickets and enforcing residential evictions. In August 1997, the New York State Legislature authorized marshals to also enforce money judgments, but not eviction orders, of the New York State Supreme Court (The City Sheriff is the enforcement officer of the New York State Supreme Court). In New York City, most eviction cases are brought in the Civil Court.

Often, marshals run other businesses in conjunction with their official marshal duties. Many are hired as private security. One marshal, Ed Guida, owns a funeral home. Another, Charles Marchisotto, is also a landlord. For many marshals, the business is a family affair, passed along generation after generation. In 2022, there are three father-son or sibling pairs of active marshals.

Demands to abolish the marshal system date back a century.

The marshal system that enforces evictions today was established hundreds of years ago when New York City was the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam. And anti-corruption advocates have opposed the system since the beginning of the 20th century.

Duncan Bryer outlined this history in [his April 2020 opinion piece](#) in the *Gotham Gazette*: “Pressed by groups like Citizens Union, mayors as far back as Fiorello La Guardia sought to abolish the marshal system, and almost every mayor since John Lindsay has come into office nominally against it. (Bloomberg was the exception; he liked the idea of privatized enforcement and appointed twenty new marshals.)

Each ran into the same problem: the New York City marshals are protected under New York State law. The most concerted effort to abolish the marshal system in the state legislature, which Jack Newfield and Paul DuBrul described in vivid detail in their book “The Abuse of Power,” was in 1975. Organized by Citizens Union, the bill had passed in the State Senate, but failed in the Assembly. The Speaker at the time, Stanley Steingut, ruled over Brooklyn’s Democratic Party, in which patronage plums like recommendations for marshal appointments were a mainstay, and so Steingut smothered the bill by sending it through the Assembly committee of a fellow machine loyalist where it failed to reach the floor for a vote.”

We will fight back in this ruling class war against the poor tenant by any means necessary.

Going forward, a variety of tactics will be carried out that expose the way marshals profit from working class misery; promote alternatives which center working class organization and self-determination; demand an end to all evictions; and bring the violent dispossession of the eviction machine to a grinding halt.

Evictions kill, while the profiteers of the eviction machine make a killing. We will destroy the eviction machine and build a future by and for the working class, and we call on all neighbors of good conscience to join us in this fight: for a future without evictions, with housing for all!



Tell them what you think...

Manhattan

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------|--------------|---|
| Biegel, Stephen | Badge #27 | 212-627-7425 | 109 West 38 Street, Suite 200, New York, NY 10018 |
| Moses, Ronald | Badge #10 | 212-349-4303 | 111 John Street, Suite 500, New York, NY 10038 |
| Pollard, Diane | Badge #60 | 212-925-2005 | 111 John Street, Suite 1220, New York, NY 10038 |
| Renzulli, Robert | Badge #49 | 212-482-0472 | 32 Broadway, Suite 511, New York, NY 10004 |
| Swift, Linda | Badge #77 | 646-756-1605 | 11 Broadway, Room 425, New York, NY 10004 |

Brooklyn

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------|---|
| Grossman, Justin P. | Badge #28 | 718-998-1852 | 378 93 Street, Suite 1R, Brooklyn, NY 11209 |
| Marchisotto, Charles | Badge #6 | 718-853-9815 | 259 13th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215 |
| Pagnotta, Richard | Badge #70 | 718-855-3434 | 6913 New Utrecht Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11228 |
| Rivera, Ileana | Badge #4 | 718-238-7770 | 20 Avenue T, #2R, Brooklyn, NY 11223 |
| Rose, Gary | Badge #81 | 718-645-2100 | 2426 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234 |
| Rose, Jeffrey | Badge #67 | 718-645-2100 | 2426 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234 |
| Schain, Howard | Badge #83 | 718-330-0242 | 370 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11217 |

Queens

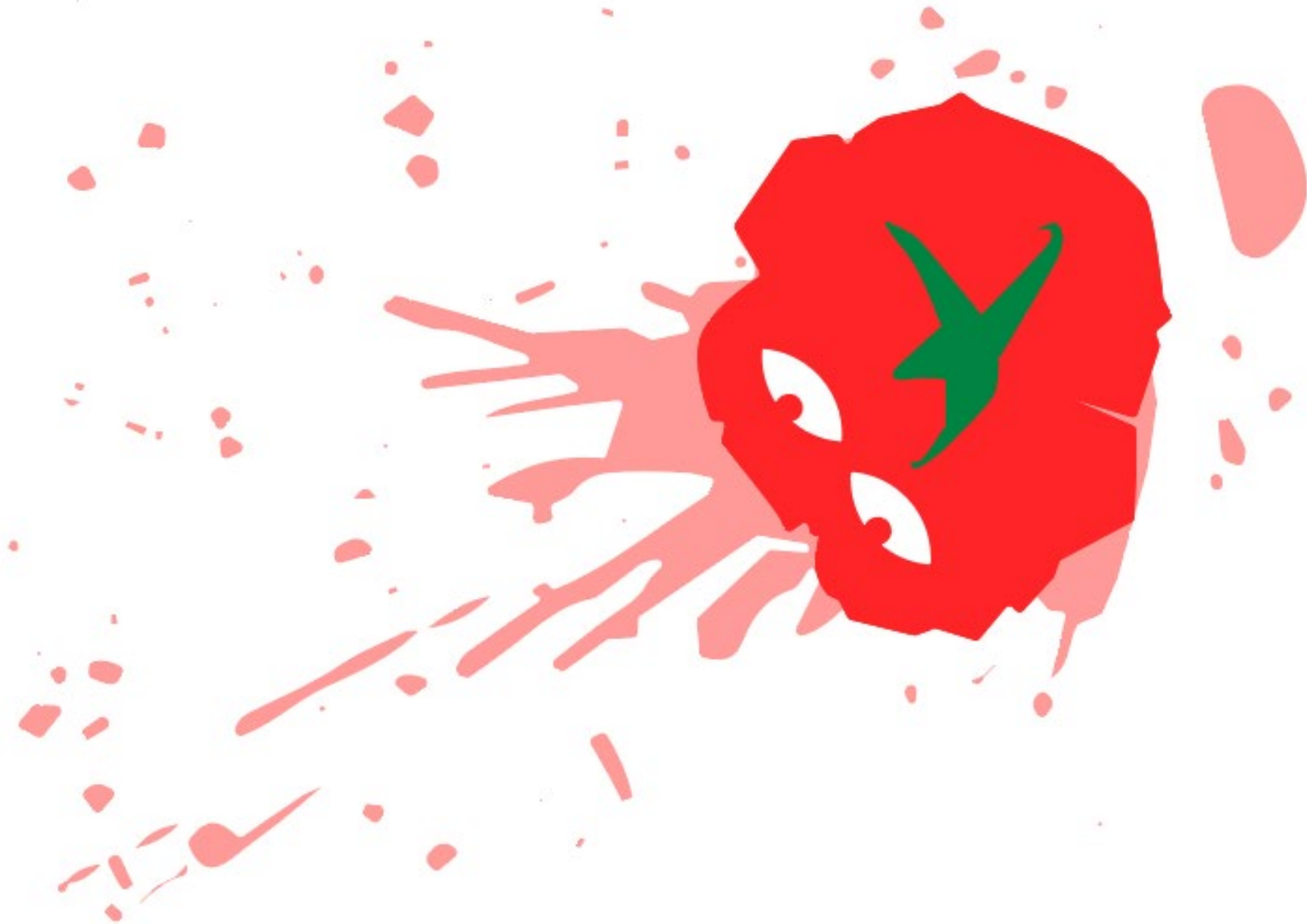
| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------|---|
| Bienstock, Gregg E. | Badge #17 | 718-279-3774 | 36-35 Bell Boulevard, P.O. Box 610700, Bayside, NY 11361 |
| Bienstock, Martin | Badge #75 | 718-279-3660 | 36-35 Bell Boulevard, P.O. Box 610700, Bayside, NY 11361 |
| Blake, Bernard | Badge #63 | 718-528-4584 | 216-19 Merrick Blvd, Suite 202, Springfield Gardens, NY 11413 |
| Capuano, Richard | Badge #22 | 718-478-0400 | 62-59 Woodhaven Boulevard, Rego Park, NY 11374 |
| Daley, Henry | Badge #39 | 718-978-8070 | One Cross Island Plaza, Rosedale, NY 11422 |
| Essock, George | Badge #58 | 718-423-7500 | 36-30 Bell Boulevard, Bayside, NY 11361 |
| Essock, George G., Jr. | Badge #71 | 718-423-7500 | 36-30 Bell Boulevard, Bayside, NY 11361 |
| Finardo, Alejandro R. | Badge #55 | 718-779-2134 | 47-26 104th Street, Corona, NY 11368 |
| Guida, Edward F., Jr. | Badge #14 | 718-779-2134 | 47-26 104th Street, Corona, NY 11368 |
| Kemp, Bruce | Badge #2 | 718-224-3434 | 47-26 104th Street, Corona, NY 11368 |
| McCoy, Richard | Badge #43 | 718-347-6844 | 241-04 Hillside Avenue, Bellerose, NY 11426 |
| Regan, Matthew C. | Badge #5 | 718-978-8070 | One Cross Plaza, Rosedale, NY 11422 |

Bronx

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------|--|
| Barone, Darlene | Badge #26 | 718-975-8572 | 29 East 233 Street, Bronx, NY 10470 |
| Bia, Thomas J. | Badge #9 | 718-681-8878 | 1000 Grand Concourse, Suite B, Bronx, NY 10451 |
| Giglio, Salvatore | Badge #16 | 718-904-9200 | 120 Westchester Square, Bronx, NY 10461 |
| Locascio, Alfred | Badge #33 | 718-904-9200 | 120 Westchester Square, Bronx, NY 10461 |

Staten Island

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|--------------|---|
| Giachetta, Kenneth | Badge #80 | 718-351-4537 | 155 New Dorp Plaza, Staten Island, NY 10306 |
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The *tomato season* collective refers to faceless, ever-changing groupings of working class tenants who coalesce to use research and art for political education towards a future without capitalist exploitation. Materials created by tomato season belong to the people, and the people are encouraged to reprint, distribute, and deliberate them widely.

Contact us for PDFs of the posters to use in your neighborhood

tomatoseason@proton.me



This zine was first released alongside the postering campaign, "SHAME" on September 16, 2022 in New York City. For more information, visit <https://hyperallergic.com/762399/guerrilla-tenant-group-papers-nyc-in-anti-eviction-posters/>



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Closed-door government committees give marshals their power. With state backing, marshals run their own businesses, funded by kickbacks from landlords, banks, and utility companies for collecting debts from everyday New Yorkers.

31 vultures make a handsome profit by *throwing our neighbors onto the street.*

*tomato
season.*



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we can't wait to see what you do with this information.
stay safe, stay vigilant.

