

The HOTEL CARTER (250 West 43rd Street) also has numerous violations of the ADA Standards. In particular, not one of the HOTEL CARTER's 614 rooms is accessible for people with disabilities. In addition, its main entrance, registration counter, and public restroom are also inaccessible for people with disabilities. The Complaint seeks relief against Alphonse Hotel Corporation as the owner and operator of the HOTEL CARTER.

Finally, RADIO CITY SUITES (142 West 49th Street), also has numerous violations of the ADA Standards for Accessible Design. In particular, not one of the RADIO CITY SUITES hotel's 113 rooms is accessible for people with disabilities. In addition, its main entrance and public restroom are also inaccessible. The Complaint seeks relief against 49th Street Hotel Corporation as the owner and operator of the RADIO CITY SUITES hotel.

Each Complaint seeks a declaration that the hotel is in violation of the ADA, an injunction requiring the owners and operators of the hotels to remove all ADA violations, and civil penalties, which by law may be as large as \$55,000.

The United States Attorney's Office commenced a compliance review of approximately 50 Theater District hotels in 2005. As a result of that review, the United States Attorney's Office has entered into voluntary compliance agreements with 15 of those hotels, and is in the process of finalizing an additional 29 agreements. The five hotels mentioned above are the first to be sued in connection with that review.

"Our Office has worked for more than three years with Theater District hotels to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities, and numerous hotels have entered into voluntary compliance agreements that have greatly expanded the number of accessible rooms in New York's Theater District. The complaints filed today demonstrate our intention fully to enforce the Americans with Disabilities Act in the important area of access to hotel accommodations." Mr. DASSIN said.

Assistant United States Attorneys LAWRENCE H. FOGELMAN, CAROLINA A. FORNOS, DAVID J. KENNEDY, and HEATHER K. McSHAIN are in charge of the cases.

09-03

###