

City of Olean Office of the Plumbing Inspector

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To all City of Olean Licensed Plumbers;

The old cliché, “the Plumber Protects the Health of the Nation,” is not just a saying. It comes from the fact that potable water systems, as well as waste disposed systems, need to be designed and installed correctly to prevent a possible failure that could result in personal damage, a health hazard or even death. It is important to keep in mind that quality plumbing installation practices often go unnoticed by the public and are therefore assumed as routine. Often, poor plumbing practices are not perceived as a serious health or safety risk and, therefore, their importance is minimized.

Strict license laws and strong codes along with dedicated inspection practices are a necessity to insure compliance of prescribed rules and regulations.

There are those who see plumbing regulations as an obstruction to their objectives – to build as cheaply as possible with unskilled labor and few restrictions. It is essential that those of us who share the concerns and objectives of the plumbing trade maintain its standards. We believe that our industry is critical to the health and safety of the public. Therefore, the statement that “The Plumber Protects the Health of the Nation” is one that we should all take seriously.

The New York State Attorney General, in opinion number I 85-74, stated in part, “the Court reasoned that plumbing work may be a potential source of danger to the health and safety of many persons including those outside the premises where the work is being performed. We know of no trade, business or calling in the community which more vitally affects the public health and safety of city dwellers than that of plumbing.”

Very truly yours,

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Plumbing Inspector

GHE/ks