

The Rumbler is an ear-splitting police siren system that according to its manufacturer, "have the distinct advantage of penetrating and shaking solid materials allowing vehicle operators and nearby pedestrians to FEEL the sound waves, and perhaps even see their effects through a shaking rearview mirror."

The NYPD recently installed the Rumbler siren in its Manhattan fleet of police cruisers and the media failed to ask any critical questions about its adverse impact on residents. With no further inquiry from legislators, you and your family are going to be subjected to bone-rattling noise when the sirens are in widespread use by the police.

The siren can be heard and felt from a distance up to 200 feet away. It easily penetrates into nearby homes and apartments even with windows closed. A secondary effect of the Rumbler siren is its ability to set off vibration-sensitive car alarms. Its use presents a new form of urban blight where residents are made captive to intense low frequency noise.

The NYPD purchased and installed the equipment with no oversight, no public hearings, and with no evident liability for the massive noise pollution they are about to inflict on citizens, all in the name of public safety. The offensive noise contributes to a sense of urban menace and hostility. For residents who live anywhere near busy thoroughfares and any of the dozens of police precincts around the city and the boroughs, it presents a serious noise nuisance.

Noise pollution is nerve shattering to adults and frightening to young children. The intense sound caused by the Rumbler easily triggers an involuntary stress response commonly known as "flight or flight" that affects the nervous system and cumulative exposure can lead to progressive medical conditions.

Residents exposed to noise suffer from sleep deprivation, hearing loss, chronic fatigue, anxiety, hostility, depression and hypertension. Leading health organizations, scientific and medical publications recognize noise pollution and its deleterious effects as a public health issue.

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THE COALITION AGAINST NOISE POLLUTION