

## Vallone Warns of Rise In Crime, Calls for Scrutiny of Nonprofits

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Crime in New York City is going up in all categories except homicide, Councilman Peter Vallone Jr. told the Queens Campaigner [in an interview published today](#) .

“We’ve been warning that this crime increase would occur,” said the chair of the Council's public safety committee.

He indicated that the size of the police force could be linked to the uptick in crime, telling reporter Rebecca Henley that the "[Safe Cities, Safe Streets](#)" program in the early 1990s increased the number of police officers in the city from 31,000 to 41,000. But now he said that number is less than 35,000.

Vallone also defended stop-and-frisk, saying the police tactic had successfully gotten 800 firearms off the streets.

“I think they’re making an effort to do things the right way,” he said of the New York Police Department.

In the interview, Vallone also called for more scrutiny of nonprofits that are associated with politicians, following recent scandals.

The three-term councilman, who cannot run again for his seat, said he is instead eyeing the borough president's office for 2013.

Vallone's public safety committee [is scheduled to convene Oct. 10](#) , to consider bills that could create more oversight of how the police conducts street stops, for instance by [requiring officers to "provide notice and obtain proof of consent to search individuals."](#)

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*Photo of Vallone courtesy of the City Council.*

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