

# Temple sale 'not kosher'

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The office of state Attorney General Eric Schneiderman on Thursday reversed its position on the \$13 million sale of a nonprofit Lower East Side synagogue and nursing home, telling a judge that the office does not approve of the transaction.

Earlier this month, Schneiderman had approved the sale of the facility at 25 Bialystoker Place to a developer.

But now he's reconsidering his support after the home's administrator, Rabbi Samuel Aschkenazi, allegedly sicced security guards on longtime congregants, blocking them from daily prayers before a court had a chance to approve the sale.

State law requires the AG's Office to sign off on sales of nonprofits' assets.

Congregants claimed that Aschkenazi plans to pocket \$3 million from the deal.

AG rep Michele Abeles told Manhattan Justice Geoffrey Wright Thursday: "New documents have been submitted that raise questions about statements" made by Aschkenazi, referring to paperwork that shows Aschkenazi pays himself a \$75,000 salary, gives money to relatives and collects donations to feed and house longdead Jewish sages.

Aschkenazi's attorney, Courtney Rockett, did not respond to allegations about alleged financial improprieties.