

Long Island Business NEWS

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THOMAS W. NORTON

*Fidelifacts Metropolitan
New York, Inc.*

Thomas W. Norton is president of Fidelifacts Metropolitan New York, Inc, which provides pre-employment screening and due-diligence background investigative services. Founded in 1956 by a group of former FBI agents, Fidelifacts focuses on bringing FBI-type background investigations to the corporate sector.

An original Bostonian who became a New Yorker in 1949, Norton finished his high school years in Baldwin, attended Hofstra and Adelphi Universities, served 2 years in the Army with 1-1/2 years in Pusan, Korea and another 6 months in Yokohama before returning home.

Norton began his investigative career with Retail Credit Company in 1957 conducting background investigations of applicants for life insurance policies and job applicants – a relatively new field.

After three years at Retail Credit its sales manager held a meeting with local investigators and reported that they were losing business in the employment screening field to an up and coming new firm called Fidelifax.

Norton recalled that Fidelifax was operated by his former college



WHO'S WHO

in Business Support Services



professor and FBI agent, Vincent Gillen. Norton contacted Gillen about the possibility of working for Fidelifax and was hired in 1961 full time as office manager and investigator.

Initially they worked out of a home in Garden City then in an office building in Garden City. As the company grew it moved into an office building in West Hempstead. Today, Fidelifacts has about 20 employees and is located in the Manhattan Financial District.

In 1976, Gillen retired and sold the business to Norton, who has been at its helm ever since. Norton is among the oldest licensed private investigators still operating in the State of New York.

Norton and his wife of 56 years, Rosalie, who is an officer of the company, are active in the West Hempstead Community Support Association, and members of Rotary, the Lions and the West Hempstead Chamber of Commerce.

Fidelifacts provides personalized services to suit the needs of each client. Its services include employment screening, tenant screening, security investigations, hedge fund management investigations, New York State Banking Department investigations, National Association of Insurance Commissioners background investigations, due diligence investigations, nanny background reports, fingerprinting for FINRA (formerly NASD) requirements and investment advisor background check.

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