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East Chicago Building Department

Divisions of Inspections & Permits/Code Enforcement
4444 Railroad Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana 46312
(219) 391-8294/Fax: 391-7013

*Via Hand Delivery, First Class Mail,
& Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested*

TO: Harbor Realty Group Harbor Realty Group
Attn.: Melvin Morris P.O. Box 3310
3405 Lincoln Street East Chicago, IN 46312
East Chicago, IN 46312

RE: 3405 Lincoln, East Chicago, Indiana

Legal Description: INDIANA HARBOR LOTS 3,4,5,6,7 & N1/2 VAC. ALLEY ADJ.
L.8 BL.49 & S'LY 1/2 VAC. ALLEY ADJ.
Key No.: 45-03-22-256-001.000-024

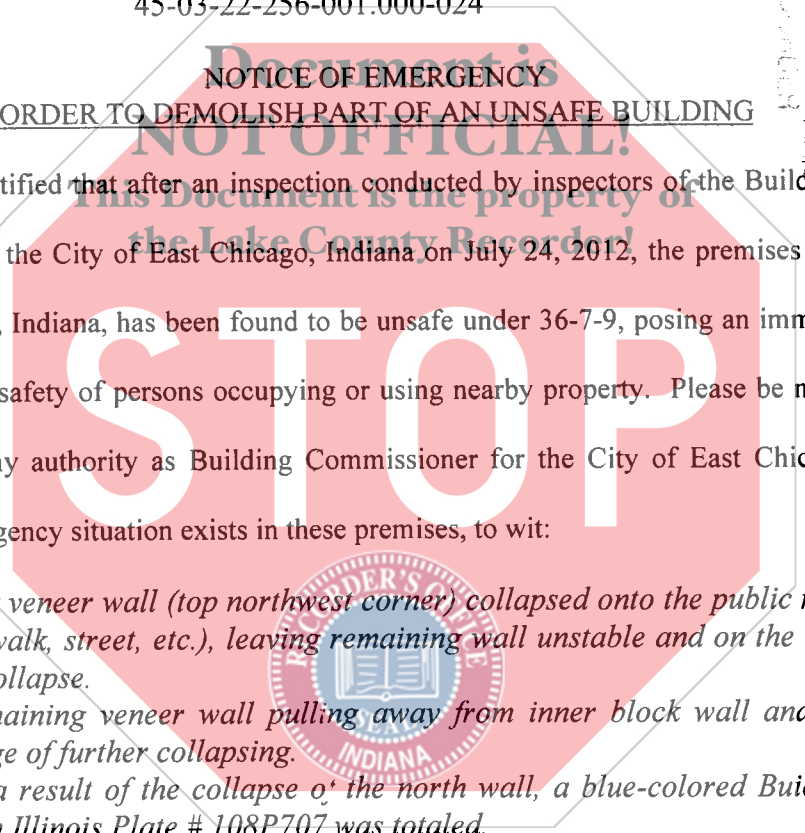
**NOTICE OF EMERGENCY
ORDER TO DEMOLISH PART OF AN UNSAFE BUILDING**

Please be notified that after an inspection conducted by inspectors of the Building, Health, and Fire Departments of the City of East Chicago, Indiana on July 24, 2012, the premises at 3405 Lincoln Street, East Chicago, Indiana, has been found to be unsafe under 36-7-9, posing an immediate danger to the life, health, and safety of persons occupying or using nearby property. Please be notified that I am hereby exercising my authority as Building Commissioner for the City of East Chicago, Indiana, to declare that an emergency situation exists in these premises, to wit:

1. North brick veneer wall (top northwest corner) collapsed onto the public right-of-ways (sidewalk, street, etc.), leaving remaining wall unstable and on the verge of imminent collapse.
 - a. Remaining veneer wall pulling away from inner block wall and on the verge of further collapsing.
 - b. As a result of the collapse of the north wall, a blue-colored Buick Mountaineer with Illinois Plate # 108P707 was totaled.
 - c. Brick wall shows evidence of movement and separation throughout.
 - d. Bricks have shifted and are loose and bowed throughout.
 - e. Evidence of mortar missing throughout.

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LAKE COUNTY
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

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- f. *Top section of brick walls throughout structure show evidence of severe cracks and shifting of bricks, causing an unsafe and hazardous condition.*
2. *Window frame from Apartment 909 is detaching from the structure due to the collapse of the bricks – possible collapse.*
3. *South brick veneer wall is in dilapidated condition pulling away from the inner block wall and on the verge of collapsing.*
 - a. *Brick wall shows evidence of movement and separation throughout.*
 - b. *Bricks have shifted and are loose and bowed throughout.*
 - c. *Evidence of mortar missing throughout.*
 - d. *Top section of brick walls throughout structure show evidence of severe cracks and shifting of bricks, causing an unsafe and hazardous condition.*
4. *Flat roof is in dilapidated condition and retaining water throughout – visible standing water.*
5. *Windows throughout 9th floor have visible signs of water penetration.*
 - a. *Standing water visible on tiled floor throughout apartments.*
 - b. *Standing water on window units.*
 - c. *Visible water stains on walls.*

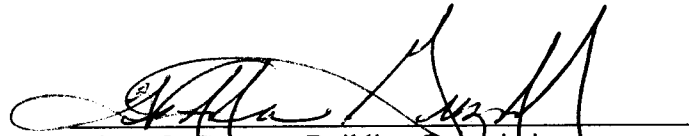
Therefore, pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-9-9(a), please be advised that I have issued an order to an independent contractor to remove and demolish the imminent danger posed at these premises immediately: i.e. *removal and demolition of remaining brick walls - north and south sides – that are unsound and in imminent danger of collapse.* In the event that there is any personal property in these unsafe premises when the demolition to remove the immediate danger begins and should the unremoved personal property also be demolished, the City of East Chicago will not be responsible or liable for the demolished personal property in the unsafe premises.

Indiana Code 36-7-9-9(a) reads in relevant part as follows:

“If the enforcement authority finds it necessary to take emergency action concerning an unsafe premises in order to protect life, safety, or property, it may take that action without issuing an order or giving notice...”

Also, pursuant to I.C. 36-7-9-12, the East Chicago Building Department may recover any costs incurred by the enforcement of this emergency action by filing a civil action against the persons who held a fee interest, life estate interests, or equitable interest of a contract purchaser in the unsafe and hazardous premises at the time the enforcement authority found it necessary to take emergency action. This department is not liable for the cost of this civil action.

Date: July 24, 2012



Winna G. Guzman, Building Commissioner

cc: Kevin Smith, Attorney At Law
East Chicago Controller Office
East Chicago Board of Public Safety
East Chicago Board of Public Works
East Chicago Fire Department
East Chicago Law Department
East Chicago Health Department

