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## · City Of East Chicago Building Department

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

August 19, 2014

**t**-

Via First Class Mail &

Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

TO:

Mr. Hector Lopez

7404 Indian Boundary

Gary, In 46403

RE:

1506-08 Broadway, East Chicago, IN 46312

Legal Description:

2ND. ADD. INDIANA HARBOR ALL L.12 BL.23 AND L.13 BL.

Key No.:

45-03-21-280-017.000-024

## NOTICE OF EMERGENCY ORDER TO DEMOLISH AN UNSAFE BUILDING

Pursuant to I.C. 36-7-9-9, please be notified that after an inspection conducted by inspectors of the Building Department, the premises at 1506-08 Broadway, East Chicago, Indiana, has been found to be unsafe and in an impaired structural condition posing an imminent danger to the life, health, and safety of passersby and 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 at these premises, to wit:

- 1. This is an abandoned vacant commercial, one story brick framed structure.
- 2. Property scene of collapse which occurred on 08/19/2014.
- 3. Front south side roof and wall collapsed, leaving remaining walls, etc. unstable and on verge of collapse.
  - a. Collapsed debris visible on public ways south side walkway and road (Broadway Street).
    - i. Commercial/Industrial type vehicle struck at south side roadway (Broadway Street).
  - b. Road closure ordered as a result.

4. East side collapsed onto neighboring property at 1510 Broadway, which was occupied and ordered vacated by the Building Commissioner as a result.

a. Extensive damage to roof at 1510 Broadway – visible roof collapse at west side and shifting of porch structure at south side.

5. West side of property partially collapsed onto neighboring property at 1504 Broadway, which was occupied and ordered vacated by the Building Commissioner as a result.

6. Structure is in violation of I.C. 36-7-9-4, under the Unsafe Building Law:

EC.BD.

- a) is in an impaired structural condition that makes it unsafe to a person or property;
- b) a hazard to the public health;
- c) a public nuisance;
- d) dangerous to a person or property because of a violation of a statute or ordinance concerning building condition or maintenance; and not maintained in a manner that would allow human habitation, occupancy, or use and considered an unsafe building.

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 the imminent danger at said premises immediately, to wit: *demolish and remove the entire unsafe structure*. In the event that there is any personal property in these unsafe premises when the demolition to remove the imminent 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 in the Circuit or Superior Court of Lake County, Indiana, against the persons who held a fee interest, life estate interest, 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.

DATED:

August 19, 2014

Winna G. Guzman, Building Commissioner East Chicago Building Department

4444 Railroad Avenue, East Chicago, IN 46312

(219) 391-8294

Cc: Kevin Smith, Attorney at Law

East Chicago Board of Public Safety

East Chicago Fire Department

East Chicago Police Department

East Chicago Health Department

East Chicago Law Department