

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
Joe Gannelli,
CATEGORY CHANGES:

April 2, 2012

I called the city on Wednesday, Jan. 25th and left a message in the voice mail of the Chief loan specialist, TCHU YATH (pronounced Chew-ya). I requested information about the deferred loan that that Inspector Joel Essling had recommended to me in the amounts of \$25,000 and \$40,000.

I checked my voice mail the following day and learned that he had returned my call but was out-of-town until Monday, Jan. 30th. I called TCHU YATH on Monday morning. He told me that although I had been offered and sent a deferred loan application, that because funds were currently down plus my house condemnation was a category three, that the city never gives home improvement loans for category three or even category two and they usually demolish the house.

Why does the city make category changes for a condemnation in obscurity as they have done in my case without explaining beforehand what the homeowner needs to know about it also give them adequate advance notice so they could avoid the category change? Including giving a clear deadline with a warning outlining details that will hap-

CATEGORY CHANGES (cont.)

pen if the homeowner doesn't comply. This wasn't done for
as of Jan. 11, 2012
me. Now it's a category three subject for demol-
ition! And I didn't know of this category change
that was made on Jan. 11, 2012
until Feb. 24, 2012 when I called the Vacant
Building staff member, Matt Dornfeld intend-
ing to say what the status of clean-up was.
Before I had a chance to inform him of the
clean-up status, he told me I had another va-
cant building staff member who was now
handling my case plus the house condemnation
was now a category three. I asked him when
the category change happened. He said it was
some the day he, Dennis Senty and two plain-
clothes police officers came to inspect the
property on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012. He said it
had been a category two just prior to their
coming. My new VBSM is Joe Xannerelli, phone
number (651) 266-1920.

This category change was harmful to me because
before I could have applied for a City loan for home im-
provement, but now I can't, also on Oct. 11, 2011 Hear-
ing Officer Maria Moremond said that my son
Steve and I could do half of the house repairs

CATEGORY CHANGES (cont.)

but the City's Chief Loan Officer, TCHU YAJH said we can't do any of the work that would have saved us some money when I called him after the house condemnation became a category three.

THE PERFORMANCE BOND

This bond should not have been given to me. On Jan. 11, 2012, VBSM Matt Dornfeld came to my yard telling me of a \$5000 performance bond he was giving me. I then asked him why he was. He said it was because I had not communicated with him about my home improvement responsibilities including the Code Compliance Inspection. I reminded him that I had faxed him a letter approximately three weeks earlier telling about my responsibilities, including the Code Compliance Inspection and their status. Plus I followed this letter I faxed, up with a phone call to confirm I sent the letter. He neglected to write or call me to offer me the help I asked for in the letter instead burdened me an expensive performance bond telling me to slap it on a credit card. He said I would get the money back but he shortened the time to complete work and the condemnation category was made a three so I can't get a ^{in order to hire contractors} loan plus he didn't define what was meant by "enough" work to be done in the shorter

PERFORMANCE BOND (cont.)

amount of time.

That much money on my credit card would cause it to become maxed out creating over-the-limit fees plus interest etc. Even though on Jan 11, 2012 he admitted to me he shouldn't have given me the bond he said the only hope I could be free of it would be to appeal it in court. The court date is April 10th at 9am at City Hall on Kellogg Blvd in downtown Saint Paul on the third floor, room 330.

Question: Why couldn't he just reverse it instead of making me go to court?

THE CODE COMPLIANCE INSPECTION:

Ever since Sept. 29, 2011 when I first learned I needed to have it done, I've always been willing to get and pay for it. The reason I didn't get the Code Compliance Inspection from Sept. 29, 2011 to Jan. 11, 2012 when Matt Dornfeld, Dennis Senty and two plainclothes police officers came to my property, bringing the performance bond ^{because} was the inspection can't be done unless enough clutter is removed from all four levels of the house and only part of it was done.

In addition to Steve and I being allowed to occupy

CODE COMPLIANCE INSPECTION: (cont.)

the house at 317 West Baker St., in St. Paul, MN 55107 from 8am to 8pm to clean out the clutter, etc. I previously asked to be able to stay there from 8pm to 8am. because I could get more clean-up done and sleep in my room instead of driving elsewhere for a place to sleep as I have done for more than six months now. A few weeks of this may be OK, but longer is hard on one's body especially for a senior. I'm now 69 years old. The time spent in travel, plus energy and money for gas is wasted and could be better spent if I could stay at home. And they never made provision for bad weather, to keep off roads when the weather advisory warns that no one should be driving unless absolutely necessary. Because my request to occupy the house from 8pm to 8am was denied, I was driving in bad snowstorms this past winter. For hardships such as this, what are my rights?

In the letter I wrote Vacant Building Staff Member, VBSM, Matt Dornfeld in late December of 2011, I explained my obstacles regarding me getting the Code Compliance Inspection, asking for his help and left my phone number. He didn't call or write me to help, instead he came on Jan. 11, 2012 bringing me a devastating performance bond besides placing the condemnation category from a two to a three so now

CODE COMPLIANCE INSPECTION: (Cont.)

I can't get a home improvement loan to pay contractors.

The reason I didn't get the Code Compliance Inspection from Sept. 29, 2011 to Jan. 11, 2012 was because enough of the clutter wasn't yet removed.

The reason I didn't get the Code Compliance Inspection from Jan. 11, 2012 until now is because if I'm not freed from the bond and the condemnation category isn't changed from a three to a one so I can get a ^{city} loan, the \$500.00 spent for the inspection is wasted and I can't get a refund.

If the house isn't condemned at all, insured and I have and will live in it a certain amount of time, I qualify for a grant loan from Projects For People in Living, PPL.

I AM WILLING AND ABLE TO GET AND PAY FOR THE CODE COMPLIANCE INSPECTION IF IT MEANS I CAN PROGRESS TOWARD MY GOAL OF HOUSE RESTORATION.

CATEGORY THREE CONDEMNATION

One thing used to place the condemnation to a category three was because I was said to have been given a whole year to complete exterior house repairs but because of other duties given and things that happened I had far less than a year.

CATEGORY THREE CONDEMNATION (cont.)

In Jan. 2011 the City ordered my yard to be cleaned up due to my son emptying out his house and property and bringing it to mine. Then Steve was building a shed in my yard to put some of his things. Then he got sick to the point of almost getting meningitis, for a month or two he couldn't do much. Then the City ordered the exterior repairs done but wanted the shed finished first. When the shed was completed we got scaffolding to work on the house exterior. Before we could do much about the exterior, because there were several tall trees in the yard that were too close to the house, (at least some of them were) Steve removed them. Then soon afterwards the house was condemned and no work was allowed to be done except clean-up and removing clutter. Therefore the unrepaired house exterior shouldn't be used as a reason to give a category three condemnation. The house is considered repairable and inspectors have said the structure appears to be good.

WHY THE HOUSE WAS CONDEMNED

1. To relocate two children ages 7 and 8
2. To remove clutter and do clean-up
3. To get a code compliance inspection done

WHY THE HOUSE WAS CONDEMNED (Cont.)

Since the reasons for the condemnation are removed, could the condemnation be taken away? with a limited occupancy of two people, my son, Steve and I. We both have done home repairs. Then I could get a grant loan, building permits and hire contractors.

Sincerely,
Anne Haney
(651) 353-0256

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