

From: [Salina Amey](#)
To: [Moermond, Marcia \(CI-StPaul\)](#)
Cc: [Martin, Lisa \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Hesse, Daniel \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Ekobena, Richard \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Miller, Jeremy \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Zimny, Joanna \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Tierney, Rachel \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Upper Midwest Law Center](#); [Harrington, Stephanie \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Jeff Meitrodt](#); [Chris Meier](#); [Albornoz, Carlos \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Her, Kaohly \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Xiong, ThaoMee \(CI-StPaul\)](#); [Erick Kaardel](#); [Salina Amey](#)
Subject: Fw: Condemnation Hearings
Date: Friday, August 27, 2021 6:45:28 PM
Attachments: [Dear Ms. Moermond Letter Via Email 8-25-21.docx](#)

Think Before You Click: This email originated **outside** our organization.

I sent this letter on Wednesday, via email, as can be seen below. However, my email records indicate that it did not get through. Therefore, I'm sending it again.

From: Salina Amey <salina_amey@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 12:04 PM
To: Marcia Moermond <marcia.moermond@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: Martin, Lisa (CI-StPaul) <lisa.martin@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Hesse, Daniel (CI-StPaul) <Daniel.Hesse@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Ekobena, Richard (CI-StPaul) <richard.ekobena@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Jeremy Miller <jeremy.miller@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Zimny, Joanna (CI-StPaul) <joanna.zimny@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Rachel Tierney <rachel.tierney@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; legal@umwlc.org <legal@umwlc.org>; Harrington, Stephanie (CI-StPaul) <stephanie.harrington@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Jeff Meitrodt <jeff.meitrodt@startribune.com>; Chris Meier <chris.meier@state.mn.us>; Carlos Albornoz <carlos.albornoz@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Kaohly Her <kaohly.her@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; ThaoMee Xiong <thaomee.xiong@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Condemnation Hearings

To All Concerned,

Please see the attached letter. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Salina Amey

Salina Amey
283 Curtice St E
St Paul, MN 55107
651-310-0923

August 25, 2021

Ms. Marcia Moermond, Hearing Officer
Legislative Hearing Office
St Paul City Hall, Suite 210
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
St Paul, MN 55107

Re: Condemnation and Order to Vacate

Dear Ms. Moermond,

Today was a third condemnation hearing for my home, following the Order to Vacate placed on my house at the order of Steve Ubl, St Paul Building Official. At the first hearing you stated my sewer pipe was broken, then you stated that my basement was full of sewage, and then you stated that my house was full of bacteria in the air from sewage in my sewer pipe, and then you stated that I was polluting the groundwater with sewage. You have evidence of none of this, and yet these are the things you stated in the hearing last week.

It is not "normal" for homes to be condemned while they are awaiting sewer pipe replacement. I have been singled out for punitive treatment by various employees of the City of St Paul, including you, rather than treated the way citizens are ordinarily treated.

Today, you ordered me to vacate my home, but you did not give me any details in writing. You said something about being out Thursday, and you said something about Friday.

As a courtesy, please give me ALL OF THE RULES that you have created for the manner that you are handling the situation of Robert Brandtjer walking off of the job at my home after failing to take out the appropriate permits to replace my sewer line and replace my porch footings.

I have a right to know what the rules are for the eviction of my home that you stated must happen on the phone earlier today.

What date do you want me out of my house?

What time do you want me out of my house?

Am I permitted to pick up supplies at my home after I move out of my home?

What if I can get a contractor to replace the sewer line?

What are my rights to appeal your decision?

Why is it that you are acting without my having the opportunity to appeal the decision before the City Council?

What exactly are you claiming is a health hazard that requires the expensive, inconvenient, unusual and punitive action of ordering a homeowner out of her home?

Are you aware that it is legal to use a camping toilet, or portable toilet, or composting toilet in a home in the City of St Paul?

How is it that you are claiming that there is a sewage health issue requiring evacuation of my home, given that other people in St Paul, who are waiting to have sewer lines repaired, are not having their homes condemned?

I called the Dept. of Public Works, and they do not ordinarily work towards the condemnation of homes that are waiting for their sewer lines to be repaired. On what basis am I being subjected to this unusual behavior on your part? Are you aware that it is illegal to discriminate against people? Are you aware that it is illegal to deprive me of my constitutional rights as an act of retaliation?

Why are you choosing to condemn my home but no other people's homes? Why am I not being singled out for harassment? Why did you fail to investigate the facts that I brought forth? I told you that Steve Ubl has been subjecting me to harassment and retaliation since he first came to my home in the spring of 2011. That is over ten years ago. Why have you rushed this process, rather than giving me time to provide information about how his department has been treating me all these years.

You are supposed to be a neutral hearing officer, but your words and actions are not neutral. You have no evidence that there is a reasonable and morally just reason to escalate the condemnation of my home and deny me my due process rights under the Constitution of the U.S.

Are you aware that it is illegal to participate in harassment and reprisal against an innocent homeowner to support the illegal harassment and reprisal by another official?

Why have you not permitted me to provide evidence that Steve Ubl was lying and/or mistaken when he wrote a letter stating that I refused to allow Robert Brandtjen into my house? I told you that there were three employees from St Paul Regional Water Services who were in my basement, along with Robert Brandtjen, on Tuesday, August 3, 2021.

Robert Brandtjen dug up my floor in the basement, and this is obvious. Why did you refuse to allow me to give this evidence, but instead went along with the bullying and harassment that St Paul Building Official Steve Ubl has subjected me to for the past ten years?

Do you comprehend that this is the United States, and public officials such as yourself and Steve Ubl are required to FOLLOW THE LAW?

Just because the St Paul City Council approved creating your job description and allowing you to exercise unconstitutional procedures, does not make this lawful. You have abused your power and position and violated my rights.

I am disabled, and have been a recipient of social security for 25 years. My health is fragile, and the stress on me as a result of bullying and harassment by St Paul government officials has taken a toll on my health. I was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis after the first two years of Steve Ubl's harassment of me and his allowing the absentee landlord who owns the house just West of mine (279 Curtice St E) to violate property codes since the Fall of 2011. This absentee landlord Ben Iyulli Brown, aliases include Ben Brown Iyulli, Iyulli Ben Hyyiah Brown, Iyulli B Brown, Brown Iyulli, Iyulli H Brown, Iyulliben H Brown, Iyulli B Bowron, and Ben Bown Iyulli. This native of Jamaica, whatever his real name might be, I'm told, was an employee of the City of St Paul when he first began violating St Paul property codes and harassing me.

The harassment included approximately two years of an orange mesh spite fence that he put up on my side of the property line, and which St Paul Code Enforcement refused to take action on for this period of time. Eventually, he was ordered to take it down, and get a proper fence permit. Ben Brown did get a permit to put up a fence, but again he put it on my side of the property line and it is constructed of chicken wire and green stakes. It zigs and zags, due to Ben Brown taking portions of my yard where obstructions, such as my retaining wall, were not in the way. Ben Brown also has security camera's pointed at my house and yard, in places that only are capable of capturing my private activity. This harassment was also permitted. Ben Brown's gutters were altered by him, at this time, to drain water onto my property such that it is difficult to keep my basement wall dry. He and his renters do not keep the trees and weeds trimmed along my property line as another chronic form of harassment. I have rarely reported these violations, as I've been threatened with prosecution and told that if I complained about violations of the St Paul Property Codes by the owners/inhabitants of this house next door, I would be convicted of some kind of malfeasance. As a result, I've rarely complained about unsightly condition of the fence and the overgrown brush and trees next to it.

When I asked about the procedures involved with the condemnation of my home, I was told that recommendations would go before the City Council. However, on Tuesday, despite my requesting the hearing be rescheduled due to my mother being terminally ill and a family meeting having been called to make decisions about her care and move to a hospice, I was called by Marcia Moermond anyway. I answered the phone because I was waiting to hear back from the doctor.

It was callous and cruel to call me when I had asked for the hearing to be rescheduled. It should have been rescheduled or at the very least I should have not been harassed with a phone call when I needed to attend to my mother's needs.

Marcia Moermond informed me that she was taking it upon herself to declare that there was an emergency at my home, and that she was altering the process by ordering me out of my home, despite my appeal, without any opportunity to defend my rights to her or to the City Council.

Clearly, Marcia Moermond needs supervision in the despotic role that she has created for herself. She does not have legitimate authority to violate my constitutional rights as a citizen of the United States, but clearly there is nobody available to stop her violations of my human rights.

I have nowhere to go, and she ordered me, over the phone, to leave my home on Thursday, which is tomorrow. She gave no details, just a threat about Friday. Nothing is in writing. I read the City of St Paul rules, and once a homeowner is forced to leave their home, St Paul can then do even more cruel and illegal things because the City Council decided to pass ordinances about vacant properties which then

authorize Marcia Moermond to misuse the unconstitutional authority that was erroneously granted to her that has resulted in her

I'm not an attorney and I can't afford an attorney. Through these ten years of harassment, I've spoken to dozens of attorneys. In the Twin Cities, attorneys are not interested in helping people with no money deal with the problems created by the abuses of St Paul government officials.

Knowing that I'm helpless to defend myself, due to illness, disability, and poverty, has resulted in years of violations with no consequences for his and the staff under him who cooperate with his agenda of violating my rights. Nobody supervises the actions of Steve Ubl, and nobody supervises the actions of Marcia Moermond, and the consequence of this is their unfettered and illegal despotism. They have both assumed powers they have no right to and are reigning as petty dictators without consequence to themselves, but terrible consequence for people such as myself.

I require reasonable accommodation, as required by law, under the Americans with Disabilities Act. This harassment has worn down my health, and I need my time and energy to be devoted to cooperating with my medical care providers. I've been ordered out of my house, but I have not time to pack up my house and go somewhere else and I have no money to pay for housing elsewhere. Today, despite little sleep in the past week as a result of the stresses imposed on me by these unlawful procedures being used against me, I need to drive to Shakopee, MN to visit with my mother. Medical staff believe she is in the last week of her life. I don't have time to pack up my home. I have two medical appointments scheduled for tomorrow, and three for Friday.

This petty and frivolous action taken against me is creating stresses and burdens I cannot afford to withstand. Moermond claims that this is an emergency, but that is just a ridiculous justification for her to gang up with Steve Ubl in his long-standing pattern of violating my rights.

I have a camping toilet, and it is not a problem to use it temporarily. I have a gym membership, and am able to bathe after exercising each day at the gym. There are numerous laundromats within a few miles of my home. Why is it that St Paul officials are harassing me rather than giving me time to find a new contractor to finish the contractual work started by Robert Brandtjen? Why is he being protected, rather than being prosecuted for doing work without first obtaining a permit, and for doing work he is not eligible to get a permit for?

The Kangaroo Court procedure should be stopped. Marcia Moermond is acting outside of the bounds of the unconstitutional authority granted to her by unconstitutional City of St Paul statutes. THERE IS NO EMERGENCY, and yet that is her flimsy excuse for the ridiculously heavy-handed manner that she has used in response to Steve Ubl ordering that my house be condemned.

I ask that anyone reading this do whatever you can to assist me in having a just outcome to this egregious violation of my rights under the law. Throughout the history of humanity, there have been morally depraved people who abused their positions of power and authority, because there was no one available to stop them. Please, put a stop to these individuals and the people under their authority that obey their orders, regardless of the lack of integrity and unlawfulness of them.

Be a whistleblower. Federal laws changed, so that employees aware of unlawful behaviors can safely report them, and receive financial rewards for doing so. Reprisal for being a whistleblower is forbidden. Turn in those who break the law and violate the rights of innocent people.

I have ten years of records with regards to the ongoing harassment by Steve Ubl, and the many inspectors under him who have participated in his harassment and reprisal at the St Paul Dept. of Inspections.

I believe his harassment originated in discrimination on the basis of my economic status. The first time I met him he was at my house after a contractor damaged my retaining wall in the course of doing work that was paid for by a City of St Paul emergency loan that I qualified for due to my disability and economic status. Steve Ubl knew about this. This was the first time he wrote a letter on behalf of a contractor, in order to get the contractor off the hook. As a result of this, the contractor walked off the job leaving my home a shambles and exposed to the elements. It took me years to resolve the mess, as I could not find an attorney to help me.

Because this was a City of St Paul loan, Steve Ubl's actions resulted in difficulties for other city employees, who most certainly were aware that he was wrong to support the contractor in this situation. The contractor, Charles Nosie of Nosie Construction, was eventually sued by the City of St Paul. I suspect that the horrible manner that Steve Ubl has treated me in the years since then is out of retaliation for my successfully filing an insurance claim to get the \$13,000 of damage fixed. Steve Ubl misused his authority to get the MN Dept. of Labor and Industry to conclude that Chuck Nosie was not at fault in that situation, and so I never received any help for the fact that my deck was off of my house, making my back door unusable, and for the fact that he walked off the job leaving the frieze boards off of my house, and because there was so much rot behind them, there were many openings into my basement.

It was by observing how I was being bullied and unable to protect my interests, that the owner of the house next to mine realized he could get away with harassing me and taking my property by putting up fences on my side of the property line. The latest fence, none of which meet code requirements, is still on my property. For ten years, Property Code Officials have ignored the violations of my neighbor, which are directed at me, and now they are pretending that there is an emergency so dire that my constitutional rights must be violated.

Someone, anyone, everyone, please put a stop to this despotism. Show some compassion. Help me with this. My body is not in a state in which it is able to withstand these abuses. I'm not sleeping, my blood pressure is out of control, and my hands are so swollen with a rheumatoid arthritis flare that it is difficult for me to type. I'm not physically well enough or strong enough to move, and I'm cruelly being kept from spending the last opportunities to be with my mother because of this harassment, abuse, retaliation, and reprisal.

Following is MN State Law. It clearly shows that what these despotic officials are doing is illegal. Put a stop to it.

"MN Statutes 609.43 MISCONDUCT OF PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE.

A public officer or employee who does any of the following, for which no other sentence is specifically provided by law, may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than one year or to payment of a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both:

- (1) intentionally fails or refuses to perform a known mandatory, nondiscretionary, ministerial duty of the office or employment within the time or in the manner required by law; or
- (2) in the capacity of such officer or employee, does an act knowing it is in excess of lawful authority or knowing it is forbidden by law to be done in that capacity; or
- (3) under pretense or color of official authority intentionally and unlawfully injures another in the other's person, property, or rights; or
- (4) in the capacity of such officer or employee, makes a return, certificate, official report, or other like document having knowledge it is false in any material respect. "

The First amendment of the constitution prohibits retaliation, which is defined as any form of harassment or discrimination based on protected class. I am being discriminated against on the basis of my receipt of public assistance, and likely my gender and disability as well.

According to MN State Building Code, "

The building official may order any building or portion of a building to be vacated if continued use is dangerous to life, health, or safety of the occupants. The order shall be in writing and state the reasons for the action.

All unsafe buildings, structures, or appendages are public nuisances and must be abated by repair, rehabilitation, demolition, or removal according to Minnesota Statutes, sections 463.15 to 463.26.

Section 241 of Title 18 is the civil rights conspiracy statute. Section 241 makes it unlawful for two or more persons to agree together to injure, threaten, or intimidate a person in any state, territory or district in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him/her by the Constitution or the laws of the United States, (or because of his/her having exercised the same).

The offense of misconduct in office includes malfeasance, which is the doing of a wrongful act;

misfeasance, which is the doing of a lawful act in a wrongful manner; and

nonfeasance, which is the failure to perform an act required by the duties of the office.

I have been told that Steve Ubl wrote a letter stating that I refused to allow Robert Brandtjen into my house. This is not true. I was not given an opportunity to defend myself from this false allegation in any manner. Steve Ubl leapt on this opportunity to me harm, out of malice, without investigation.

The First Amendment right to criticize public officials is well-established, and a public official's retaliation against an individual exercising his or her First Amendment rights is a violation under 42 USC §1983.

The doctrine of Abuse of Rights (also known as Prohibition of Chicanery), refers to the concept that the malicious exercise of otherwise legitimate rights can give rise to civil liability. In general terms, the doctrine of abuse of rights provides that 'fault' may be imposed upon a party who has exercised a right in a manner that has caused injury to another. Marcia Moermond and Steve Ubl have violated this

doctrine in the rush to impose severe penalties on my rights as a homeowner without just cause and without affording me any possibility of protecting myself from their capricious misuse of and overstepping the bounds of their power and authority.

MN State Tort Claims include Abuse of Process and

In 2010, the Minnesota False Claims Act ("Minnesota FCA") went into effect. This is the State of Minnesota's version of the federal False Claims Act. The Minnesota FCA allows private individuals to bring a *qui tam* case against a person or entity for submitting or causing the submission of fraudulent claims to the state government or any political subdivision of the State, such as a county, city, town, or school district.

Like the federal FCA, the Minnesota FCA allows for financial rewards to whistleblowers for bringing an action on behalf of the State. If the State decides to intervene in the case, the whistleblower may receive 15-25% of the recovery. If the State does not intervene and the whistleblower pursues the case on their own, the whistleblower may receive 25-30% of the recovery. And if the State does not intervene initially but subsequently joins the case, the whistleblower may receive 15-30% of the recovery.

Following is a partial and incomplete synopsis of some of the egregious misconduct by St Paul DSI employees against me, as part of a long-standing policy of Steve Ubl to violate my rights by the misuse of his authority, and the tendency on the part of many of the employees under him to participate in his apparent policy of harassing me.

Charles Nosie Contract

- Plumbing was done by hacks, not a plumber, with no permit. Ubl covered for them.
- Deck off of house
- Frieze boards and rim joists rotted, joist ends rotted – Nosie was to sister clean wood to repair rotted portions of sill plates, rim joists, and frieze boards over the concrete basement walls. Nosie walked off the job after taking off the frieze boards, leaving open holes in the wall.
- Ubl wrote letter on behalf of Nose – my complaint to MN DLI was dismissed as a result.

Viking Exteriors

- Took over the finishing of contract with Nosie.
- DSI told him he did not have to do all the contracted work, even though it was paid for. DSI said there was no rot behind the wood my son installed. I have frass falling in basement from insects eating the rotted wood on East side walls. The North end of west side walls the joists were rotted all the way through into the basement. This is behind the ductwork, so it can't be seen from inside the basement.

Insulation Work

- Contractor failed to take out a permit for closed cell work. I was blamed by Isaac, and threatened with consequences.
- Contractor did not insulate perimeter under floor, as required by code. Those boards were obviously not taken up to do this. Isaac Stensland claimed he thought it was done even though it was obvious it was not.

HVAC company, Standard Heating and Air Conditioning

1. did not take out all required permits.
2. They installed air conditioner condenser pad not level.
3. They did not put air cleaner in according to manufacturer's instructions (Aprilaire) and it is torqued.
4. The inspector gave a pass to the inspection.
5. The inspector wrote a letter on behalf of the installer (Standard Heating and Air Conditioning), to Aprilaire, stating it was installed correctly.
6. I took pictures and Aprilaire agrees it was not installed correctly. As a result, air enters the furnace compartment from openings downstream of the air cleaner, and does not capture any dust at all.

Viking Exteriors–

- No permit
- Ordered wrong size and sill angle windows
- Isaac gave a pass to inspection
- Steve Ubl told me he did not need to inspect or become involved because none of his employees make any mistakes
- Ubl told me he would condemn my house if I asked for a supervisor to inspect
- Viking walked off the job and demanded payment after leaving five uninstalled windows in my porch
- Defamation of character – interfered with MN DLI investigation of Viking – I was told not to bother to write a complaint about Campbell

Scott Campbell, The Construction Group

- Took out express permit, not correct kind of permit for demolition of structure
- Advertised as doing chimney work, but he sent subcontractors who were masons, not chimney experts
- Subcontractors did not contain the demolition area and contaminated home with demolition dust
- I called Isaac, and he stated that there was no problem, refused to inspect my home, and signed off on the permit. When I told Ubl about the situation he had the closed permit changed to one stating that the contractor still needed to cap the chimney.
- There is still a part of the metal chimney liner sticking up out of the floor of the attic.

- Months after the chimney was removed, DSI decided they wanted the contractor to come back and seal the chimney per code requirements.
- Because I have an insurance claim in for demolition dust contamination of my home, I did not want the chimney sealed until the forensic investigation was complete. It is not complete, because DSI sided with the contractor, opening the door to a wrongful denial of insurance claim.

Robert Brandtjen, Brandtjen Underground Services, Inc.

- Failed to take out sewer work permit
- Failed to take out permit to pour new porch footings
- Hit water line while removing portion of sewer line
- Although not licensed as a plumber, repaired broken copper water line under my front lawn.
- First repair failed, and Robert repaired it again, cutting out a larger section, using same method.
- I looked at first repair and knew it was not up to code.
- Jeremy Miller instructed Robert Brandtjen to have a licensed plumber (Greg Ryan) do the repair, as the splicing method Robert did was not up to code and Robert is not a plumber.
- Robert Brandtjen again did the repair.
- Greg Ryan tried to get me to agree to fire Robert Brandtjen, but I refused
- Robert Brandtjen walked off the job, leaving my home in a state of disrepair, with porch windows off, a footing partially done, a screen door unable to close, my left gutters torn off of my house, and my front yard without cover.
- Robert then lied and stated I refused him entry to my home. Robert was always welcome to schedule times to work inside my home, and I readied the work area by having it moved. Robert dug up my basement floor, but then shoveled the dirt back into the trench he dug.
- I called Isaac Stensland, local building inspector for my area, and asked if a permit was required to pour a porch footing. Isaac said yes and told me to tell Robert to pull a permit. Robert did not pull a permit. I called Isaac, again, and Isaac told me that Steve Ubl had a “special” interest in me and my home and was handling the situation himself.
- Steve Ubl’s special handling was to order my house to be condemned and a Notice to Vacate put on it.
- Steve Ubl’s actions are motivated by malice and reprisal and are part of a long pattern of abusing his power and authority by allowing my neighbors and contractors to break the law in ways harmful to me and to harass me with actions unlawfully directed at me.
- Robert defamed my character by claiming he hit the water line because I refused him entry to my house. This was a lie.
- According to Robert’s insurance agent Ron, Steve Ubl wrote a letter stating that I refused Robert entry to my home.
- Nobody at DSI called me to discuss Robert Brandtjen’s allegation against me.

Following is a letter I sent to Robert Brandtjen, and which I provided to Marcia Moermond prior to the date of the first hearing. Despite having been given this evidence, Marcia Moermond

ignored this information, and chose to ignore the circumstances of how it is that my sewer line has not yet been replaced. This information should have resulted in her treating me in a fair and reasonable manner, and giving me the opportunity to disentangle from my contract with a contractor who breached his contract so that I can hire someone else to do it. Instead of giving me adequate space and time to do this, Marcia has abused her power and authority and created problems for me that are extremely difficult to surmount.

Marcia Moermond has ignored the fact that I do not have the economic means to live elsewhere, and she is aware that my time and energy is devoted to spending time with my dying mother. It is cruel and unusual for someone to behave so callously, and all of it is on the fake pretext that there is an "emergency".

Why am I not allowed to use a camping toilet for a short period of time?

Why has she demanded that I voluntarily give up my right to unlawful search of my property?

It was obvious that she was demanding that I allow St Paul Sewer employees to videotape my sewer line so that she could gain evidence to use against me to condemn my home. She had no right to demand that of me, and I said no. Robert Brandtjen used heavy equipment in my front yard, and in all likelihood, he crushed or damaged my sewer pipe before hitting my water pipe and breaching my contract by leaving without finishing the work. Marcia Moermond was conspiring to entrap me with evidence to use against me. When she did not get permission from me, she ordered the condemnation to continue and the Order to Vacate to be used against me in two days' time. It was Tuesday afternoon that she said I had to be out of my home by Thursday. That is not reasonable. I'm being subjected to abuse and reprisal for asserting my constitutional rights against unlawful search and seizure. This despotic behavior is appalling.

Here is the letter I sent to Robert Brandtjen, and which was sent to Marcia Moermond several days before the first hearing. It is proof that Marcia Moermond has knowledge of the difficult situation that I was put in, and that she has completely ignored these extenuating circumstances which are outside of my control.

"

Salina Amey
283 Curtice St E
St Paul, MN 55107
651-310-0923

Aug. 6, 2021

Robert H. Brandtjen
R H Brandtjen & Co Underground Utilities
2097 NILES AVE
ST PAUL, MN 55116-1138

RE: Contract dated May 3rd, 2021

St Paul License # 20200002211

Dear Mr. Brandtjen,

On Monday afternoon, August 2, 2021, I came home to find a huge pit of water in my front yard, after you used heavy machinery to increase the size of the pit in my yard for purposes of replacing my sewer line. You told me it was the fault of the City of St Paul, for not marking the line all the way to my house, but employees from both the water department and the sewer department told me that you falsely accused me of refusing you entry to my house, and that this was the reason you busted my water line. That was a slanderous, defamatory lie. Stop and desist any and all attempts to blame me for your irresponsible behavior. You had many opportunities to go into my basement to see where my water line was located, and you never availed yourself of those opportunities. I asked you many times to let me know in advance, when you needed me to alter my plans so that I could be home when you needed access to my basement, and you assured me you would do so.

You are 100% responsible for having used heavy machinery to dig into my yard without knowing where my water line was located.

Tuesday, August 3, 2021, I learned that you failed to take out the required permit from the St. Paul Sewer Dept. prior to beginning work at my house. That was a violation of code requirements. Yesterday, August 5, 2021, I learned that you failed to take out a required permit for the replacement of my porch footing. That, too, was a violation of code requirements.

You do not appear to have any kind of license or bond with the MN Dept. of Labor and Industry, but other pipe layers do. I'm wondering why you do not as well.

On Monday afternoon, you attempted to repair my water line by cutting out the damaged section and welding a new section in. Your first weld attempt failed, and it sprung a leak. You are not a licensed plumber, and not qualified to repair water lines. You repaired the area a second time, using the exact same method as the one which failed. Out of concern for the possibility of the repair eventually failing, I contacted St Paul Water Utility, and Jeremy Miller came out to my house. I showed Jeremy Miller the pipe section from your first repair attempt, and he confirmed it had not been done correctly. You had not reamed smooth the cuts.

Jeremy Miller instructed you to have the plumber you work with, Greg Ryan, owner of Ryan Plumbing and Heating, Inc. of St Paul, do the repairs. Jeremy Miller told me that Greg Ryan would be doing the repairs and left. However, when Greg Ryan showed up, he told me that he would not do the repairs and that he had the right to tell you how to do the repairs and leave. Greg Ryan asked me repeatedly if I would agree to fire you, and I said "no", each time. I told Greg Ryan that all I wished to discuss with him was the damage to my pipe. I asked him how the repairs would be done and Greg Ryan told me it was "none of your business". Greg Ryan left and you were in the pit with your welding torch doing the repairs, unsupervised.

When I came out front you started yelling at me. I stayed away the front yard, hoping things would calm down. I needed to pick up a prescription from the pharmacy, and left for a brief time.

When I came home, Jeremy Miller was in the front yard along with you and your assistant. I could hear water running. My garden hose had been disconnected from the spigot and water was blasting out of it along my house foundation, unattended. Why did you disconnect the hose from my house, and run water down along my foundation? The ground there is completely saturated. For two weeks you have worked at my house, and both you and your assistant used the end of the hose. Why did you choose to remove the hose and run water down along my foundation? You asked me to sign a note you wrote up by hand on that same day, and stated you refused to honor our contract unless I signed it. We had a verbal agreement that you would take precautions to avoid damaging property in my basement in the process of doing your work. We had a verbal agreement that the work area in the basement would be protected with plastic. I purchased materials to protect the basement area, and you offered to help put them up in an appropriate manner, so I waited until you could instruct me on how you wanted them put up.

However, on Tuesday August 3rd, 2021, you went in the basement and busted out the floor before the plastic could be hung. The floor concrete busted out cleanly with minimal dust, so no harm was done, but you told me that cutting through the wall would be dusty. I will not sign this hand written note you wrote, because you wrote it such that it appears that you are asking me to give you permission to damage my home and property.

Robert, you need to take reasonable care to protect my home and belongings from damage. I will not sign away my right for this to occur. I have interacted with you in a polite and respectful manner, but you have returned this consideration with verbal abuse and slanderous statements. This needs to stop.

We have a legally binding contract. You have asked me repeatedly to fire you. That will not happen. You began work on this contract, and in the process did a lot of damage to my property. I am obligated to give you an opportunity to repair this damage and make right to me. I'm giving you this opportunity, to which you are entitled. I expect you to promptly resume work at my house, and to do this work in a reasonably careful manner, taking reasonable efforts to prevent any further damage to my home and property.

Yesterday, I sent you text messages informing you that rain and thunderstorms were in the forecast for overnight. You texted back that not enough rain to do damage was in the forecast, and did not come to ensure the pit in my front yard would not fill with water. When the storms came, I went out after dark and did everything I could to divert water away from the pit. Unfortunately, the little piece of gutter you left hanging off the roof diverted a huge stream of water right into the pit.

You took the downspout off of the west side of my house, so there was not a way I could divert this water away from the pit. You need to put this downspout back on.

You piled a huge pile of soil on the front yard in front of my house that goes right up to my house, and blocks the downspout attached to my front porch. As a result, I was not able to divert this water. All the roof water went down along the side of my porch wall. This is damaging to my property. It is not acceptable for you to walk off the job, leaving hazards that damage my home.

I spoke to my local building inspector, Isaac Stensland. Isaac told me that as the homeowner, I'm responsible for ensuring that any hazards on my property are addressed. More rain is forecast for this weekend, and it is likely to be heavy. You have put me in a terrible bind. You created hazards on my property and then abandoned your responsibilities. Now what am I to do?

Please provide me with your insurance information. If you are not willing to take responsibility for the work you started at my house, I'll need to ask your insurance company to take responsibility.

My front steps were poured on top of a slab of concrete, which has broken underneath them. This appears to be as a result of your having excavated away the soil immediately adjacent to them. This was careless of you, and you are responsible for remedying this damage.

On Tuesday morning, you were in my basement and you turned both the hot and cold-water faucets on at my laundry tub, to flush the mud that got into the pipes after your repair. I informed you that my new on-demand water heater would be damaged by running muddy water through it and asked you to not run muddy water through it. Shortly there-after I saw that you were running muddy water through my water heater, anyway. Why would you do this? That water heater is new, and was very expensive to install. It required flushing because of what you did. I was fortunate that employees of St Paul Water Utility flushed it for me, so that I did not need to hire a plumber to do so. It was maintenance I did not know how to do.

Robert, I understand that you are angry and frustrated that the work at my house did not proceed smoothly, but please stop blaming other people, myself included, for mistakes that you, yourself, made.

Monday afternoon, after you used your heavy equipment to empty the water out of the trench you dug in my front yard, you began making repairs on the water line. I asked you if you had a permit to do so, and you said that you did. You said that when you called St Paul Water to turn off the water, you also pulled a permit to do repairs under Greg Ryan's license.

According to St Paul Regional Water Services, the permit (# 21289781) was issued for work on the water pipe on Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021. This permit was issued to Greg Ryan under his plumbing license #184852. The plumbing repair work you did on my water line on Monday, Aug. 2, 2021, was done without any kind of license or permit, whatsoever, and you are not a licensed plumber.

On Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021, Jeremy Miller of St Paul Regional Water Services saw that the pipe had not been repaired correctly, by you, on Monday. He ordered that it be repaired properly by the plumber associated with your business, Greg Ryan, owner of Ryan Plumbing and Heating. Jeremy told me that Greg Ryan would be making the repairs, and left.

After Jeremy left, Greg Ryan knocked on my back door and repeatedly requested that I fire you. I said no, and said I only wanted to talk to him about the repairs he was making on my water line. Greg Ryan told me that he would not be doing any repairs on the line and that he had the authority to tell you to do the repairs in his stead.

Greg Ryan left, and did not do the repairs, arrange for a licensed plumber to do the repairs, or even watch to ensure that you (not a licensed plumber) did the repairs correctly.

My understanding is that a contractor working in the State of Minnesota, that is doing work involving multiple areas of specialization is required to have a General Contractor's license. Robert, I looked you up, and was not able to find a state license in your name of any sort. You have done work at my house as a plumber, replaced a porch footing, and are contracted to do underground sewer line replacement/repair. This requires a MN license, and yet I don't find a license under your business name. That is a very serious violation.

Yesterday, I sent you text messages informing you that storms were forecast for that evening, and that I was very concerned about the pit filling with storm water runoff from not just my yard but my roof and my neighbor's roof. You replied that only light rain was forecast and there would not be a problem.

After dark, a thunderstorm began and I went outside to do everything I could to prevent storm water from getting into the trench you dug in my front yard. The way that you tore off the gutter from the roof, leaving a piece dangling, sent most of the storm water right into the ditch.

More heavy rain is forecast for this weekend. You have left my yard in a hazardous condition. That massive trench, if filled with water, could result in my basement wall collapsing in. My house is 98-years-old, and has hollow concrete block basement walls. They cannot withstand high levels of water pressure. The ditch cannot be allowed to fill with water. Inspector Isaac Stensland informed me this morning that as homeowner, I'm responsible to ensure hazardous situations are remedied, if you refuse to do so.

I'm asking you right now to reconnect the downspout to my house, and put some kind of extension on to the downspout to safely carry the water all the way to the front sidewalk, so that property damage does not occur. I'm almost 60 years old, and unable to get on a ladder to fix the gutter that you took apart.

The neighbor's house at 279 Curtice St E. has gutters that have not been maintained in many years. The water from their roof pours down between our houses and then runs down grade towards my house. Something needs to be done to prevent their gutter water from getting into the trench, too.

On the side of my house facing East, you put a pile of dirt right up to the porch, and over the bottom of the gutter. It is not possible for me to get a gutter extension there under the dirt and mud. Last night, all the rain water poured down next to my porch wall because of how you left my yard. This is damaging to my porch and foundation. That water needs to be further away from my house. Please deal with this today, before the rains come, again.

My bathtub has no water since you did work on my plumbing. It worked perfectly before you did plumbing repairs. In all likelihood, it needs to be professionally flushed of muddy water, as only a few drops of water now come out of it. My kitchen and bathroom sink faucets also have reduced pressure since your work, and need to be flushed to get the mud out of them.

I called Greg Ryan to tell him of the needed work, and he said he would not take responsibility for flushing them and would charge me to do so. That is unconscionable. He does not have authority to license amateurs to do critical plumbing work under his license, and he is responsible for problems created in work done under his license. This is not acceptable. You are responsible for all damage that you have caused to my house.

Last week I could hear yelling outside. You were yelling at a man who was telling you that you did a "crappy job" on my porch footing. I've since looked at the footing, and the way that you rested the support beam on it, and the odd way you used concrete block to make a footing are of concern to me. If the work you did is not up to code, you will need to bring it up to code.

You took storm windows off of my porch and used some kind of nail gun to attach thin plastic to the aluminum wrap on my porch. Robert, why would you punch holes through the aluminum wrap? There were viable ways to attach protective plastic to my house without putting holes in the aluminum wrap. Also, my new screen door on my porch does not shut or lock. You poured only one of the footings, and it is too early to tell if you can put the windows and door back such that they are operable.

Because there are so many concerns about the impact your work has had on my home's integrity, I need to consider filing a claim against your insurance company. Please provide this information to me, so that it is readily available should I need to file a claim.

Quit insinuating, implying, and/or stating things that insult my character. That is defamatory and illegal and such behavior will not be tolerated. If you have ugly thoughts, kindly keep them to yourself, and do not tell any further lies to my neighbors, the Dept. of Water, the Dept. of Sewer, or the St Paul Dept. of Safety and Inspections.

Robert, it seems clear to me that you are using verbal abuse directed at me in an attempt to provoke me into firing you. Again, this will not happen. I'm obligated by law to give you an opportunity to fix everything that you have damaged, and to fix any mistakes you made in your contracted work so that it is up to code.

I'm giving you this opportunity. Please respond in writing to all of my concerns, and inform me of a reasonable timetable to complete the contracted work from our contract dated May 3, 2021. Desist from demanding that I acquiesce to altering the contract. It is unreasonable to demand I sign a handwritten statement by you that lets you be "off the hook" for doing damage to my home and the contents of my home. I will not sign an authorization permitting you to do this.

Most important, please get back to me with regards to your intentions. I cannot stop you from breaching our contract and walking off the job, but I hope that you will not do so. If you do so, please make this clear in writing so that I can take immediate action to protect my home.

If you do choose to breach our contract and walk off the job, at the very least, please promptly fix the gutters, and attach downspout extenders to channel the water all the way to the front sidewalk on both sides of my house.

There may be damage to my property caused by you that I am currently unaware of, and if so, I expect you to take responsibility for any unknown as well as known damage that is due to your negligence. Also, due to this situation, I'm sending this letter this morning so you are aware of my expectation of a prompt and polite response. I have not had sufficient time to list all that has transpired, to date, in the work you contracted with me to perform. I reserve my right to bring up other concerns as the need may be. It is my sincere hope is that you will "turn a new leaf", and resume our contracted work with a positive attitude and the care required to do it right.

Sincerely,
Salina Amey "

My rights to due process under the law have been severely violated by this quasi-legal proceeding against me. I have a right to be free of illegal searches of my home and property, and this includes my sewer line. Marcia Moermond had no right to demand entry into my home and I had a right to refuse her. She has no right to punish me for not giving this to her. Due process requires a search order to procure this data, and she did not use that process. The exclusionary rule is a judicial rule that excludes the use of information procured via illegal search and/or seizure. My rights have been trampled.

The consequence for violating my Fourth Amendment Rights include the exclusionary rule, civil liability under 42 U.S.C. Section 1983, MN tort claims of abuse of process, and the potential for declaratory judgments and injunctive relief. If someone maliciously or with knowledge attempts to get an inspection warrant for a cause that does not exist or my directing someone else to do so, they are guilty of 2nd degree misdemeanor under F.S. 933.28. It was knowing that my sewer was damaged and wanting out of malice to get her hands on evidence to use to justify her abuse of power in supporting Steve Ubl's decision to condemn my home and order it vacated that was the motive for Marcia Moermond demanding I allow her to collect evidence to be used with against me. Owner occupied homes are exempt from inspection warrants.

Marcia Moermond is conspiring with Steve Ubl to deprive me of my constitutional rights. By ordering me to leave my home, she is opening the door to yet more sinister actions that can unconscionably be used against me by herself, Steve Ubl, and anyone going along with their agenda. I do not know what motivates Ms. Moermond to violate my rights. If she were a neutral, as is her role, she would not be participating in this rush to have me unlawfully removed from my home, without adequate time to defend myself or to enlist the aid of others.

There is not a doubt in my mind that Ms. Moermond intends to get an inspection warrant, or to authorize Steve Ubl to get one, or to permit Steve Ubl to generate one.

Steve Ubl wants to get access to my house so that he can destroy incriminating evidence against him. Earlier this year, at the suggestion of Chris Meier, the regional code Representative for the Construction codes and Licensing Division of the MN Dept. of Labor and Industry told me that the concerns I shared with him should be brought to Steve Ubl in his authority as Building Official for St Paul. Despite my knowledge of years of abuses directed at me by the employees at DSI that Steve Ubl supervises, I followed the advice of Chris Meier, and told Steve Ubl about the failure of my local building inspector, Isaac Stensland, to be fair and follow the law in how he dealt with the permits of John Meyer, owner of Viking Exteriors, and Scott Campbell, owner of The Construction Group.

The failure of Isaac Stensland to do his job has had terrible consequences on me, and lead to many negative repercussions affecting my life that I am still contending with.

There is overwhelming circumstantial evidence that suggests that certain employees of DSI conspire with contractors to enable them to get away with violating codes and ordinances. I have compiled a great deal of evidence of this, and Steve Ubl knows this. By using all of this pretext to get into my house, Steve Ubl is attempting to get an opportunity to destroy evidence that can be used against him.

I told Steve Ubl details about how Isaac had failed to do his job in ways that harmed me, and Steve Ubl threatened me with the condemnation of my home if I asked that he have another building inspector address my concerns. Steve Ubl told me that he would order my home condemned and my chimney sealed. Because I am in the midst of difficulties with an insurance claim as a result of the uncontained demolition of my chimney, this would destroy evidence that I need to resolve this situation. Steve Ubl stated to me that none of the employees working under him ever make mistakes of any kind and that he therefore knew that all the inspection work done at my property was always done correctly and did not require investigation on his part.

After this conversation with Steve Ubl, I elected not to have him send Isaac's supervisor to my home, because Steve Ubl made it clear that I would suffer reprisal and repercussion if I asserted myself in this way.

I contacted and spoke to other officials at the MN Dept of Labor and Industry, and filed a complaint, but it was ignored.

In the winter of 2020, I filed a DLI Complaint against Viking Exteriors, but it was completely ignored. I delivered it in person, and have a receipt of delivery. When I called to inquire about it. I believe that the person I spoke with was Dan Cunningham, Sr. Investigator – CCLD Enforcement. He told me that he was sure that everything done by John Meyer was good work, and that the same was true of Scott Campbell. He told me to give them whatever they wanted because he believed they were in the right.

It is Steve Ubl who has influenced staff at DLI to ignore my communications and to refuse to assist me. There is a pattern going on where contractors in St Paul do work for poor people such as myself, who are eligible for and using loan programs only poor people are eligible to use, realizing that the inspectors in St Paul will permit them to violate codes and ordinances and then stand behind them if a homeowner asks for help. Why is it that so many contractors in St Paul who participate in these programs are aware they will get away with shoddy work that is not up to code, get away without taking out permits, and then be protected from any consequences by the actions of Building Official Steve Ubl?

What has Steve Ubl communicated about me to State officials such that a senior investigator refuses to acknowledge a valid complaint?

If you looked at the evidence I've compiled, you would see that the evidence of conspiring to deny me my rights has been occurring for some time, and that it is all directed by Building Official Steve Ubl. Now my health has deteriorated after more than ten years of this.

The broken windows theory states that visible signs of disorder and misbehavior in an environment encourage further disorder and misbehavior, leading to serious crimes. The principle was developed to explain the decay of neighborhoods, but it is often applied to work and educational environments. This is the explanation for the continued problems with contractors at my home. The blighted manner in which my neighbor keeps up the property line is a visible indication that I am the powerless victim of a neighbor who has been able to get away with violating codes and ordinances for ten years. To see his fence line along my property is a shocking experience. Any contractor coming to my home can see the evidence of problems caused by others and can see that I was powerless to effectively defend myself against transgressions against my rights. John Meyer left five windows wrapped in plastic in my porch, when he walked off the job after ordering the wrong size and sill angle of windows.

Blight and violations lead to more blight and violations. All of this started with Steve Ubl protecting Charles Nosie from any consequences for doing sloppy and careless work that destroyed my retaining wall. Charles Nosie bragged to me about getting his way with Steve Ubl. When my insurance company sent an engineering firm to my home to prove that Steve Ubl was wrong, and that Charles Nosie was responsible for the wall being ruined, Steve Ubl was angry. He has been retaliating against me and apparently instructing his subordinates to do the same, ever since. That loan was through the City of St Paul, so there were officials who knew about how Steve Ubl handled this, including Dan Elsen of Planning and Economic Development. It took me five long years to pick up all the pieces after Charles Nosie walked off the job, and how he handled it made Steve Ubl look very bad. Everyone involved in the situation knew that Steve Ubl intervened to protect Charles Nosie from consequences.

I believe that Steve Ubl is abusing his power and authority out of a motive of revenge, for my having stood up for myself. Steve Ubl succeeded in getting MN DLI to let Charles Nosie off the hook, but he did not have enough influence to stop the truth from reaching everyone.

It is a federal crime for anyone acting under "color of law" to willfully deprive or conspire to deprive a person of a right protected by the Constitution or U.S. law. "Color of law" simply means the person is using authority given to him or her by a local, state, or federal government agency. The FBI is the lead

federal agency for investigating color of law violations, which include acts carried out by government officials operating both within and beyond the limits of their lawful authority. Anyone with knowledge of these kinds of violations should report them to the FBI, and in doing so is eligible to receive substantial financial rewards under federal whistleblower law. When an employee reports these kinds of violations, it is unlawful under the first amendment for there to be any kind of repercussion taken out against them.

There is free case review for potential whistleblowers offered at the following website. Blow the whistle, it is the right thing to do. Go to the following website for free case review for whistleblowers. "Today the Fund operates a free-of-charge program in which whistleblowers can fill out a secure intake form that allows whistleblowers to submit basic information about their cases on a confidential basis. The intake form, and all communication with the Fund, are protected under the attorney-client privilege. The Fund contracts with an outside experienced whistleblower law firm whose attorneys are licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia. Attorneys from this law firm review every intake and make all decisions regarding the intakes. This review is conducted free of charge on a pro bono basis. The Trustees of the Fund are not involved, in any way, with the review of intakes and do not make any decisions related to any of the intakes." <https://report-fraud-now.info/>

Section 241 of Title 18 is the civil rights conspiracy statute. Section 241 makes it unlawful for two or more persons to agree together to injure, threaten, or intimidate a person in any state, territory or district in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him/her by the Constitution or the laws of the United States, (or because of his/her having exercised the same).

Because of the abuse of power Steve Ubl has employed against me to date, he is now in a position to do even greater harm to me. MN Statutes state "The building official shall order any building or portion of a building to be vacated if continued use is dangerous to life, health, or safety of the occupants. The building official shall have the authority to order disconnection of utility services to the building, structure, or system, regulated by the code, in case of an emergency to eliminate a hazard to life or property. The order shall be in writing and state the reasons for the action."

The abuses I've been subjected to for the last ten years are nothing compared to the abuses that Steve Ubl is laying the groundwork for, to come. I'm sick, poor, disabled, and dealing with extremely challenging situations without the benefit of being able to pay for legal help. All of this is happening at a time in which I want to be with my mother, but instead I am being forced to deal with this. It is cruel and abusive.

The day after Steve Ubl ordered the condemnation of my house, the contractor John Meyer had legal papers served on me. He has placed a mechanics lien on my house and requested the court to foreclose on it. Despite the seriousness of the situation, I am unable to afford legal representation. All of my records are stored in my house, as is my computer. I have less than two weeks to respond to this. Steve Ubl and his subordinates failed to follow ordinances and code in how they handled this situation, and John Meyer knows it. I think is likely that John Meyer was aware of Steve Ubl's actions. Steve Ubl does NOT want the truth to get out about how he and his department have handled contractor issues at my home.

Now Steve Ubl is in a position to destroy my opportunity to protect myself from an unjust lawsuit. John Meyer breached the contract and walked off the job after refusing to order the windows using correct measurements and sill angles. Steve Ubl and Isaac Stensland have conspired with John Meyer as an act

of retaliation against me for inadvertently causing Steve Ubl to look bad over the years due to the corrupt manner in which he runs DSI. There are many people who are aware of this. The illegal fence next door was reported to people who approved the permit for a legal fence to be built. They are aware of how Ubl uses his power and position to violate the rights of homeowners he has a gripe against.