

Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)

From: Ryan, LouAnn <LouAnn.Ryan@CO.RAMSEY.MN.US>
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2014 4:30 PM
To: Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)
Subject: 134 Maria Avenue St. Paul MN

Good afternoon,

I have been told you will be the administrative hearing office on the problem property on our block. I have lived at my present home, 128 Maria Avenue, since 2000. 134 Maria has been a problem from the time I moved in and I have also heard many stories from previous neighbors as to the problems they have had in the past. I have spoken to Mr. Delbert Moore (fee owner/landlord) in person and by phone many many times about the issues with this property. He always plays blind to the problems because he is not living there, but he is over there all the time and I truly believe that he is the culprit in all the illegal activity that has taken place in the past. I have witnessed him having so called tenants dismantle things that he scraps as a business. We have complained to the city so many times about the scrapping and junk that is always laying around. When this property is inspected he again always plays blind to the issues and manages to get his inspections passed making the absolute minimum requirements to get the Certificate of Occupancy.

A few months ago a new gentleman was working on cars in the garage. He personally told me that he was renting the garage from Mr. Moore so that he could fix cars to make a living. He personally told me to spread the word to others so he could get business. I reported this to the city. Then we started having quite a few younger adults coming and going on bicycles and backpacks. They would enter the house from the alley, then leave from the front on their bikes. This caught the attention of quite a few neighbors. Then one evening my neighbor (Maggie Kessel, 129 Bates) saw a gentleman on a crochrocket in the back all dressed in dark colors, his hood on with sunglasses. As soon as he saw Maggie watching him he took off fast out of the alley just as I was about to leave my house. I saw him speed away. For whatever reason I checked the overlook in the park on my way out and saw him there. Later that evening when I returned his cycle was back by the garage again. Maggie again called the police and I took pictures of his license plate and we gave that to the police. They caught him and questioned him and he told the police he was delivering "batteries" in his little duffel bag attached to the back of the cycle. He said he was delivering them to the guy that works on cars in the garage. Two days later another vehicle was pulled up in the back by the garage and I stopped as I was leaving to write down his license plate number. The gentleman approached me and asked what I was doing. I told him that I was recording the plates of people that make short stops at this house that do not live there. He told me that he was the grandson of Delbert Moore and that they were getting a lot of complaints from neighbors but that he was over there to get his car fixed. I asked him if the gentleman fixing cars is living in the garage and he stated "no, he is living in the basement". He asked me if I was aware that this building was a triplex and

that is why there are so many people living there. I knew the Certificate of Occupancy was for only a duplex so I filed a complaint with DSI that next morning. They sent out the inspector and found someone living in the basement, set up a full inspection with Mr. Moore and you know the rest that is in the reports.

If you look at police report you will see all the calls that have been made to this property for both the upper and lower units.

A gentleman by the name of Robert/Bobbie has been living upstairs for quite a few years. He has told everyone for quite a few years he is going to die any day now. This has been an excuse used for years, however, last week I saw him climb out of the back window onto the porch roof to fix a screen. For someone who is dying any day for years, he was sure able to get out there and handle that mess. If he is dying I feel bad, but I am afraid that has been a front to avert attention away from some of the activity that has been going on in the building for years.

Mr. Moore is elderly now and seems to have more of a problem taking care of things and I just feel that it is maybe for the best if this property is shut down. I took the liberty to check his taxes and I see that he did not make the payment for the first half of taxes payable in 2014. The roof on the garage is in bad need of repair. The entire building is in need of repair. They have secured a tarp to the roof to help stop leaking so that they could work in the garage.

As you can see, I could go on and on, but I will stop here. I am unable to attend your hearing on Tuesday November 4th as I am an Assistant Head Judge for the Elections and will be committed to that from 5:45 am to 8:30 pm approximately.

Thank you in advance for taking my plea to shut this property down into consideration.

Sincerely,

LouAnn Ryan
128 Maria Avenue
St. Paul MN 55106
651-785-7603 (cell)