

Department of Neighborhood Services Inspectional services for health, safety and neighborhood improvement

Martin G. Collins Commissioner Tracy Williams Chief Operations Officer

September 13, 2005

Alderman Michael D'Amato, Chair Judiciary and Legislation Committee Office of the City Clerk Room 205, City Hall

Attention: Joanna Polanco

Re: File No. 050522

1324 W. Reservoir Avenue

Dear Alderman D'Amato:

The owner of the above-referenced property has applied for a Vacation of In Rem Judgment. The Department objects to the return of this property to Mr. Clinton for the following reasons:

- a. This property is condemned.
- b. The raze order was found reasonable by the Standards and Appeals Commission on December 28, 2004.
- c. The property owner was given several opportunities to rehab the property prior to the Commission's finding and had the option of entering into a restoration agreement thereafter. The owner failed to take advantage of these opportunities, and also, chose to not file an appeal of the Standards and Appeals Commission's decision in Circuit Court.

- d. The property has been in a blighted state for a period greater than a year in an area of the city where owner-occupants are investing a great deal of money and effort to revitalize the neighborhood.
 - e. Current actual costs to taxpayers is \$1,468.65.

f. A similar situation and opportunities with the same owner(s) at 1373 W. North Avenue resulted in building being razed. Current actual unresolved costs to taxpayers is \$8,024.50. The City is being forced to pursue the recovery of these costs through circuit court action.

Sincerely,

Teresa C. Williams
Chief Operations Officer

c: Genevieve O'Sullivan-Crowley