

San Diego City Attorney Jan I. Goldsmith

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 3, 2009 Contact: Gina Coburn, Communications Director: (619) 533-6181

Property Owner Ordered to Clean-Up Unsanitary Rental Sites Residents of Property Had Been Living in Substandard Conditions

San Diego, CA: The San Diego City Attorney's Office Code Enforcement Unit strikes another blow to substandard housing and public nuisance conditions in Southern San Diego. The Property owner pleaded *no contest* to charges stemming from unpermitted, dilapidated, and substandard residential rental units on her 10 acre parcel located at 2090 Hollister Street as a result of a substandard housing case brought by Deputy City Attorney Danna Nichols and the City's Neighborhood Code Compliance Division.

Several families including children lived in dilapidated trailers which had unpermitted septic and water systems. As part of the plea agreement, the owner may not rent or allow the residential occupancy of any unpermitted structures in which she has a financial interest.

The property was also used to rent stables for horses. The unsanitary accumulation of animal waste was a breeding ground for thousands of flies and mosquitoes. One pile of horse manure stood more than 6 feet high. The property also contained structures and fences made entirely out of garage doors.

The owner was sentenced to 3 years probation, and must reimburse the City investigative costs totaling \$2,815.18. In addition, she must correct all of the code and environmental damage on her property. Commissioner Robert C. Rice also imposed fines of \$4,000, of which \$3,900 was stayed along with 30 days of jail time, pending completion of all terms of her probation.

The Code Enforcement Unit was established in 1984 to address nuisance properties and blight throughout San Diego. The Unit works in partnership with the City's Neighborhood Code Compliance Division, the Police, and the community to identify and aggressively address problem properties. Community members can report property violations to the City Attorney's Code Enforcement Unit at 619-533-5655 or Neighborhood Code Compliance Division at 619-236-5500.

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