

***Regular Meeting of the
Abatement Appeals Board
July 16, 2025***

***Appellant Statement
Exhibit H***

I am retired and bought this house in April 2018 to live in peace and close to everything I am familiar with. My funds were limited and I would not want to spend it all on house remodeling.

My architect went to the Director's Hearing on 9/03/2024 was about to file an update on P/A 202108116263 when his children got sick. The process was delayed and I subsequently received this Order of Abatement.

The remodel I wanted on this property and I still want is a family room with bathroom and Laundry. Many building contractors told me this process can take years with 3 reviews including neighborhood review. That is the reason I seek relief from administrative fees and penalties from accumulating while I secure a permit.

An ADU would be a hardship for me because of the high cost of rebuilding the existing foundation. It is cost ineffective. On top of that, an ADU would cut off access of the rear yard for the upstairs family. Even though it could be mitigated by remodeling upstairs with a rear deck and staircase, it is a financial hardship for me.

I bought the property with an understanding there were broken windows, staircase and skylight etc. Plus there was inadequate electrical service. I made an effort to fix all the defects with P/A 201806111530 and P/A 201805290319.

When it comes to fixing the basement space (complaint 201767021), I paid the tenants generously to ask them to vacate the illegal apartment, an inadequate apartment, space that should never be rented out. I hired a qualified and licensed electrician to upgrade and rewire the downstairs space. It is when I opened an investigative permit (EW202106296680) and invited an inspector to look at the proposed electrical upgrade that I was slapped with a Notice of Violation (202179766).

Looking back at the whole fiasco, I realized that I made a mistake to install a washing machine. This is an honest mistake on my part. I seek relief because I felt there was misunderstanding. The inspector misunderstood my intentions. He assumed that I was about to make cosmetic fixes and then rent out the space at a profit. The space has been used as storage

ever since.