

What Do I Do If I Receive a Letter?

The first letter you will receive is mailed to you as a courtesy. It is intended to merely advise you that a violation of the Kern County Ordinance Code has been alleged. Please contact the Code Compliance Division at your earliest convenience if:

1. The information in this letter is incorrect; or
2. The violation no longer exists; or
3. You don't understand any part of this letter; or
4. You just need more time to bring your property into compliance.

Once the allowable time specified on your first letter has expired and if you have not contacted the Code Compliance Division, an officer will inspect your property to verify the allegations.

If it is determined that the violation does not exist, the case will be closed and no further action will be taken. However, if a violation is found to exist, you will be notified by a "Notice and Order." The notice and order will state specific code sections for which you are in violation.

Please contact the Code Compliance Division as soon as possible. We will be happy to discuss the information outlined in your notice with you and go over any and all options available to you. Our first priority is to bring violations into compliance through voluntary measures.

What Tools Do We Use:

Unless an immediate threat to health and safety exists, the responsible party is given an opportunity to voluntarily comply with the law and correct the situation.

Once the deadlines in the notices have expired, the owner or responsible party is subject to one or more of the remedies listed below. In addition to any fines that result from a remedy, fees are charged after the Code Compliance Officer verifies the allegation.

- **Recordation of a "Declaration of Substandard Property"** – This remedy is used after violations have been verified, and there is no immediate danger or special circumstances. Prior to funding of a loan and/or transferring of the title, lenders will require that the title be cleared and the violation removed. There is a fee for removing the recorded Notice.
- **Abatement** – This remedy is used when the County needs to take action to abate the nuisance. In a typical case, the County Code Compliance Division will hire a private contractor to either demolish, board and secure a structure, or clean a property of junk and debris.
- **Judicial Remedies** – These remedies are used when all other remedies are completely exhausted or not considered to have a high probability of success. The two judicial remedies are criminal prosecution or civil injunction.

CODE

COMPLIANCE

IN THE

COUNTY OF KERN



A PARTNERSHIP TO PROMOTE HEALTH AND SAFETY AND MAINTAIN COMMUNITY STANDARDS

COUNTY OF KERN
CODE COMPLIANCE DIVISION
2700 "M" STREET
BAKERSFIELD CA 93301
Phone: (661) 862-8603
1(800) 552-KERN (Option 7)
Fax: (661) 862-5149
E-Mail: esps@co.kern.ca.us

What is Our Mission?

The mission of the Code Compliance Division is to work in partnership with the people of Kern County to promote health and safety and to maintain community standards. This will be accomplished by:

1. Administering a fair and unbiased compliance program to correct violations of property conditions and land use requirements.
2. Providing a uniform, consistent yet flexible procedure to insure that all citizens of Kern County are equally represented.
3. Minimizing the necessity for legal action by allowing ample opportunity for voluntary compliance and correction.
4. Responding promptly to complaints regarding structures and/or conditions which present a health or safety hazard to the public.

How Can I Use The System?

If you are seeking relief from conditions on a property in your community, the options available to you are:

Make contact with the responsible person. Describe your perception of the problem. Discuss how the problem affects you, and possible solutions.

File a complaint:

Code Compliance Division (661) 862-8603, or 1-800-552-KERN (Option 7)

Anonymous complaints are not processed.

What Codes Do We Enforce?

The Code Compliance Division enforces regulations related to the following:

KC Dangerous Building Code § 17.36.020

- Conditions of an existing structure that constitute a clear and present danger to the public.

KC Building Code § 17.08.060

- Building Code violations (building, plumbing, electrical, mechanical, disability access, etc.), including construction or change of occupancy without permits.

KC Housing Code § 17.16.020

- California State Housing law (minimum standards for safe and sanitary housing).
- Liquid waste disposal.

KC Solid Waste Code § 8.28.080

- Illegal dumping.

KC Solid Waste Code § 8.28.060

- Residential solid waste.

KC Building Code § 17.28.130

- Grading without permits.

KC Abandoned Vehicle Code § 10.28.040

- Abandoned vehicles.

KC Zoning Code § 19.02.060

- Zoning requirements for structures such as use, location, configuration and size, and land use requirements.
- Semi truck parking in residential areas.
- Occupied R.V.'s.

COMPLAINT FORM

(ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED)

DATE: _____

ADDRESS OF VIOLATION: _____

ZIP: _____

A.P.N. _____

NEAREST CROSS STREET: _____

NATURE OF VIOLATION: _____

REPORTING PARTY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE MAIL TO:

KERN COUNTY CODE COMPLIANCE
2700 "M" STREET
BAKERSFIELD CA 93301

Or if you wish, you may call and provide this information to the Code Compliance Division at (661) 862-8603, OR 1-800-552-KERN (Option 7)