

News Release

City Enacts Second Commercial Shaming Order A Second Time

For Release: Monday, January 22, 2007

CONTACTS:

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Date: January 22, 2007

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 2600 N. Booth St.

Milwaukee, WI — The City of Milwaukee placed a shaming sign on a commercial property in the Riverwest neighborhood today. This is the second time the City has used the shaming ordinance on a commercial building. The building is owned by Timothy Brophy, Jr. and is at 2600 N. Booth St. Brophy, who lives at 5436 N. Lake Dr., has to come up with a restoration plan or else the City plans to tear the building down and hand the bill to the owner.

That is what happened to the first commercial property shamed last November. Makbal Sajan owned a commercial office building at 6057 W. Fond Du Lac Ave. The Brookfield landlord failed to take action and the City tore his building down and filed a lien against Sajan for the costs.

Using a special ordinance under Section 218-9, the City is declaring the Brophy building a nuisance and condemning it. This allows the City to post the sign and use public pressure to get the owner to repair the building. Brophy is no stranger to building code violations. To date he has forfeited over \$100,000 in fines for code violations. This is the second sign to be posted on the Brophy property. An earlier sign was vandalized twice. The first time some destroyed the contact information. The second time the sign sported the landlords name, phone numbers and a police booking photo. The new “official” City sign starts the clock running for Brophy to respond.

If no action is taken, the City plans to tear down the structure some time in February and put the cost of the demolition as a lien on the owner. Brophy owns numerous other properties in Milwaukee.

For more information contact: Todd Weiler, Public Information Coordinator, DNS 414-286-3214 (desk) or 414-708-3360 (cell).