

June 3, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Several weeks ago Mrs. Charles W. Heeden of Lithonia (telephone 482-6149) called me concerning her property at 512-14 Decatur St., S. E. This property was under Housing Code proceedings several years ago, together with other properties in the same block on either side of the Heeden property.

As a result of the Housing Code procedures and my personal efforts at that time to enforce the Code, the Heeden's removed the top floor (residential) of the building at 512-14 Decatur St., S. E. and remodeled the ground floor for business at a cost of approximately \$12,000.

I informed Mrs. Heeden that I was no longer directly involved in Code Enforcement and referred her to Mr. James A. Smith, Chief of the Housing Code Division.

This date, Mrs. Heeden called me again and read to me a recent Court Order (copy attached) pertaining to the properties adjacent to hers and informed me that her Insurance Company has cancelled her insurance on the property at 512-14 Decatur St. and that she cannot get insurance with any other company because of the fire hazard caused by the adjacent properties.

Mrs. Heeden specifically requested that I bring this matter to the attention of the Mayor; that she complied with the City's request to improve the property at 512-14 Decatur St. and that the owners of the adjacent properties (which were in worse condition than hers) have done nothing and that she is now the victim of circumstances by damage being caused by these adjacent properties.

This is a case of long standing. Housing Code violations on these properties were reported and corrective action initialed in 1961, '63 and '64. The attached Court Order pertains to the

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following properties:

609 Memorial Drive, S.E.  
615 Memorial Drive, S. E.  
510 Decatur Street, S. E.  
516 Decatur Street, S. E.  
530 Decatur Street, S. E.

This case is making a mockery of the Housing Code and "In Rem" Ordinance of the City of Atlanta. I was personally involved in enforcement procedures against these properties, as Director of Urban Renewal, during the period of 1961-64. Subsequently, as Supervisor of Inspection Services in the Building Department, I discussed this case at length personally with Judge Whitman of the Fulton County Superior Court and with Mr. Robert H. Cleveland, receiver for the executors of the Estate of Mrs. E. C. Johnson, deceased.

I recommend that these properties be personally inspected by any one involved with this case and that the best legal talent available be utilized in an all out effort to resolve this case in behalf of the City.

Malcolm D. Jones  
Housing Coordinator

Encl: Copy of Court Order dated May 23, 1968.