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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CODE ENFORCMENT NOT MESSING AROUND

Mayor Carlo DeMaria Jr. and Code Enforcement Director Frank Nuzzo recently commended his new department, honoring their dedication to keeping Everett clean, livable, and compliant. "It's a lot of people in the city working together," says Mr. Nuzzo, "it the Code Enforcement team, along with the help of the residents and business owners advising us of areas of concern."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria initiated his directive to Code Enforcement from the first days of his administration – eliminate the illegal apartments and rooming houses, require mortgage companies to be responsible for vacant homes, ensure that all businesses and residents comply with the local ordinances, and ultimately keep the city free from blight. "We have a great team," states Mayor DeMaria, "they are all committed to keeping Everett livable and safe. They have a tough job, however the results of their effort is really starting to show."

Code Enforcement officials report 29 illegal apartments have been shut down, 12 foreclosed were boarded up, 60 foreclosed homes were fined for not being in compliance with legal use regulations. Code Enforcement monitors all foreclosed and abandoned properties in the city and maintains detailed information about each home. Enforcement inspectors monitor properties to ensure safety of the property, and maintain contact with the property managers to ensure the homes do not cause, blight on the neighborhoods.

With Certificate of Habitability permits, Code Enforcement officials inspect registered apartments in the city, ensuring all apartments meet current code requirements. The certificate assists the landlord in preventing illegal alterations to an apartment by a tenant, and ensures prospective tenants that the apartment is in compliance with city and state building codes. According to Code Enforcement officials, employing the Certificate of

Habitability requirement is a great tool in preventing the spread of illegal apartments in the city.

In the wake of the City's decision to enforce local trash ordinances Code Enforcement officials report the number of stickers purchased by residents has increased, and the number of "white goods" items abandoned on streets is continually decreasing. Code Enforcement efforts, backed by the city's ordinances, is reducing the tonnage and removal costs, saving the city much needed dollars.

"I have to thank Mayor DeMaria for his confidence in me to do the job," states Frank Nuzzo, "I also have to thank my Code Enforcement Team, Ed Sobolewski, Steve Finocchio, Louis Staffieri and Ida Cody, along with the Code Enforcement Task force Fire Inspectors Tony Carli, Sam Baral, Jeff Jenkinson, we all work very well together, and the results are really starting to show."

To further strengthen the department, the Mayor delivered legislation, under review by the City Council, to form an Inspectional Services Department (ISD.) This legislation, which will result in a home rule petition to the State House, will combine Code Enforcement, Building Department and Health Department Inspectors under a single department infrastructure. The combination will streamline communications between the three inspectional services, increasing the reaction time to prevent housing, building or health code violations.

The Mayor is confident the Inspectional Services Department will better serve the residents of the city, noting the importance of increasing enforcement efforts as well as educating the public. "At the end of the day, everything starts with enforcement" states Mayor DeMaria, "at the same time, we can educate better, start intense outreach, and offer better reporting services, so everyone can help keep the city clean."

"Right now," says Mr. Nuzzo, "we work very well with the Everett Police Department, 911 Dispatch, Everett Fire Department, Building Department City Services, Board of Health, City Solicitors Office, Recycling Dept as well as the Mayors Office, as one unified ISD Department, we'll improve our operations, response time, and communication."

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