

# Staff Summary Report



Hearing Officer Hearing Date: January 5, 2010

Agenda Item Number: 10

**SUBJECT:** Public hearing for a request by City of Tempe Code Compliance to abate public nuisance items at the **FRAWLEY RESIDENCE** located at 1103 East Palmcroft Drive.

**DOCUMENT NAME:** 20100105dsjls01

**PLANNED DEVELOPMENT (0406)**

**SUPPORTING DOCS:** Yes

**COMMENTS:** Hold a public hearing for a request by City of Tempe Code Compliance to abate public nuisance items in violation of the Tempe City Code for the **FRAWLEY RESIDENCE (PL090457/ABT09040/CE095022)** (Robert Frawley, property owner) located at 1103 East Palmcroft Drive in the R1-6, Single Family Residential District.

**PREPARED BY:** Julie Scofield, Code Compliance Inspector (480-350-8951)

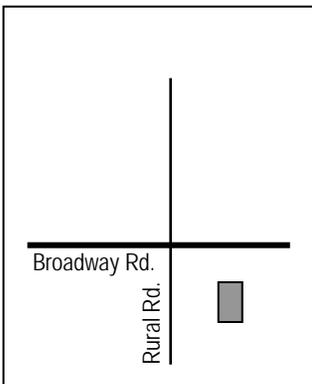
**REVIEWED BY:** Decima Sever, Development Services Liaison (480-350-8921)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Sever'.

**LEGAL REVIEW BY:** N/A

**FISCAL NOTE:** N/A

**ADDITIONAL INFO:** Code Compliance is requesting approval to abate the **FRAWLEY RESIDENCE** located at 1103 East Palmcroft Drive. The property is generally located south of Broadway Road and east of Rural Road. The details of this case represent several months of correspondence for compliance with the property owner. Staff requests the approval of abatement of the following nuisance items under Complaint CE095022: deteriorated landscaping.



**PAGES:**

1. List of Attachments
2. Comments; History & Facts

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Location Map
2. Aerial Photo
- 3-12. Neighborhood Enhancement Report

**COMMENTS:**

Code Compliance is requesting approval to abate the Frawley Residence at 1103 E. Palmcroft Drive in the R1- 6 Single Family Residential District. This case was initiated on August 31, 2009 following which Code Compliance has attempted to obtain compliance through correspondence with the property owner, Richard Frawley, regarding violations of the Tempe City Code for deteriorated landscaping.

Mr. Frawley has a significant history of violating Tempe City Code with regards to deteriorated landscaping, this being the twelfth case since 2000. Mr. Frawley has been issued eight (8) civil citations as well as one habitual offender fine, all for which he failed to pay or appear in court. In February 2008, Mr. Frawley was found guilty in criminal court for failure to maintain his landscaping. No previous abatements have been conducted, although in April 2009 the abatement process was initiated but subsequently withdrawn when the owner cleaned up the property prior to the scheduled Hearing Officer meeting.

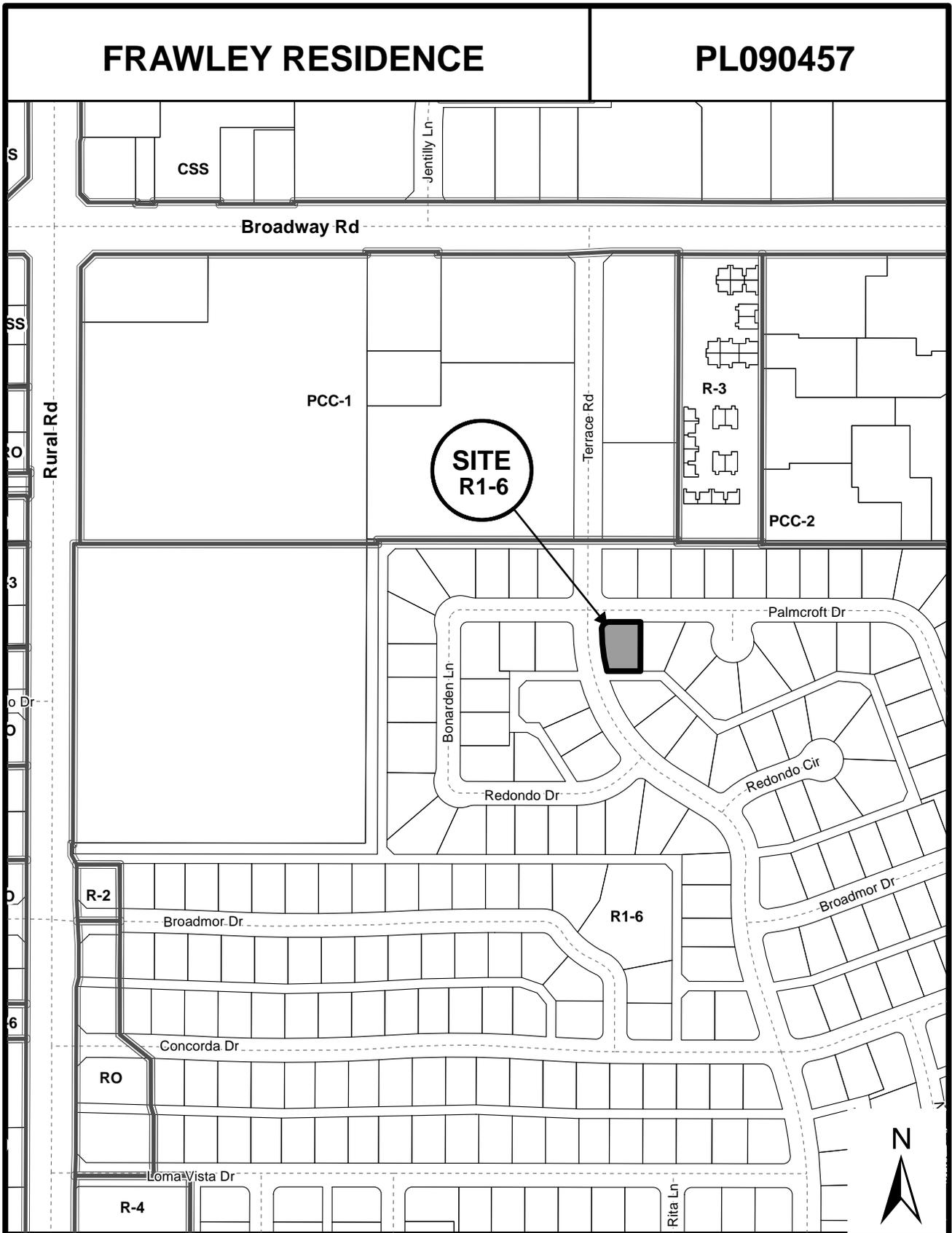
It is therefore requested that the City of Tempe Hearing Officer approve the abatement of this public nuisance in accordance with section 21-53 of the Tempe City Code. Because of the extensive history on this property, it is further requested that the Hearing Officer approve additional abatements as deemed necessary by Code Compliance for a period not to exceed one hundred and eighty (180) days from this abatement order.

**HISTORY & FACTS:**

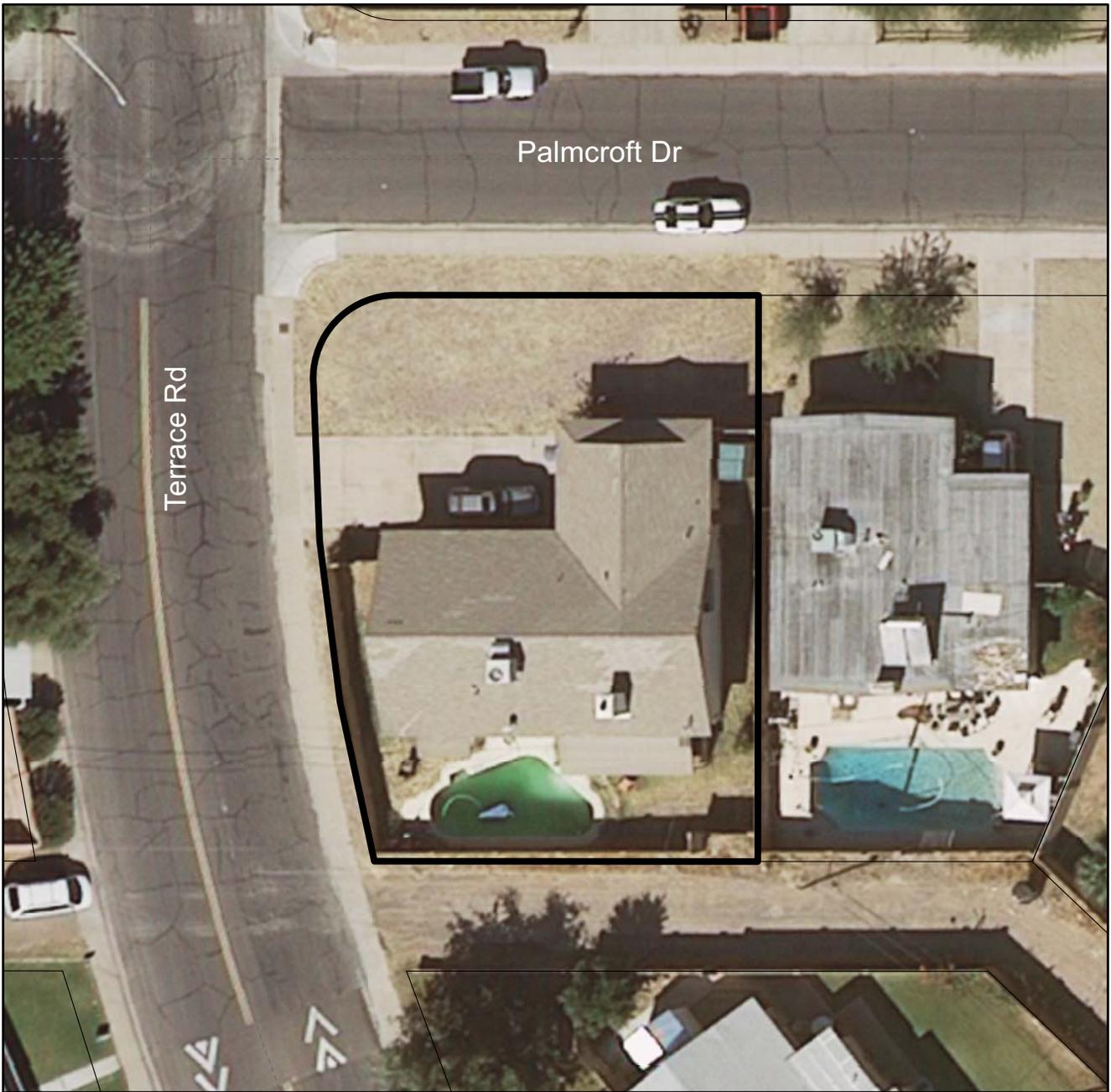
The history and facts of this case are detailed in an attached memo from the Code Compliance Inspector.

**FRAWLEY RESIDENCE**

**PL090457**



**Location Map**



**FRAWLEY RESIDENCE (PL090457)**

**DATE:** 11/30/09  
**TO:** Mike Spencer, Sr. Code Inspector  
**FROM:** Julie Scofield  
**SUBJECT:** Request to Authorize for Abatement– Reference Complaint #CE095022

---

**LOCATION:** 1103 E. Palmcroft Dr. Tempe, AZ 85282  
**LEGAL:** Book 133, Map 56, Parcel 111, as recorded with the Maricopa County Assessor  
**OWNER:** Richard Frawley  
1103 E. Palmcroft Dr.  
Tempe, AZ 85282

**FINDINGS:**

- 08/31/09 The Neighborhood Enhancement Department received a complaint on the above property for deteriorated landscaping. The property was inspected. Uncontrolled growth of grass and weeds are growing throughout the gravel landscaping in the front and side yard. A notice to comply was mailed to the property owner, Richard Frawley.
- 09/17/09 The property was re-inspected. There has been no change in the condition of the property. A final notice was mailed to the property owner.
- 09/21/09 An estimate was requested from contractor Jack Harrington for the abatement of the deteriorated landscaping.
- 09/22/09 The estimate was received for the abatement in the amount of \$1438.00. This would cover the cost of completely removing the grass/weeds and having a police officer present.
- 11/30/09 The application for the abatement was submitted.

**PROPERTY HISTORY:**

- ✓ 08/16/00 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- ✓ 07/20/01 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- ✓ 03/20/01 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- ✓ 05/07/02 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A citation was issued.
- 07/24/02 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A second citation was issued.
- 02/12/03 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- ✓ 04/02/04 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- ✓ 11/03/04 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- ✓ 01/27/05 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- ✓ 06/20/05 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.

- 07/28/05 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A citation was issued.
- 08/16/05 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A second citation was issued.
- 02/08/06 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- 03/08/06 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A citation was issued.
- 03/30/06 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A second citation was issued.
- 08/26/08 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping.
- 10/07/08 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A citation was issued.
- 03/11/09 Property was in violation for deteriorated landscaping. A second citation that included habitual offender was issued.
- 04/27/09 Application for abatement was submitted for the cleanup of the landscaping.
- 06/02/09 Abatement hearing was cancelled due to the owner cutting down the grass and weeds.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

I recommend the approval for abatement at 1103 E. Palmcroft Dr., which is owned by Mr. Richard Frawley. I would also like to ask for a rolling abatement that would allow Code Compliance to do an abatement if needed within the next 180 days. Mr. Frawley has been given ample time and opportunities to bring his property into compliance and has failed to take corrective action. Due to the history of this property, it is very clear that Mr. Frawley is unable to keep his property in compliance. There has been no indication in Mr. Frawley actions that he plans to correct and maintain his property. In the last seven (7) years, Mr. Frawley has been issued eight (8) citations in which he failed to pay or appear in court.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Scofield

ACTION TAKEN: submit  
NAME:   
DATE: 11-30-09

JACK HARRINGTON  
3831 W AVALON  
PHOENIX, AZ. 85019  
TEL: (602) 446-2630  
FAX: (602) 347-5487  
EMAIL: JACKHBOARDUPS@YAHOO.COM

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT IS FOR:

NAME: JULIE SCOFIELD

FIRM: CITY OF TEMPE CODE COMPLIANCE

DATE: 9-22-09      TIME: 9:20 A.M. \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.

**PROPOSAL**

WE PROPOSE TO DO THE FOLLOWING WORK FOR THE CITY OF TEMPE  
UNDER CONTRACT # TO8-092-02

ADDRESS: 1103 E. Palmcroft Dr.

Remove all grass and weeds from front and side yards.  
Heavy spray of pre- emergent to control future growth

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Hand pull all grass and weeds growing through gravel from front & side yard.<br>4 men 1 day 32 man hrs @ \$22./hr | \$704.00        |
| 2. Spraying of Pre Emergent for future growth.   | \$30.00         |
| 3. Police officer at property – 8 hrs @ \$50./hr   | <u>\$400.00</u> |
| Total  | \$1,438.00      |

**Note: Pre-emergent safety data sheet has been included with email.**

THANK YOU

ACCEPTANCE

JACK HARRINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_



City of Tempe  
P. O. Box 5002  
Tempe, AZ 85280  
www.tempe.gov  
(480) 350-8372  
(480) 858-2231 (fax)

Neighborhood Enhancement Department

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO ABATE PUBLIC NUISANCE

DATE: 11/30/09

TO:

**RICHARD FRAWLEY  
1103 E. PALMCROFT DR.  
TEMPE, AZ 85282**

This serves as notification of the City of Tempe's intentions regarding the abatement of code violations on the following described property:

**LEGAL: Book 133, Map 56 Parcel 111, as recorded with the Maricopa County Assessor.**

**LOCATION: 1103 E. PALMCROFT DR.  
TEMPE, AZ 85282**

**This office will submit this complaint to the Development Services Abatement Hearing Officer to be placed on the Hearing Officer agenda of 01/05/2010. We are requesting Hearing Officer Authorization to abate this public nuisance codes in accordance with Section 21-53 of the Tempe City Code by completely removing any grass and or weeds in a gravel landscaping. TCC 21-3-B-8 which prohibits landscaping that is dead, over height, damaged, uncontrolled, or presents a deteriorated or slum-like appearance.**

**As owner of the property, you have thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter to abate or correct the violation. If the violations have not been corrected within thirty days, our office will proceed with the abatement process. Upon receipt of the Hearing Officer approval to abate this public nuisance, the necessary work will be performed at the expense of the property owner. The cost of this work will be \$1438.00. In addition to the actual cost of abatement, an administrative charge of fifteen (15) percent of the actual cost of abatement or three hundred (\$300) dollars, whichever is greater, for expenses incurred by the city for abatement procedures, and the cost of recording liens and releases will be charged. The recorded lien may bear interest at the legal rate for judgments in the State of Arizona. Administrative charges and the cost of recording liens and releases shall become a lien on the property whether or not the public nuisance is abated by the City.**

**If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact our office at (480) 350-8372.**

**Code Enforcement Officer: Julie Scofield**

**Phone Number 480-350-8951**

CASE #CE095022



**City of Tempe Code Compliance Division  
Notice to Comply: Article I. Nuisances**

Mailed on Date: 9/1/09

**RICHARD FRAWLEY  
1103 E. PALMCROFT DR.  
TEMPE, AZ 85282**

This notice to comply is to inform you that on 8/31/09, the property located at 1103 E. PALMCROFT DR. was inspected and found to be in violation of the following subsection(s) of the Nuisance and Property Enhancement Ordinance, Chapter 21, Article I, of the Tempe City Code. A re-inspection will be conducted on 9/16/09 or after this date to verify compliance. If the property is brought into compliance with the code you will not be subject to citations or fines for the violation(s).

**Violation of the Tempe City Code, Chapter 21-3-b-8**

Any landscaping, visible from public property, that is substantially dead, damaged, or characterized by uncontrolled growth, or presents a deteriorated or slum-like appearance; uncultivated plants, weeds, tall grass, uncultivated shrubs or growth (whether growing or otherwise) higher than twelve (12) inches; or any dead trees, bushes, shrubs or portions thereof, including stumps; or any palm or similar type tree having dead or dry fronds descending downward from the base of the lowest living frond more than eight (8) feet or dry fronds longer than five (5) feet and closer than eight (8) feet to the ground;

**Please take the following corrective action by: 9/16/08**

Required Correction(s):

1. PLEASE COMPLETELY REMOVE ALL GRASS AND WEEDS FROM THE FRONT AND SIDES OF THE GRAVEL LANDSCAPING.

***We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. For questions or further information please contact the Code Enforcement Division at 480-350-8372. Failure to comply may result in civil citation, criminal charges or abatement of the violation.***

---

**Civil and Criminal Penalties**

Section 21-3, Enumerated Violations subsections (b) 1-8 and 17-19, Section 21-4 Enumerated Violations 1-4: 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence \$150 dollars per violation, 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence \$250 dollars per violation, 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence \$350 dollars per violation.

Section 21-3, Enumerated Violations subsections (b) 9-16: 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence \$350 dollars per violation, 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence \$650 dollars per violation, 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence \$950 dollars per violation.

Section 21-4 (B), Habitual Offender: 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence \$500 dollars + sum of other fines, 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence \$1000 dollars + sum of other fines, 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence \$1,500 dollars + sum of other fines.

The city has authority to abate the violation should the owner neglect, fail, or refuse to correct the violation within (30) days and to assess a lien against the property for cost of abatement.

The city prosecutor is authorized to file a criminal class 1 misdemeanor complaint in the Tempe Municipal Court for violations of this chapter.

**Code Inspector: JULIE SCOFIELD**

**Phone Number: 480-350-8951**

**E-mail: JULIE\_SCOFIELD@TEMPE.GOV**



**City of Tempe Code Compliance Division  
Final Notice to Comply: Article I. Nuisances**

Mailed on Date: 9/18/09

**RICHARD FRAWLEY  
1103 E. PALMCROFT DR.  
TEMPE, AZ 85282**

This notice to comply is to inform you that on 9/17/09, the property located at 1103 E. PALMCROFT DR. was inspected and found to be in violation of the following subsection(s) of the Nuisance and Property Enhancement Ordinance, Chapter 21, Article I, of the Tempe City Code. A re-inspection will be conducted on 10/2/09 or after this date to verify compliance. If the property is brought into compliance with the code you will not be subject to citations or fines for the violation(s).

**Violation of the Tempe City Code, Chapter 21-3-b-8**

Any landscaping, visible from public property, that is substantially dead, damaged, or characterized by uncontrolled growth, or presents a deteriorated or slum-like appearance; uncultivated plants, weeds, tall grass, uncultivated shrubs or growth (whether growing or otherwise) higher than twelve (12) inches; or any dead trees, bushes, shrubs or portions thereof, including stumps; or any palm or similar type tree having dead or dry fronds descending downward from the base of the lowest living frond more than eight (8) feet or dry fronds longer than five (5) feet and closer than eight (8) feet to the ground;

**Violation of the Tempe City Code, Chapter 21-4(b)**

It shall be a separate citable offense to be a habitual offender of this code.

**Habitual offender** means any person that on at least one prior occasion within a twelve (12) month period of adjudication has had:

- (1) At least one conviction, either civil or criminal, or a default judgment entered, of a violation of this chapter; or
- (2) Has had abatement action approved against any property the habitual offender owns.

**Sec. 21-43. Notice to comply.**

(d) Additional notice; notice not required. Nothing herein shall preclude the city from giving additional verbal or written notice at its discretion but it is not obligated to notify the same person as to a second (or additional) violation which has been the subject of a notice to comply within the previous twelve (12) month period. If the city does elect to give any additional notice in any instance, it shall not thereby become obligated to give such additional notice thereafter in the same or other situations. Nothing in this section shall require the issuance of a second notice to comply within twelve (12) months prior to commencement of civil or criminal violation proceedings.

(e) Notification-habitual offender. Complaints on properties owned by habitual offenders will proceed through an expedited process. The expedited process applies to any person who meets the definition of habitual offender, whether or not the person has been convicted under § 21-4(b). Habitual offenders are not entitled to a time period to cure infractions or other written or formal notice of violations. Upon discovering that a property is owned by a habitual offender, the code inspector may:

- (1) Initiate court or abatement action without providing written or formal notice to the responsible party;
- (2) Issue a formal notice of violation or civil infraction citation, including notification that the responsible party has been deemed a habitual offender; or
- (3) Initiate abatement action or criminal proceedings against the responsible party.

**Please take the following corrective action by: 10/2/09**

**Required Correction(s):**

- 1. PLEASE COMPLETELY REMOVE ALL GRASS AND WEEDS FROM THE FRONT AND SIDES OF THE GRAVEL LANDSCAPING.**

***We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. For questions or further information please contact the Code Enforcement Division at 480-350-8372. Failure to comply may result in civil citation, criminal charges or abatement of the violation.***

---

**Civil and Criminal Penalties**

Section 21-3, Enumerated Violations subsections (b) 1-8 and 17-19, Section 21-4 Enumerated Violations 1-4: 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence \$150 dollars per violation, 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence \$250 dollars per violation, 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence \$350 dollars per violation.

Section 21-3, Enumerated Violations subsections (b) 9-16: 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence \$350 dollars per violation, 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence \$650 dollars per violation, 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence \$950 dollars per violation.

Section 21-4 (B), Habitual Offender: 1<sup>st</sup> occurrence \$500 dollars + sum of other fines, 2<sup>nd</sup> occurrence \$1000 dollars + sum of other fines, 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence \$1,500 dollars + sum of other fines.

The city has authority to abate the violation should the owner neglect, fail, or refuse to correct the violation within (30) days and to assess a lien against the property for cost of abatement.

The city prosecutor is authorized to file a criminal class 1 misdemeanor complaint in the Tempe Municipal Court for violations of this chapter.

**Code Inspector: JULIE SCOFIELD**

**Phone Number: 480-350-8951**

**E-mail: JULIE\_SCOFIELD@TEMPE.GOV**





