### Code Enforcement Quarterly Report

JANUARY 2016

# FIRST QUARTER STATISTICS (OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2015)

#### Our Code Enforcement Section:

- Conducted 872 field inspections
  - Performed 673 community standards inspections
  - Performed 188 land clearance inspections
  - Performed II junk vehicle inspections
- Opened **439** code enforcement cases
- Initiated 231 proactive enforcement cases
- Responded to 208 cases due to citizen complaints
- Achieved compliance on 491 cases





### PUBLIC NUISANCE ABATEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Declared 92 Land Clearing Public Nuisances
- Ordered 14 public nuisance lots abated by county vendor
- Cited 8 violations for unsecured vacant and abandoned properties
- Opened 39 cases for inoperable and junk vehicle storage
- Issued 57 violations for open air storage of junk, trash, and debris

### PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND MINIMUM HOUSING

- Opened 11 substandard housing code cases
- Issued 58 violations for property grounds and landscaping maintenance
- Inspected 49 cases for building maintenance violations
- Registered 24 abandoned homes with assigned local property management

### CODE ENFORCEMENT GETS INCREASED VISIBILITY!

We added new decals to our code enforcement vehicles. The decals include the new district logo and "Code Enforcement" making it easier for the public to identify code enforcement patrolling Broward Municipal Services District (BMSD). Our Code Enforcement Inspectors take pride in providing service that is the "best and nothing less!"





### Case Highlights: Broward Municipal Services District



## PROHIBITED STORAGE AND COMMERCIAL USE INSPECTIONS

A use related to permitted construction projects turned into the long term use of storage containers throughout the North Unincorporated Area neighborhoods of Hillsboro Pines and Hillsboro Ranches. In response to concerned citizens' complaints, the growing trend was reversed by our Code Enforcement team that issued six notices of violation. Residents are especially satisfied with Code Enforcement achieving compliance at one location where as many as eight non-permitted storage containers were removed from the property.

### CODE TEAM SPURS NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT

Our BMSD code enforcement team joined forces with tenants and other state and local agencies to correct minimum housing code deficiencies, health and safety violations, and property maintenance in Boulevard Gardens. Unannounced code inspections and staff's diligence produced Special Magistrate orders mandating compliance. Heavily blighted properties in Broward Municipal Services District Central County are showing signs of improvements. Property owners throughout Boulevard Gardens are encouraged by the overall aesthetic enhancements. Code Enforcement was instrumental in one property owner moving forward with extensive renovations and upgrades. The conversion of this once heavily blighted property is now an example of community pride.









30<sup>TH</sup> AVE BEFORE

30<sup>TH</sup> AVE AFTER









27<sup>™</sup> AVE BEFORE

27<sup>™</sup> AVF AFTFR

### ABANDONED PROPERTY NUISANCE ABATEMENTS

Preventing the unlawful trespass and squatting in vacant and abandoned properties has become a top priority for Code Enforcement. Open and unguarded structures tend to become public nuisances and are considered a threat to the health and safety of the community. Preventing access to the interior of unguarded structures eliminates the recurring criminal activity that absorbs valuable law enforcement and code enforcement resources. Code Enforcement's strategy to obtain and enforce Special Magistrate orders authorizing Broward County to board these nuisance properties proves to be effective and beneficial to our BMSD community. Teaming with BSO, two vacant properties were boarded between October and December 2015. Residents of Boulevard Gardens and Roosevelt Gardens are especially pleased to have the threats to life and property removed by Code Enforcement.



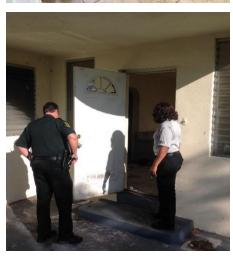


















## BULK TRASH: COORDINATED EFFORT TO EDUCATE RESIDENTS

Code Enforcement teamed with the Solid Waste and Recycling Services staff to educate BMSD residents on the safe and hazard-free guidelines for bulk trash pick-up. Improper placement of bulk trash in the swale areas create unsafe conditions: blocking access to sidewalks, obstructing fire hydrants, overflowing onto street, protruding nails or sharp objects in piles accessible to children and adults. The Solid Waste and Recycling Services staff utilizes a variety of methods to help educate residents on the proper placement of items for bulky waste collection. Non-compliant locations are referred to code enforcement. To increase awareness, code enforcement performed a sweep of the Roosevelt Gardens Neighborhood in November during one of the bulk collection periods. Multiple residents and property owners were contacted and issued notices of violation. The properties that received notice included six locations where the piles created a threat to life safety. Code Enforcement removed the threats through its public nuisance abatement process. Immediate notices of hearing were issued to two property owners and three notices were issued directly to the tenants. Code Enforcement successfully had an illegal dump removed within 24-hours. A landscaping service illegally dumped waste that blocked vehicular visibility and obstructed the view of oncoming traffic.

### FLAAKA HOTSPOT CLEANED OUT

In December, residents of Franklin Park alerted Code Enforcement about a vacant parcel that was being used as a haven for FLAAKA drug users. Code Enforcement's inspection led to the discovery a drug den hidden in a densely covered area of trees and vegetation. Several individuals fled leaving behind a mattress, chairs, crates, trash and litter. Teaming with BSO's homeless outreach program and staff from the Broward County Public Works Department, our BMSD Code Enforcement team removed this threat from the community. In addition to the clean-up, natural barriers were put into place to prevent access to the property. Additional steps are being reviewed to prevent future public nuisance violations and maintain compliance on this property.









**BEFORE** 

**AFTER** 

### CRIME REDUCTION AND PUBLIC NUISANCE PREVENTION

We responded to an increasing number of reports from BSO about serious crimes, such as aggravated battery, assaults, public disturbances, and other nuisance activities at a commercial property located on the 27th Avenue corridor. Special detail code inspections revealed that there was a large number of patrons and visitors congregating beneath inadequate lighting and without traffic control on the exterior of the property creating a serious public nuisance. Because the small business was exceeding the scope of its permitted use, overcrowding and illegal activity was occurring daily. In November, Code Enforcement obtained a judgment from the Special Magistrate that imposed monetary penalties and required the unpermitted business to be closed. Our BMSD Code Enforcement team continues to remove threats to life safety and public nuisances from our community.