

What Do I Do If I Receive a Letter?

The first letter you will receive is mailed to you as a courtesy. It is intended to merely advise you that a violation of the Kern County Ordinance Code has been alleged. Please contact the Code Compliance Division at your earliest convenience if:

1. The information in this letter is incorrect, or
2. The violation no longer exists, or
3. You don't understand any part of this letter, or
4. You just need more time to bring your property into compliance.

Once the allowable time specified on your first letter has expired, and if you have not contacted the Code Compliance Division, an officer will inspect your property to verify the allegations.

If it is determined that the violation does not exist, the case will be closed and no further action will be taken. However, if a violation is found to exist, you will be notified by a "Notice and Order." The notice and order will state specific code sections for which you are in violation.

Please contact the Code Compliance Division as soon as possible. We will be happy to discuss the information outlined in your notice with you and to go over any and all options available to you. Our first priority is to bring violations into compliance through voluntary measures.

What Tools Do We Use:

Unless an immediate threat to health and safety exists, the person responsible for code violations is given an opportunity to voluntarily comply with the law and correct the situation.

Once the deadline in the notices has expired, the owner or responsible person is subject to one or more of the remedies listed below. In addition to any fines that result from a remedy, fees are charged after the Code Compliance Officer verifies the violation allegation.

- **Recordation of a "Declaration of Substandard Property"** – This remedy is used after violations have been verified, and there is no immediate danger or special circumstances. Lenders will require that the title be cleared and the violations removed prior to funding of a loan and/or transferring of the title. There is a fee for removing the recorded Notice.
- **Abatement** – This remedy is used where the County needs to take action to abate the nuisance. In a typical case, the County Code Compliance Division will hire a private contractor to either demolish or board and secure a structure, or to clean a property of junk and debris.
- **Judicial Remedies** – These remedies are used where all other remedies are completely exhausted or not considered to have a high probability of success. The two options are criminal prosecution or civil injunction.

CODE COMPLIANCE IN THE COUNTY OF KERN



A PARTNERSHIP TO
PROMOTE HEALTH AND
SAFETY AND
MAINTAIN COMMUNITY
STANDARDS

COUNTY OF KERN
CODE COMPLIANCE DIVISION
2700 "M" STREET
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

PHONE: (661) 862-8603

Fax: (661) 862-5101

**E-Mail:
codecompliance@kerncounty.com**

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

The mission of the Code Compliance Division is to work in partnership with the people of Kern County to promote health and safety and to maintain community standards. This will be accomplished by:

1. Administering a fair and unbiased compliance program to correct violations of property conditions and land use requirement.
2. Providing a uniform, consistent yet flexible procedure to insure that all citizens of Kern County are equally represented.
3. Minimizing the necessity for legal action by allowing ample opportunity for voluntary compliance and correction.
4. Responding promptly to complaints regarding structures and/or conditions, which present a health or safety hazard to the public.

How Can I Use The System?

If you are seeking relief from conditions on a property in your community, the options available to you are:

Make contact with the responsible person. Describe your perception of the problem. Discuss how the problem affects you and possible solution.

File a complaint with the **Code Compliance Division at (661) 862-8603.**

Anonymous complaints are not processed.

What Codes Do We Enforce?

The Code Compliance Division enforces regulations related to the following:

- Conditions of an existing structure that constitute a clear and present danger to the public.

KC Dangerous Building Code Violation § 202

- Building Code violations (building, plumbing, electrical mechanical, disabled access, etc.), including construction of change of occupancy without permits.

KC Building Code Violations § 17.08.060

- California State Housing law (minimum standards for safe and sanitary housing)

KC Housing Code Violations § 1001

- Illegal dumping.

KC Solid Waste Code Violation § 8.28 080

- Residential Solid Waste

KC Housing Code Violation § 1001.2

- Liquid waste disposal.

KC Building Code Violation § 17.28.130

- Zoning requirements for structures such as use, location, configuration and size, and land use requirements.

KC Zoning Code Violation § 19.02.060

- Abandoned vehicles

KC Abandoned Vehicle Code Violation § 10.28.040

- Semi Truck Parking in Residential Areas

KC Zoning Code Violation § 19.02.060

- Occupied R.V.'s

KC Zoning Code Violation § 19.02.060

COMPLAINT FORM

(ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED)

DATE: _____

ADDRESS OF THE VIOLATION: _____

ZIP: _____

A.P.N. _____

NEAREST CROSS STREET: _____

NATURE OF THE VIOLATION: _____

REPORTING PARTY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE MAIL TO:

KERN COUNTY CODE COMPLIANCE
2700 "M" STREET
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301-2370

Or if you wish, you may call and provide this information to the Code Compliance Division at (661) 862-8603