



200608180110

Skagit County Auditor

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**PETER BROWNING**, DIRECTOR  
**HOWARD LEIBRAND, M.D.**, HEALTH OFFICER

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336-9401

**Certified Mail Number 7003 2260 0007 0991 6480**

August 17, 2006

Elsie Martin  
C/O Shuksan Healthcare Center  
1530 James Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225

RE: Property located at 1716 K Avenue, Anacortes, Washington  
Skagit County Parcel #, Tax ID : P55815

**Legal Description:** ANACORTES LOTS 18 19 AND 20 BLOCK 126 MAP OF THE CITY OF ANACORTES AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN VOLUME 2 OF PLATS PAGE 4 RECORDS OF SKAGIT COUNTY TOGETHER WITH THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE VACATED ALLEY IN BLOCK 126 ABUTTING SAID LOTS LYING BETWEEN THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 18 AND THE EAST LINE OF LOT 20 EXTENDING TO THE CENTERLINE OF SAID ALLEY ALSO TOGETHER WITH THE NORTH 1/2 OF VACATED 18TH STREET ADJACENT TO SAID LOTS 18 19 AND 20 EXCEPT THOSE TWO PORTIONS CONVEYED TO THE ANACORTES SCHOOL DISTRICT DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: 1. THAT PORTION OF VACATED 18TH STREET WHICH BY OPERATION OF LAW REVERTED TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PORTION OF BLOCK 126 MAP OF THE CITY OF ANACORTES: BEGINNING AT A POINT 76.7 FEET WEST OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 20 ALONG THE SOUTH PROPERTY LINE OF LOTS 20 19 AND 18 THENCE NORTHWEST FOR 18.8 FEET TO A POINT 13.3 FEET NORTH FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 18 ON THE WEST PROPERTY LINE OF SAID LOT 18 THENCE SOUTH 13.3 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 18 THENCE EAST 13.3 FEET ALONG SOUTH PROPERTY LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; 2. COMMENCING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT 18 BLOCK 126 AT A POINT 76.7 FEET WEST OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF BLOCK 126 THENCE SOUTH PARALLEL TO THE SOUTHERLY EXTENSION OF THE WEST LINE OF LOT 18 FOR 16 FEET TO A POINT 24 FEET NORTH OF THE CENTERLINE OF VACATED 18TH STREET THE TRUE

POINT OF BEGINNING THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH ON A LINE PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTHERLY EXTENSION OF THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 18 FOR 24 FEET TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE CENTERLINE OF VACATED 18TH STREET THENCE EASTERLY ALONG SAID CENTERLINE FOR 24 FEET THENCE NORTHWESTERLY TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING

**Order Prohibiting Use Per WAC 246-205-560**

Dear Ms. Martin:

On August 7, 2006 the Skagit County Public Health Department performed an inspection and obtained surface swab samples from the above referenced property at 1716 K Avenue in Anacortes at the request of the Anacortes Police Department. Surface swabs were obtained from three locations in the house and analyzed at a certified laboratory for the presence of methamphetamine. Methamphetamine was detected in all three swabs significantly above the Washington State Clean Up standard for methamphetamine of 0.10 ug/100 square centimeters. Results were 4.19, 36.2, and 111 ug/100 square centimeters. The Anacortes Police Department reported that multiple propane style tanks were found in the yard on the property and at least one tank appeared and tested as having probable anhydrous ammonia. Due to the findings methamphetamine from surface swabs over the state clean up level and the finding of a precursor chemical for methamphetamine production, contamination on the property presents a potential immediate or long-term health hazard. The property at the above address is therefore designated unfit for use as of August 16, 2006.

**Use of all or portions of the property at the above address above is prohibited.**

**Penalties for Noncompliance:**

Noncompliance with this order can result in civil penalties levied against responsible parties by the Skagit County Public Health Department and any other legal action necessary to ensure compliance.

**Potential Health Risks:**

Potential immediate health hazards from exposure to the hazardous substances found on the property and pre-cursor chemicals to methamphetamine include shortness of breath, cough, chest pain, dizziness, lack of coordination, chemical irritation and burns to the skin, eyes, mouth, and nose, and in severe cases, even death. Less severe immediate health hazards from an exposure may include headache, nausea, dizziness, and fatigue or lethargy.

Potential long-term health hazards include cancer, damage to the brain, liver, and kidneys, birth defects, and reproductive problems (such as miscarriages).

**Skagit County Health Department's Intended Course of Action:**

The Skagit County Health Department is required to notify all interested parties of the methamphetamine contamination found and that the property will require decontamination and follow up sampling or removal of the structure. Decontamination can include but is not limited to removal and destruction of all appliances, carpeting, heating structures, ventilation fans, all removable items within the structure. The property cannot be inhabited or rented until it is either properly decontaminated and released by the Skagit County Health Department as fit for reuse, or demolished and properly disposed.



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The property listed above was designated unfit for use by the Skagit County Health Department on August 16, 2006 per WAC 246-205-530, 540. The Skagit County Health Department will submit a contaminated property report to the Washington State Department of Health as per WAC 246-205-550.

The Skagit County Health Department shall:

- File a copy of this Order Prohibiting Use with the Skagit County Auditor
- Provide a copy of the Order Prohibiting Use to the City of Anacortes Building Department
- Provide a copy of the Order Prohibiting Use to the City of Anacortes Police Department
- Provide a copy of the Order Prohibiting Use to the Skagit County Inter-local Drug Task Force

This Order Prohibiting Use will be served, either personally or by certified mail, return receipt requested, to all known:

- Occupants
- Persons having an interest in the property as shown upon the records of the Skagit County Auditor's office.

A copy of this Order Prohibiting Use will be mailed to each person or party having a recorded right, title, estate, lien, or interest in the property.

**Decontamination Measures (per WAC 246-205-570, 580):**

Contamination reduction is required to be supervised by an authorized contractor.

Before starting contamination reduction, the property owner is required to have a written work plan to reduce contamination of the property prepared by the contractor and approved by the Skagit County Public Health Department.

The work plan shall outline the contamination reduction and waste disposal procedures the contractor intends to use. The property owner and the contractor shall follow the Washington State Department of Health contamination reduction guidelines or other more stringent procedures as deemed appropriate by the Skagit County Public Health Department.

The property owner is:

- Responsible for submitting a timeline for remediation to the Skagit County Public Health Department that meets Health Department approval;
- Financially responsible for any property testing required to demonstrate the presence or absence of hazardous chemicals;
- Financially responsible for the property's contamination reduction and disposal expenses;
- Responsible for keeping records documenting contamination reduction procedures and submitting notarized copies of all records to the Skagit County Public Health Department;
- Responsible for requesting the Skagit County Health Department to review the decontamination reduction records and release the property for use.



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Within ten working days of a request for review of contamination reduction records, the Skagit County Public Health Department:

- Shall review the documentation to verify reduction of contamination to acceptable levels for reuse as stated in WAC 246-205.
- May visit the property site to assess the thoroughness of the contractor's cleanup;
- May require the property owner to provide more extensive testing and assessment of the property site by an independent laboratory or firm qualified to perform such testing and assessment.

If, after review of the information in the preceding paragraph, the Skagit County Public Health Department determines the property had been decontaminated, the Skagit County Public Health Department shall within ten working days:

- Record a notice in the real property records of the Skagit County Auditor indicating that to the best of their knowledge, the basis upon which the property was originally declared unfit for use has been addressed by decontamination in accordance with Board of Health and Washington State Department of Health rules and guidelines.
- Send a copy of the notice to the property owner.
- Send a copy of the notice to the Washington State Department of Health.
- Send a copy of the notice to the City of Anacortes Building Department

#### Hearing

Be advised that:

- A hearing before the Skagit County Public Health Department Health Officer shall be held upon the request of a person notified of this order as required under WAC 246-205-560;
- The Person's request for a hearing shall be made within ten days of the serving of this order
- The hearing shall then be held within not less than 20 days or more than 30 days after the serving of this order;
- In any hearing concerning whether property may be released for reuse, the property owner has the burden of showing that the property has been decontaminated in accordance with RCW 64.44 and WAC 246-205.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact the Skagit County Public Health Department.

Sincerely,

*Matt Kaufman*

Matt Kaufman  
Environmental Health Specialist

cc: Washing State Department of Health  
Skagit County Auditor  
City of Anacortes Building Department  
City of Anacortes Police Department  
Skagit County Inter-local Drug Task Force



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