
KITSAP NUISANCE ABATEMENT TEAM (KNAT)
M e m o r a n d u m of Understanding



To: Kitsap County Department of Community Development, Kitsap County Health District, Kitsap County Sheriff, West Sound Narcotics Enforcement Team, Kitsap Humane Society, Washington State Patrol, City of Bremerton, Port Orchard, Shelton
From: Stephen Mount, Department of Community Development
Subject: Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Public Nuisance Properties
Date: July 15, 2004

This is a Memorandum of Understanding outlining a proposed joint working agreement between participating agencies to use all applicable regulations and compliance mechanisms to effectively abate violations associated with chronic public nuisance properties in Kitsap County. A property is considered a public nuisance when found to be doing an act, omitting to perform any act or duty, or permitting or allowing any act or omission, which significantly affects, injures, or endangers the comfort, repose, health or safety of others, is unreasonably offensive to the senses, or is repeatedly in violation of applicable codes and laws, and where usual means of compliance has not been effective.

Kitsap County Department of Community Development

- Take in complaints and respond to violations of Kitsap County code.
- Identify and prioritizing chronic public nuisance properties.
- Coordinate and assist with joint site visits, collect and disseminate information to other departments and the public.
- Request to secure voluntary correction
- Schedule and prepare staff report for abatement hearings
- Coordinate abatement proceedings
- Condemnations and dangerous buildings

Washington State Patrol

- Stolen vehicle identification
- Wrecking yard inspection

Kitsap County Sheriff's Office

- Take in complaints and respond to violations, criminal and civil
- Background reporting, identification and alerts
- VIN inspection
- Standby to keep the peace

Kitsap County Health District

- Sanitation and environmental health violations
- Solid and hazardous waste violations
- Contaminated properties identification

West Sound Narcotics Enforcement Team

- Narcotics and drug lab response
- Background reporting, identification and alerts

Kitsap Humane Society

- Animal control and welfare

City of Bremerton, Port Orchard, Shelton

- Coordinate on sites abutting or crossing jurisdictions
- Cooperate and share information on codes, application, processes, experience and information

Labor and Industries

- Electrical inspection and safety

Department of Navy

- Coordinate site visit abutting Federal property

(Others??)

The goal of the Kitsap Nuisance Abatement Team, (KNAT):

- To establish an entity that can provide a unified response to a variety of related complaints related to public nuisances.
- Identify, prioritize and reduce the number of nuisance properties more effectively.
- Utilize staff time a resources more efficiently.
- Reduce the number of contacts, revisits and repeat inspections for violations.

By entering into this agreement, the agencies agree to a cooperative participation with each other, to designate a staff member as a point of contact for their respective department, and provide the support and assistance as identified by their role.