

January 18, 2017

Dear Portland City Council,

**RE: Engrained Cultural Systemic Entrenchment**

The words Engrained Cultural Systemic Entrenchment are not my words but those of City of Portland employees who know the system.

As background, I believe in building codes, community ordinances and have every wish to do to do the right thing. My property is one of the best kept properties in my community and have always taken great pride of ownership. A quick background is that my home was reviewed during some permits in about 2002 by City of Portland planning and design to be in fact a duplex. About 2 years ago a tenant used the complaint system after vacating to fake a smoke detector violation to get out of paying for some damage and back rent. This is a topic of its own but not why I am before you. As a result, Ed Marihart, in charge at the time, against the urging if the inspector, reversed the determination from back in 2002 and put my home into a violation status as an illegal duplex. A few months later at a landlord training course, Ed Marihart said and I quote "we actually have more power then the police do". It is systemic that the enforcement branch is more powerful then the planning and design branch with clear intimidation from one branch to the other. It is fair to say that there is power that perhaps goes beyond the police since my fines are now almost \$20,000 risking me loosing my home. No due process and no available system of constructive solution oriented focus. We are a great City which I love. The stress and criminal feelings are significant for an individual like myself who does not even have a traffic ticket on record.

More recently Mike Liefeld has looked this over and stated he is not worried about the fines but they can only go away after I start over with the permit process resulting in no flexibility for past over current codes. Mike Liefeld has also been kind enough to investigate and figure out that in 2002 the city relied on county records which it no longer relies on resulting in my situation. This is compounded by missing records on my home and a refusal to admit the obvious.

There are so many well intentioned, nice and helpful people in the City and working for the City who have tried to help but limited by there specialty. I have learned that my situation is not unique, a large reason why I am here and perhaps sealing my own fate by taking on power. Some people in my situation may have legitimately violated some ordinances and clearly there are needs for enforcement measures. Even in these situations, the City of Portland needs to put power and perhaps the abuse of power aside and work diligently towards constructive and meaningful solutions.

Please. I ask you, lets have pride in doing what is fair and right for a livable city and especially for a citizen. Please offer a point person to facilitate solutions is who is not intimidated by the divide in engrained cultural cultural systemic entrenchment of power.

Brainard Brauer  
3215 SE 13<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Portland, OR 97202  
(971) 506-1030

**PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION REQUEST  
Wednesday Council Meeting 9:30 AM**

Council Meeting Date: ~~2-1-17~~<sup>nd</sup> 1/18/2017

Today's Date 12-29-16

Name Bretnard Brauer


Address 3215 SE 13<sup>th</sup> Ave, Portland, OR 97202

Telephone 503-238-1414 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for the request:

~~COMMUNICATION~~

ENGRAINED CULTURAL SYSTEMIC  
ENTRENCHMENT

  
(signed)

- Give your request in writing to the Council Clerk's office to schedule a date for your Communication. Use this form or email the information to the Council Clerk at the email address below.
- You will be placed on the Wednesday official Council Agenda as a "Communication." Communications are the first item on the Agenda and are taken at 9:30 a.m. A total of five Communications may be scheduled. Individuals must schedule their own Communication.
- You will have 3 minutes to speak and may also submit written testimony before or at the meeting. Communications allow the Council to hear issues that interest our citizens, but do not allow an opportunity for dialogue.

***Thank you for being an active participant in your City government.***

**Contact Information:**

Karla Moore-Love, City Council Clerk  
1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 130  
Portland, OR 97204-1900  
(503) 823-4086  
email:  
[Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov)

Sue Parsons, Assistant Council Clerk  
1221 SW 4th Ave., Room 130  
Portland, OR 97204-1900  
(503) 823-4085  
email:  
[Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov)

Request of Brainard Brauer to address Council regarding engrained cultural systemic entrenchment (Communication)

JAN 18 2017

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JAN 10 2017

**MARY HULL CABALLERO**  
Auditor of the City of Portland

By *Susan Parsons*  
Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		