Who are Code Enforcement Officers?

- *Professionals*
- *Communicators*
- *Educators*
- *Mediators*
- *Community Advocates*
- *Public Servants and Officials*
- *Zoning Inspectors*
- *Housing Inspectors*
- *Problem Solvers*

10 Most Common Code Violations:

Garbage/Debris

Tall Grass and Weeds

Property Maintenance

Building without a permit

Animal Violations

Zoning/Use Violations

Vehicle Violations

Recreational Vehicle/Trailer Parking

Sign Violations

Right of Way Obstructions

Village of Montgomery

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Village of Montgomery

The Importance of Code Enforcement

The Illinois Association of Code Enforcement (IACE)

Code Enforcement Officers play a vital role in communities:

Perhaps, the most visible role of Code Enforcement Officers in in the "Battle of the Blight". How effectively Code Enforcement Officers perform their jobs can have a major impact on the property values and image of the community. Code Enforcement Officers support and enhance quality of life, while working to keep aging buildings, homes and properties from becoming "eyesores". Every community faces struggles with vacant buildings, trash, tall grass and weeds, graffiti, and inoperable vehicles.

Safety is one of the primary ways that Code Enforcement Officers impact communities. Municipalities adopt ordinances, rules and regulations that take into consideration the safety and well-being of the public. Enforcement of these ordinances can be essential to the provision of safe and healthy living and working conditions for the members of the community. Code Enforcement Officers are also called upon to provide input based on their valuable experiences to help legislative bodies develop ordinances and codes.

Code Enforcement Officers in the U.S. have seen significant transition and expansion in their roles with the current economic challenges in our country.

▪ The recent financial and housing crisis has made Code Enforcement Officers even more necessary and essential to communities. As the rates of foreclosed and vacant properties continues to soar, Code Enforcement Officers find their roles have expanded as they often spend substantial amounts of time addressing property maintenance and housing code violations at these affected properties.

▪ The growth of the aging population and an increased awareness has brought other issues to the forefront , such as Elder Abuse, Self-Neglect, and Hoarding. Code Enforcement Officers are often part of the problem-solving teams and/or task forces which address these issues.

▪ Training , Certification, and Professionalism is more important for Code Enforcement Officers than ever before. It is not uncommon for Code Enforcement interaction to be a resident's first association with the municipality.

Code Enforcement Officers are highly-visible in communities:

Code Enforcement Officers regularly interact with:

• **Various County and State agencies**, such as health departments, child and family services, and highway departments.

• **Various City Departments**, such as Fire Police, Building, Planning and Zoning, Legal, and often Legislative Body, Board, and Commission members

• **Various Community Members and Resources**, such as senior services organizations, economic development commissions, mortgage companies, businesses, neighborhood watch groups, and residents.

The professionalism and approach of the Code Enforcement Officer has the potential to shape community notion of local government and municipal experience. Building relationships and knowledge of the community is so integral to a proactive and professional code enforcement approach.