



Understanding Professional Roles

Professional Role

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Role Function

Code enforcement is a process whereby local governments use various techniques to gain compliance with duly-adopted regulations such as land use and zoning ordinances, health and housing codes, sign standards, and uniform building and fire codes. Enforcement applies these laws to specific properties, either by using warnings and notices to persuade voluntary compliance or by filing court actions. Involves local enforcement officials in the job of ensuring compliance with policies, codes, rules, regulations, and permits in a proper, timely fashion within the limits of the law.

Abilities

- Enforces ordinances by acting on received complaints, researching the issues and communicating with the involved parties thereby bringing closure to concerns or violations.
- Monitors and enforces a variety of applicable ordinances, codes, and regulations.
- Serves as a resource on city regulations to property owners, residents, businesses, the general public, and other city departments and divisions.
- Provides information on city regulations to property owners, residents, businesses, the general public, and other city departments and divisions.
- Authority to cleanup a property without the consent of the property owner ***IF*** it poses risks to the individual and community, based on certain municipal ordinances.

Limitations

- Code officials are not there for law enforcement or search and seizure purposes.
- Code Enforcement does not have the authority to enter a home in the absence of a clear danger being observed.
- Laws restrict government personnel from performing inspections of private property unless granted permission by the property owner.
- Resident has right to refuse or deny entry.