

May 10th 2011

Mayor

The Ann Arbor city council members
100 North Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107-8647

CITY OF ANN ARBOR
CITY CLERK
REC'D
2011 MAY 17 PM 4:17

Subject: Expensive rental house inspection fees

Dear Mayor and the Ann Arbor city council members.

I have run the rental house on the 535 Packard st, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.
The 1st inspection took 15 minutes and the city charged \$332 for the 1st inspection.
The reinspection took 5 minutes and the city sent a bill of \$264 for the reinspection.
These charge rates are the most expensive rate in the world.
I do not believe that the inspector's skill requirement is equivalent to medical doctor's or plumber's skill requirement.
The medical doctor used to charge about \$150 for one visit and the plumber charges about \$100 for one hour service.
I sent the correction report for the first inspection to the inspector in the following week of the first inspection in order to preventing from reinspection vist.
Four months later the city inspector conducted the reinspection and charged \$264.
Annually I have paid \$8,000 to 9,000 of the property tax which is half of the annual rental income.
I would appreciate it if the city reevaluates the rental house inspection charge rate or any other cost effective way for inspection(outsourcing).

Sincerely
Ben Lee 
535 Packard st. Ann Arbor , MI 48104

Attachment: inspection report and the correction report

The following code violations have been cited during this inspection.

Cellar(not habitable: open ceiling joists)

- Requested 9/15/10
Provided to Sylvester 9/15/10*
1. Obtain final inspection approval for plumbing permit PLUM10-1111 for the water heater replacement by the reinspection date 8:518
 2. Provide report for serving of furnace by a licensed mechanical contractor. 8:506

First floor

#1

cleaned 9/3/10 Clean kitchen exhaust fan and restore to operable condition.8:502

#2

- Corrected 9/3/10*
1. Secure toilet to floor. 8:507
 2. Repair kitchen fire door to self close and latch; tighten hinges.8:504
 3. Clean kitchen exhaust fan. 8:502

Second floor

#3

- Corrected 9/3/10*
1. Repair smoke alarm. 8:527
 2. Repair exterior light fixture to operate. 8:502
 3. Clean kitchen exhaust fan. 8:502

#4

- Corrected 9/3/10*
1. Install an operable smoke alarm. 8:527
 2. Clean kitchen exhaust fan. 8:502.

Inspector: Nancy Sylvester

~~9/15~~/2010

9/02/