

Public Safety Committee
c/o City Clerk
200 North Spring Street
Rm 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: APN: 5430015005 (3834 Clayton Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027)

Dear Members of the Public Safety Committee:

Enclosed please find additional evidence in support of my continuing appeal of the Board of Fire Commissioners' proposed decision in connection with with the above referenced property.

Following please find a brief summary of the history and new evidence for your consideration:

-I moved to Los Angeles from Atlanta GA in the fall of 2017, closed on the Clayton Ave property in late September, and moved in on October 2, 2017. I was unfamiliar with any fire hazard laws or requirements and was given no information from prior owners or otherwise. When I noticed on or about late November or early December that the bamboo had been removed from my backyard, I was completely puzzled as to how or why it happened. I truly believed that it was an intentional and attractive bamboo garden in the back of my house, and was concerned that perhaps a neighbor had taken it upon themselves to clear it for their view. It was only upon receiving the bills for the \$432 and \$6,104 fines that I became aware of the fire hazard laws and what had occurred.

-The 2 notices sent by mail on October 7 and October 31 were addressed to the prior owner of my home, Elizabeth Simmons. Both notices were automatically forwarded by the post office to Ms. Simmons' forwarding address, and were never received at my address. The prior evidence provided confirmation from Ms. Simmons that she did in fact receive the first notice at her new address. I am submitting additional evidence from a USPS branch manager indicating that mail forwarding continues for a period of one year. As such, it makes perfect sense that Ms. Simmons' mail forwarding service would have continued well beyond the date of the second notice (which was only 1 month after her move), such that she also would have received the second notice at her new address.

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-Upon review of the photograph of the red tag posting that was submitted into evidence, it is clear why I never observed it, as it was placed at the bottom of a steep cliff, on the street behind my house (Mayview Drive). The location is not accessible from the back of the house, and it is not visible from the front of the house on Clayton Ave, or from anywhere in or around the house. The only way it would have been seen is if I had walked several minutes down Clayton Avenue, turned right onto Mayview Drive, and walked down the hill and observed the tag. That is not a route I walk or drive, and the tag was never seen. I've enclosed the following photographs as evidence for your consideration:

1. Photo of hillside/cliff behind house, taken from Mayview Drive, depicting the steepness relative to back of house. I've noted on this photo approximately where the red tag was placed (based on the prior photographic evidence of the tag/posting, which I'm also re-submitting for ease of reference)
2. Photo from back balcony of house, showing that you can not see the bottom of the hill on Mayview Drive, and the view would have been further obstructed with the bamboo growth that was at the time an unknown violation/fire hazard.
3. Photo of front of house, where a posting could easily have been provided on the front fence/gate, providing clear notice.
4. Map showing route/distance I would have had to walk to view the red tag on Mayview Drive.

I am a law-abiding, responsible member of the community, and would absolutely have addressed the hazard had I been aware. I've since had the property cleared again (for approximately \$600, a fraction of what was contracted), and now have a monthly service to maintain the property.

I regret that I did not receive the notices, and that the prior owner did not notify me directly that they received the notices, but I hope you will understand and appreciate that I was unaware of the requirements and did not receive reasonable notice by mail or posting.

Thank you again for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dominic Corsello

CORSELLO

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE for 2017 BRUSH CLEARANCE

EXISTING EVIDENCE FOR REFERENCE

1. Tag shown on back of lot



CORSELLO

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE for 2017 BRUSH CLEARANCE

NEW EVIDENCE

2. Back of house depicting steepness



CORSELLO

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE for 2017 BRUSH CLEARANCE

3. Photo from back balcony of house towards Mayview



CORSELLO

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE for 2017 BRUSH CLEARANCE

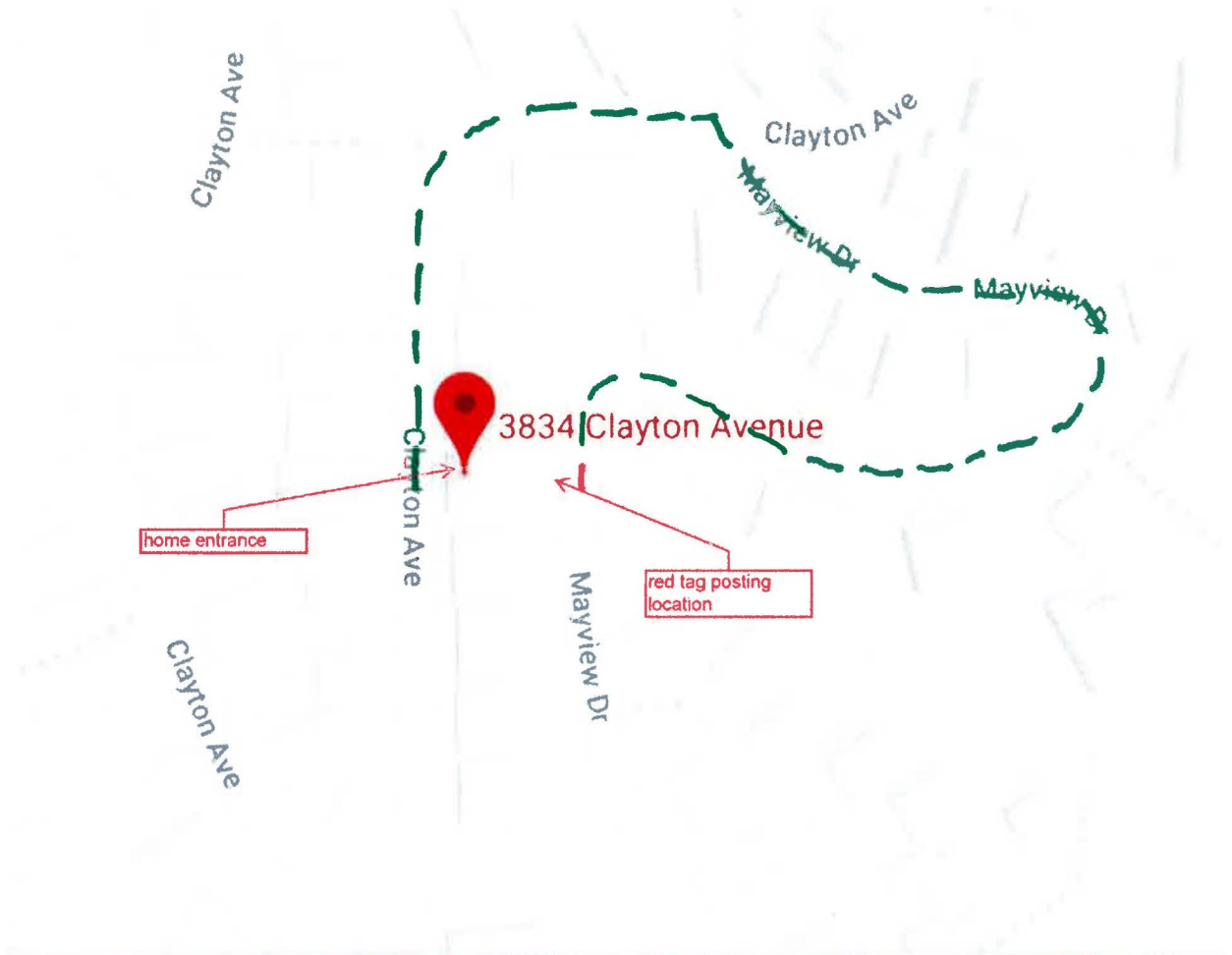
4. Photo of front of house



CORSELLO

NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANCE for 2017 BRUSH CLEARANCE

5. Map of area showing route distance from house to posting site:



6. USPS Branch Manager Q&A:

[Mail Forwarding](#) [Mail Delivery](#) [U.S. Postal Service](#)

How long will USPS forward my mail?

Ad by Opendoor

How much has your home value gone up in Atlanta?

Find out now with a free home estimate online. Sell to Opendoor in days and skip the hassle of listing.

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5 Answers



Amy Brame, Branch Supervisor at U.S. Postal Service (1998-present)

Answered Jan 16 2018

The post office will forward your mail for 12 months. After the year is over, your new address will be placed on your mail and for 6 months it will return to the sender with the new address. So 18 months total.

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