



MEDIA RELEASE
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Neighborhood Law Corps Settles Nuisance Case in East Oakland

(Oakland, CA) – Today the Neighborhood Law Corps announced the settlement of a nuisance abatement case with an historically recalcitrant property owner and convenience store operator in East Oakland. Adel Ali, owner of the East Bay Market, had been approached by city officials, Oakland police and Alameda County health officials for the past four years to address public nuisance, safety and health concerns with his business at 8432 International Blvd and had consistently ignored or blatantly disregarded the notices and complaints.

From April 1999 to September 2004 the East Bay Market was issued citations for selling alcohol to minors, littering, loitering, drug dealing, unlicensed selling of cooked food and staying open past the time allowed for the conditions of approval of business operation. Residents living near the store contacted the Neighborhood Law Corps to get help to stop the loitering and ensure the convenience store would close at an appropriate time.

“In spite of the numerous nuisance notices, complaints and visits by officials to the store over the years, Mr. Ali did little to nothing to address the ongoing violations,” said Neighborhood Law Corps attorney, Portia Glassman. “His historical lack of compliance and his blatant disregard for the law made his business a threat to the health and safety of customers and surrounding residents.”

The settlement with the City of Oakland requires Mr. Ali to pay \$5,000 in attorney’s fees and forces him to relinquish day-to-day operations of the store in addition to other terms.

BACKGROUND

The Neighborhood Law Corps is a unique, innovative community lawyering program created by Oakland City Attorney John Russo. Designed to be proactive, neighborhood-based, and community-directed, the Neighborhood Law Corps brings resources and remedies into the community to address and solve problems early on before they become embedded, long-term issues.