

June 18, 2007 For Immediate Release

JEFFERSON PARISH IDENTIFYING ABANDONED, NEGLECTED PROPERTIES FOR DEMOLITION

On June 15th the Jefferson Parish Department of Inspection and Code Enforcement began posting notices on three hundred seventy (370) properties throughout the parish that have been identified as vacant, dangerous to public safety and welfare and completely neglected.

The list of abandoned and neglected properties will then be turned over to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for demolition. These include buildings that have not been issued a parish permit for repairs and those that have no construction materials or workers at the site and are vacant.

Once the Corps of Engineers receives the demolition list from the parish, it will inspect the properties to determine which ones qualify for its demolition program. Those that qualify will then be scheduled for demolition at no charge to the parish or the property owner. Therefore, there will be no liens placed on the properties for the cost of demolition.

Any properties that the Corps deems as not eligible for demolition will immediately be turned over to the parish's consultants that handles the blighted housing program. The consultants will then identify the property owners, cite them and pursue the case through the court system to compel the property owner to rehabilitate the property or demolish it.

The Parish Attorney is sending letters to property owners that can be identified to let them know the buildings are scheduled for demolition. The parish will also be running newspaper ads for two consecutive weeks as notice to the property owners of the planned demolitions. For more information contact Jeff Charlet with Jefferson Parish Department of Inspection and Code Enforcement at 736-6950.