FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 4, 2013
Contact: Rosemary Bosque, 415/558-6202 or William Strawn, 415/558-6250

Building Department Code Enforcement Fees against slowly responding 308 Turk Property Owner Grow 74% since January to nearly $38,000

The San Francisco Department of Building Inspection today announced that total code violation fees owed to the City by the owner of 308 Turk Street continue to accrue due to non-payment, and have increased to nearly $38,000 since January 2013, when the cost assessments were just under $10,000 – making this one of the highest cost assessment cases in DBI history.

There are more than 200 Housing Code violations, 38 Notices of Violation, and 19 Directors’ Hearings tied to the property owner’s failure to act immediately to bring these code violations into compliance -- including heat and severe water damage.

"We continue to urge this property owner to comply with standards clearly established in the San Francisco Housing and Building Codes," Acting DBI Director and Certified Building Official Tom Hui said. "We’ve issued more than $37,000 in code violation assessments for heat and other life safety violations and for more than 200 total violations of plumbing, electrical and other housing codes in this case."

"Basic living standards are human rights," said Supervisor Jane Kim, whose district includes this address, "whether you live in the Sunset or the Tenderloin. I support DBI’s ongoing code enforcement actions 100 percent, and urge this property owner to act immediately on behalf of his tenants and the law, and to pay these code enforcement assessments."

Atique Rehman, the owner of the 20-unit property in the heart of San Francisco’s Tenderloin district, owes to date $37,683 for subjecting residents to substandard living conditions such as lack of heat, structural leaks, black mold, wall and ceiling damage, deficient floors, doors, sinks, showers, stoves, sinks, toilets, electrical receptacles, and smoke alarms.

The department also has applied 25 Orders of Abatement against the title of property, as well as referred the cases to the City Attorney for additional code enforcement action.

In recent months, the City successfully compelled the correction of 400 Housing Code violations at 245 Leavenworth, also in the Tenderloin and in Supervisor Kim’s district.

Please see this link:

###