



Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development
Building Inspection Division

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DATE: February 23, 2012
TO: Plan Commission
FROM: George C. Hank, Director
Building Inspection Division
SUBJECT: 214 S Marquette Street

On September 21, 2010, the two unit residential building located at 214 S Marquette Street suffered significant structural damage as a result of an explosion that occurred when chemicals used to resurface a bathtub ignited. The explosion blew out windows and pushed the exterior walls off the foundation by up to 2.75 inches. The explosion also caused the second level floor system to separate from the supporting members by up to 2.5 inches. Utilities including water have been shut off since the explosion.

Temporary repairs were required to stabilize the structure before a thorough investigation could take place. The investigation required the removal of most of the plaster from the exterior walls and ceilings.

The building has been vacant since the explosion and as with any vacant structure, the building has an increased potential as a public nuisance. This is exasperated by the fact that the repairs done to stabilize the building draw attention to the fact that the building has been severely damaged and likely to be vacant.

The age, condition and location of the building makes repair financially impractical. I am writing to urge support for the issuance of the Demolition Permit under Madison General Ordinance 28.12(12)(c)2.