



Cooper Charter Township

1590 West D Avenue
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009-6321
(269) 382-0223

August 2017

Re: Failure to Obtain Permits

Dear Local Contractor:

Cooper Charter Township values its relationship with the building contractors working within the Township. Cooper Township chose to enforce the State Construction Code by establishing the Southwest Michigan Building Authority (“SMBA”) to administer and enforce the Construction Code. However, the Township continues to have a few contractors who regularly fail to obtain permits prior to beginning work. This practice hampers effective code enforcement and reflects poorly on the buildings and trades industry.

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that all contractors found to have commenced any building, plumbing, electrical or mechanical work without a permit will be cited for a violation of the Township’s State Construction Code Ordinance No. 221. The fines and costs which will be imposed for such violations are set forth in Section VI of the Ordinance as follows:

“Sec. VI. Violation of ordinance; sanctions.

Any violation of this Ordinance, 1972 PA 230, as amended, or the aforementioned code being administered or enforced hereunder or any part of the same shall be deemed to be a municipal civil infraction as defined by Michigan statute which shall be punishable by a civil fine determined in accordance with the following schedule:

	Minimum Fine	Maximum Fine
1 st Offense within 5-year period*	\$ 75.00	\$500.00
2 nd Offense within 5-year period*	\$150.00	\$500.00
3 rd Offense within 5-year period*	\$325.00	\$500.00
4 th Offense within 5-year period*	\$500.00	\$500.00

* Determined on the basis of the date of commission of the offense(s).

Additionally, the violator shall pay costs which may include all expenses, direct and indirect, to which the Township has been put in connection with the municipal civil infraction. In no case, however, shall costs of less than \$9.00 nor more than \$500.00 be ordered. In addition, the Township shall have the right to proceed in any court of competent jurisdiction for the purpose of obtaining an injunction, restraining order, or other appropriate remedy to compel compliance with this Ordinance, the Construction Code Act and/or the State Construction Code. Each day that a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense, except as may be otherwise specified by Section 23 of the Construction Code Act.”

You can contact SMBA at 7275 West Main Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone number: 269-585-4151. Again, we strongly encourage you to work cooperatively with the SMBA representatives in advance of beginning any work within the Township.

Very truly yours,

COOPER CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD

Jeffrey R. Sorensen, Supervisor • DeAnna Janssen, Clerk • Carol S. DeHaan, Treasurer

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