

GOVERNMENT

B - Administration

COUNCIL POLICY NO. B-1

TITLE: PROGRESSIVE ACTIONS TOWARD OBTAINMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH CITY LICENSING, NUISANCE ABATEMENT, SIGN AND NOISE CODES

POLICY: It is the policy of the City of Salem to progressively take action to obtain compliance with City codes, i.e., correction notices shall be employed as the first step in obtaining compliance rather than citation issuance. This policy is based on the philosophy that citizens and businesses are often unaware of code requirements, that government's first responsibility is to educate violators through the correction notice process, giving citizens an appropriate period of time to alleviate the violation. At the time a correction notice is issued, City staff shall provide copies of the specific code requirements to help provide the appropriate information to the citizen(s).

There are three exceptions to the progressive compliance policy.

1. when a citizen refuses to take a correction notice and instead requests immediate court adjudication,
2. when the violation presents a clear and present danger and the citizen refuses to abate the hazardous situation, City staff shall take action to try and eliminate that danger,
3. when an individual or business has previously been notified by a correction notice within a one year period, further providing that a) it is the identical violation as before, b) it is the same address, and c) the same individual or business who received the previous correction notice. In such cases a citation is issued.

**IT IS THE CITY'S PHILOSOPHY TO ABATE NUISANCE AND VIOLATIONS,
ISSUING CITATIONS AS A LAST RESORT.**

REFERENCES: City Council Goals
Council Action: August 21, 1989 (Revised
Enforcement Procedures: Nuisance, Health Hazards
and Zoning Codes Staff Report)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This policy promotes Salem's livability by insuring compliance with Salem's codes while insuring due process rights of citizens and businesses in violation of these codes.