



California Association of Code Enforcement Officers
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**Worsening Economy and Declining Property Values Spark Stepped-Up
Efforts of Code Enforcement Officers**

***California's Only Code Enforcement Training Seminar Educates on Detection of
"Land Use Anarchy" and other Signs of Neighborhood Deterioration***

SACRAMENTO, CA — As jobs and homes are lost in these tough times, code enforcement cases are on the rise in neighborhoods and communities throughout California. As budgets are slashed, the need intensifies for code enforcement officers who can respond to the increase in land-based and building violations that are becoming more commonplace as cash-strapped property owners abandon or neglect their obligations.

“While codes and regulations have been enacted to promote neighborhood protection, unless there are professional individuals doing the heavy lifting of enforcement, people are going to see more housing and commercial property degradation,” said Dirk Voss, president of the California Association of Code Enforcement Officers (CACEO). “The more than 1,200 code enforcement officers represented by CACEO make a positive difference in their communities everyday, and we’re hoping anyone who has a stake in maintaining orderly, safe, clean and prosperous neighborhoods will attend our annual training and education conference to learn more about the need for quality code enforcement.”

Voss is encouraging aspiring code enforcement officers as well as elected officials and policymakers, city attorneys, county counsels and animal control officers to attend the 2009 Annual Code Enforcement Seminar sponsored by CACEO. In light of the current wave of foreclosures, the seminar also will benefit bankers, brokers, property managers, building and safety personnel and public safety and health department officials. The conference to be held September 8-11 at the Westin San Diego will feature California Insurance Commissioner Steve Poizner as keynote speaker. He will address the state of the budget and its impact on code enforcement.

“Neighborhood blight is directly connected to lower property values and more serious property crimes. Code enforcement officers prevent that from happening, but if we are to put more officers on the street, we need a larger budget and additional supports to back us up,” added Voss. “Commissioner Poizner has been a great supporter of our profession, and we will be interested in hearing what he has to say about budgetary issues related to code enforcement and its effect on the average citizen.”

Sessions to be offered at the seminar include:

- Recognizing and Responding to Financially Distressed Properties
- Building Code Basics
- Code Enforcement Legal Updates
- Rights of Entry
- City of Rancho Cordova’s Blight Busters Program
- Understanding Zoning, Land Use and Planning
- Unknown Hazards of Hoarding: Officers’ Risk
- Dog Bite Prevention/Recognizing Animal Cruelty

At the event’s conclusion, CACEO will offer experienced individuals who have worked in the construction and/or public safety industries the opportunity to “test out” of requisite education courses by taking the certification examination offered at the seminar. For further information or to register for the conference online, visit www.caceo.us or call 916-492-2223.

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CACEO exists to promote and advance the profession of code enforcement while serving and supporting its members by offering comprehensive education and certification, providing legislative advocacy on issues of importance to the code enforcement profession, and facilitating a network for an exchange of information and technology. For more information, visit

www.caceo.us.