November 14, 2013

City Clerk City of La Crosse 400 La Crosse Street La Crosse, WI 54601

REQUEST FOR HARDSHIP WAIVER FOR SECTION 8.07 (I)

Property Owner: Laurie A. Long

Property Address: 3011 Losey Boulevard South I jointly owned the above referenced property with a man that I was engaged to. I ended the relationship and moved out of the property in 2008 after he became abusive toward me. I bought another home to live in at 2255 Coulee Drive. He continued to live in the Losey Boulevard home until it was ordered to be sold at a sheriff auction by Judge Elliott Levine to resolve a partition action in 2012.

This man put me through nearly 5 years of legal actions as a pattern of his continued abuse. I bought the Losey Boulevard home at the sheriff auction for the only reason of trying to recover my 50% equity in the home so that I could pay my outstanding legal fees. My legal fees ended up to be more than the amount that I recovered.

My plan was to make needed repairs to the home and then sell it quickly. Unfortunately, the home has still not sold and this has left me in a terrible financial situation. I cannot afford to own both homes as I only have a moderate income as a nurse at Gundersen Health System. I have been actively trying to sell the Losey Boulevard home and it is currently listed with Transaction Realty. I am doing everything that I can to try to get out from under my debt load including also listing my Coulee Drive home for sale.

The Losey Boulevard property was vacant for several months. The property was broken into on more than one occasion when it was empty. My son offered to move into the property to help me out until such time that the home is sold. He is not paying rent but is instead helping me out by protecting the property and helping me to maintain it. I need to sell this property for financial reasons but I have no control as to when this will happen.

Now to add to my stress, I have received an official order to discontinue using the Losey Boulevard property as a rental. I was unaware that I needed permission from the City to let my son live in the home while I am trying to sell it. David Reinhart, the City's Chief Building Inspector, has informed me that under the City's property ordinances I need to register the property as a rental property or I will need to have my son vacate the home. It doesn't make sense to me to leave the property vacant and unprotected. I am hereby requesting a hardship waiver so that I can register the home as a rental property so that my son can continue to watch over the property for me until it sells. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

2255 Coulee Drive

La Crosse, WI 54601

cc: David Reinhart, Chief Building Inspector

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