Preservation Violations and Fines

It is illegal to violate the DC preservation law, just as it is illegal to violate building codes or traffic laws. HPO Inspectors are authorized to stop illegal construction, and may also issue citations for violations of the DC building code. Violations may be subject to significant fines and penalties.

Violations

Violations of the preservation law and DC building code include:

- working without a construction permit
- working beyond the approved scope of a permit
- failure to comply with conditions of a permit
- failure to maintain historic property in good repair, and
- demolition by neglect

Enforcement Action

HPO inspectors may take any of the following enforcement actions as appropriate:

- A Stop Work Order requires construction to cease immediately.
- A Notice of Violation requires the owner or contractor to take corrective action to come into compliance with the law.
- A Notice of Infraction imposes a fine for violation of the law.

Fines and Penalties

Violators of the preservation law and building code are subject to \$2,000 civil infraction fines as outlined in DC Municipal Regulations. Additional information regarding construction Inspections Infractions follow:

3306 BUILDING INSPECTION DIVISION INFRACTIONS

3306.1 CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION INFRACTIONS

- 3306.1.1 Violation of any of the following provisions shall be a Class 1 infraction:
 - (a) 12A DCMR 105.1, 105.1.15, 105.1.16, and 105.1.17 (working without a required permit);
 - (b) 12A DCMR 105.1, 105.1.15.1, 105.1.16.1, and 105.1.17.1 (exceeding scope of permit);
 - (c) 12A DCMR 115.1 (failure to remedy dangerous conditions or remove hazardous materials);
 - (d) 12A DCMR 114.1 (failure to comply with terms of a 'Stop Work Order');
 - (e) 12A DCMR 114.1 (unauthorized removal of a posted stop work order);
 - (f) 12A DCMR 115.5 (failure to comply with terms of posted "Unsafe to Use" notice); or
 - (g) International Property Maintenance Code 302.1 (exterior of property not in clean or sanitary condition).