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CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

12 Mt. Auburn St. #14
Cambridge, MA 02138
February 13, 1983

Inspector Lampedecchio
Cambridge Health Department
16 Camelia Ave.
Cambridge, MA

Dear Inspector:

You may recall I spoke to you Friday, February 12, about the problem over the last two weeks of lack of heat in my apartment building, which we have discussed before. I told you then that we had heat, but the boiler had not been replaced, as the landlords, First Central Realty, promised on the phone to you, to me, and in writing in a notice to the tenants on the front door.

This morning (outside temperature was 17°) there was again no heat. The owner, Mr. Robert Clark, was here this morning. I asked him if there would be heat, and he said the boiler was broken. I asked him then about the promised new boiler, and he told me I could move out. At this time (1 PM) there is heat, but no water.

Inspector, I hesitate to contact you further, not because of any lack of diligence on your part, but because the recalcitrance of the managers of this building makes it obvious that pressure from you or from tenants does not affect them. Your time can probably be better spent in cases where improvement is possible. I assume that in this case the managers will continue to make sufficient repairs to keep on the right side of the law, but only just. The building will continue to deteriorate, forcing the residents to take Mr. Clark's "advice" and move out, which would seem to be his desire, for reasons best known to himself. I intend to move as quickly as possible, because I fear for my health and safety.

I know this is not a new story. It is the first time that anything like this has happened to me, fortunately, but as a result I am not well prepared to deal with it. Finding a new apartment is not an easy task, as you undoubtedly know. I am writing to you simply to protest that this kind of action by landlords can be allowed to continue, victimizing those who have not the financial means to combat it. Thank you for your attempts, and I hope that by this letter I can encourage some action by the City of Cambridge that will diminish the vulnerabilities of tenants to this sort of treatment.

Sincerely,

Christine L. Graunas

Christine L. Graunas

cc: Cambridge City Council

Rent Control Board

14. S-89

Comm. from Christine L. Graunas, 12 Mt. Auburn St., Re: efforts of the Health Dept. to aid her in securing heating in her building & requesting the City to take action to diminish vulnerabilities of like tenants in such situations.

*copy sent to the City Manager
3/1/83*
In City Council,

February 28, 1983

2/28/83

*Referred to the
City Manager for
Report -*