



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS
1493 CAMBRIDGE STREET CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

Melvin H. Chalfen, M.D.
Commissioner

Robert W. Healy
City Manager
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

March 16, 1993

re Council Order # 23
February 22, 1993

Dear Mr. Healy;

On March 3, 1993 an inspection was made at the Central Square Printing Company, 173 Harvey Street, Cambridge. This inspection was done as a multi-agency coordinated activity. The participants were Liz Epstein, Director of the Environmental Program, Michael Nicoloro, then acting supervisor of the Inspectional Services Department, Captain Ferazani, Cambridge Fire Department and Chair of the Cambridge Local Emergency Planning Committee, Lt. Ruffing of the Cambridge Fire Department, Kevin Doherty, Public Health Coordinator and myself. Mr. Robert Jervis of the printing company reviewed the operations of the company and showed the facilities.

Compared to the visits made by the Fire Department and by Health and Hospitals a year ago changes made include compliance with flammable storage regulations and removal of potential flammables from certain areas. Two of the three printing areas, production lines, no longer use solvents and it is planned that the third line will be changed to non-solvent use. Specifications and plans for the increase in height of the exhaust stack have been obtained but construction not yet ordered.

The company continues to use an extensive air circulation system containing charcoal filters which continually absorbs fumes within the building and before the fumes are exhausted to the outside air. The adequacy of the system is based apparently on measurements and formulas of the numbers of air changes per hour necessary to have safe air in the building.

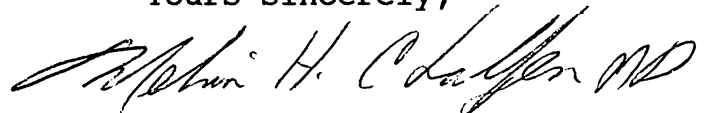
The paint storage area now has a duct with a fan to exhaust fumes and prevent build up of fumes, a potential fire hazard.

Since the paint storage area fan exhausts paint odors to the outside and is essentially unfiltered it was recommended that a scrubber be installed on the expectation that odors released to the air would be markedly reduced.

A follow-up review with Mr. Jervis on March 15 revealed that he has asked his air control systems contractor to both look at a scrubber installation and to look again at the entire system. Mr. Jervis also stated that the third piece of non-solvent printing equipment is ordered and should be in place in the near future.

As part of the activity of the Environmental Program to coordinate multi-agency involvement in such issues follow-up by the group will be done both by my information reviews with Mr. Jervis, reinspection by Captain Ferazani and myself, and by a group assessment of progress made.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melvin H. Chalfen" followed by a stylized "MD".

Melvin H. Chalfen, M.D.
Commissioner

MHC:vs

Members of Environmental Program



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

March 22, 1993

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 24, regarding noxious fumes emanating from the printing company on Harvey Street, received from Dr. Melvin Chalfen, Commissioner of Health & Hospitals, relative to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mev
attachment

Consent Agenda # 1 S-136

Awaiting Report Item number 24 regarding
noxious fumes emanating from the printing
company on Harvey Street.

*for original order see
1993 City Manager Requests
46*

In City Council,

March 22, 1993