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City of Downey

Press Release

Curb Painting Services for Street Addresses

Downey, CA, May 10, 2010

Every other year, the City of Downey issues permits and licenses to a charity-related organization to paint residential address numbers on curbs. Since this service keeps address numbers legible to the public and safety officers, the permit requires the organization to paint address numbers on all curb faces, regardless of whether or not they receive a donation. The offer to provide these services must include the organization's contact information, supported charity name, and the statement that "residents are under no obligation to contribute." These organizations do not work for, nor are they paid by the City of Downey.

In May, **Neighborhood Curb Painting Services (NCPS)**, operated by Mr. Angeles Coronado, was permitted to provide this service in support of Compassion Ministries. After painting the house number on the curb, NCPS may come to the residence twice to request a donation. If the resident makes a donation, they will receive a receipt including the charity's Federal ID# for their taxes. If no one is home during the second visit, NCPS may leave a note encouraging a donation by mail. Any house numbering mistakes by NCPS should be first reported to them at 562-716-1585.

Unpermitted curb painters are common, especially during difficult economic times and over a hundred complaints were received last year with nearly that many already this year. Mistakes are common, as are illegible numbers and rude or aggressive solicitors. Solicitation of curb painting is limited to the hours of 9 am to 7 pm Monday through Saturday. If a solicitor comes to your door and cannot show a copy of their City Permits, or their notice does not include contact information, they are probably *unpermitted* and should be reported to the City's Code Enforcement Division, Monday through Friday from 7 am to 4 pm at 562-904-2392. Outside of these hours, problems can be reported to the Downey Police Department business line at 562-861-0771. Threatening solicitors should be reported as a 911 emergency call.

Errors made by *unpermitted* painters can be reported to the City's Engineering Division at 562-904-7110. The correction request will be forwarded to NCPS which, for a donation, will make the correction and provide a charitable tax receipt. In recent years, NCPS has assisted several hundred residents in correcting the numbering mistakes of others, earning the opportunity to receive this year's permit.

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For Immediate Release