



# TOWN OF GILMANTON

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## Assessment inspection of Gilmanton Transfer Station Performed by Chief J. Hempel 11/03/21

On Wednesday Nov 03 2021 at the request of the Gilmanton BOS I performed an inspection of the Gilmanton Transfer Station. The inspection was a walkthrough of the facility, with the intent of providing the BOS an overall assessment of condition of the site pertaining to health, safety, and working conditions. I met up with the Transfer station manager Ron Nason when I first arrived. He directed me to the inside of the work shop and he was available to answer some questions that I had. I proceeded to perform my inspection on my own. I documented my visit with photos. These photos are attached to this report. See a record of my observations below.

The service side of the transfer station building where the public accesses service, including the recycling windows, free room, compacter area was in fair condition. Staff makes an effort to make sure the area is accessible and free of clutter. It appears that the area still could use some attention to organize refuse and maintain safe areas of travel in the facility.

The Metal area had been recently reorganized. Waste has been removed and area is in adequate shape.

The compost /leave waste area is a large area that according to the transfer station manager is difficult manager. There is no means to dispose of this pile. We have had this pile ignite in the past and it continues to pose a fire hazard.

The brush pile is managed by burning weekly. If burning is to be continued a new and improved, safer area should be established. The current area does not offer sufficient safety and perimeter to assist in the containment of burning material.

The inspection of the rt 140 side exterior and the loading dock area of the transfer building showed a need of organization. Wind blown waste was all over. Loading dock area was in need of organization. May fall and trip hazards were noted. The garage doors to the building were blocked by storage. Storage of material was poorly organized and posed safety hazards.

An interior inspection of the transfer station building was followed by the exterior inspection. The general impression was that interior of the building was in severe disarray and in need of immediate organizing and cleaning along with removal of unnecessary material, including furniture, hazardous liquids, trash, and debris.

Storage areas and shelves were filled with many collected items that need to be removed from the building. Several immediate needs.

The storage of hazardous materials including paints, fuels, oil needs to be addressed. These were not stored properly and may pose a hazard.

Work areas and walkways to storage cabinets were cluttered and unorganized. Fall and trip areas were most everywhere in the facility.

The ceiling above the cardboard baler was breeched from what appears to be bobcat bucket strikes. This creates a hazard area that could enhance the spreading of fire.

The bailing machine had debris all over the unit. This creates fuel to burn in the event there is a mechanical issue of fire with the unit. The debris surrounding the machine will provide fuel for a fire. The unit should be free of debris all the way around.

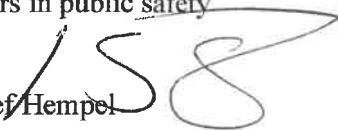
There are light fixtures in the building that require repaired or replacement.

The office area is in need of organization and cleaning. There appears to be an overabundance of materials stored in this office area.

Please see pictures added to this recap. They clearly show the areas of this facility that need immediate attention. There is a great need to get this facility cleaned organized and tidy. The storing of unnecessary items is creating hazards in this work place. The risk of an injury to an employee or a resident, as well as the threat of a fire or hazardous material incident is higher at this time with the building in this condition.

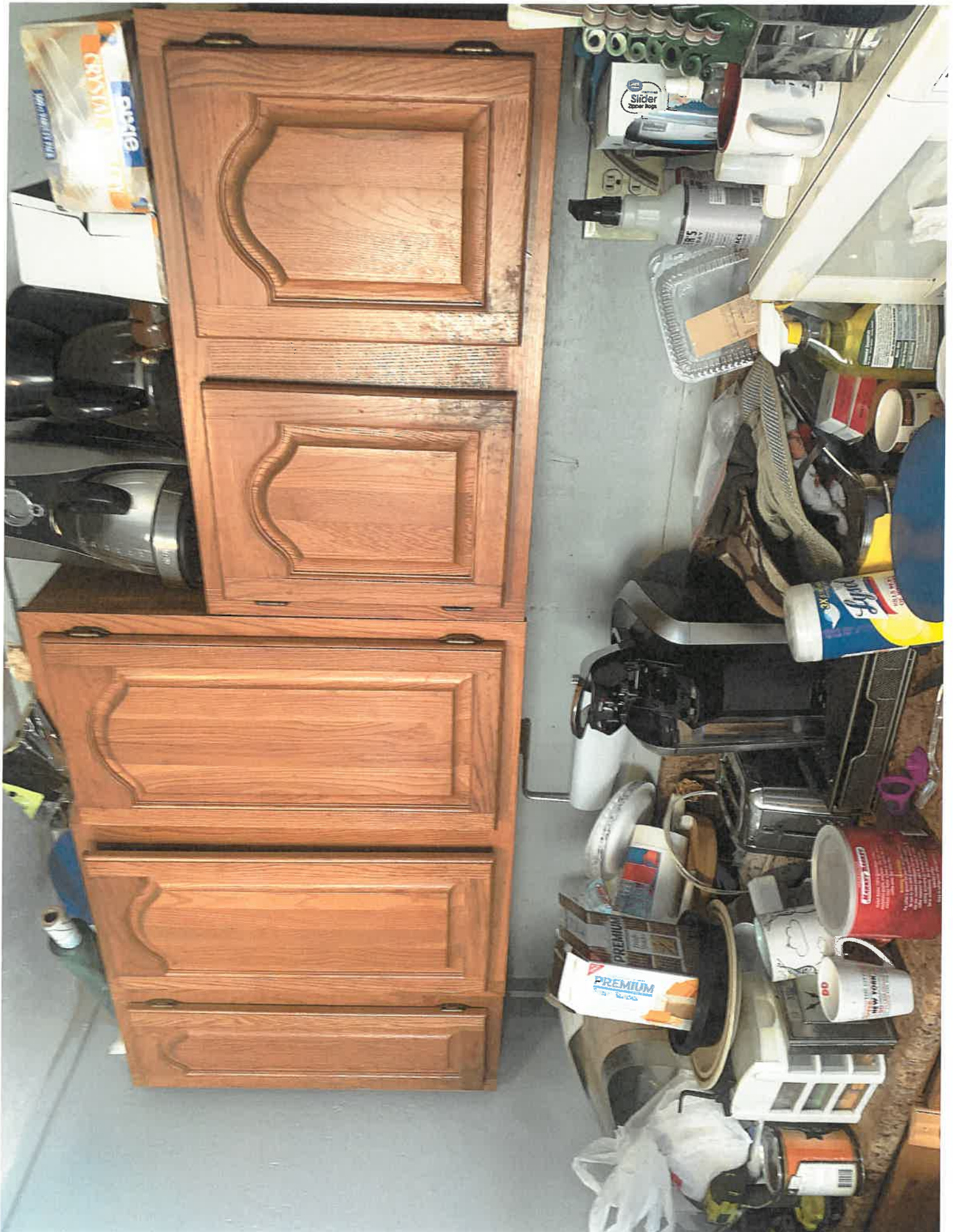
Please feel free to contact me with any additional question.

Yours in public safety

Chief Hempel 

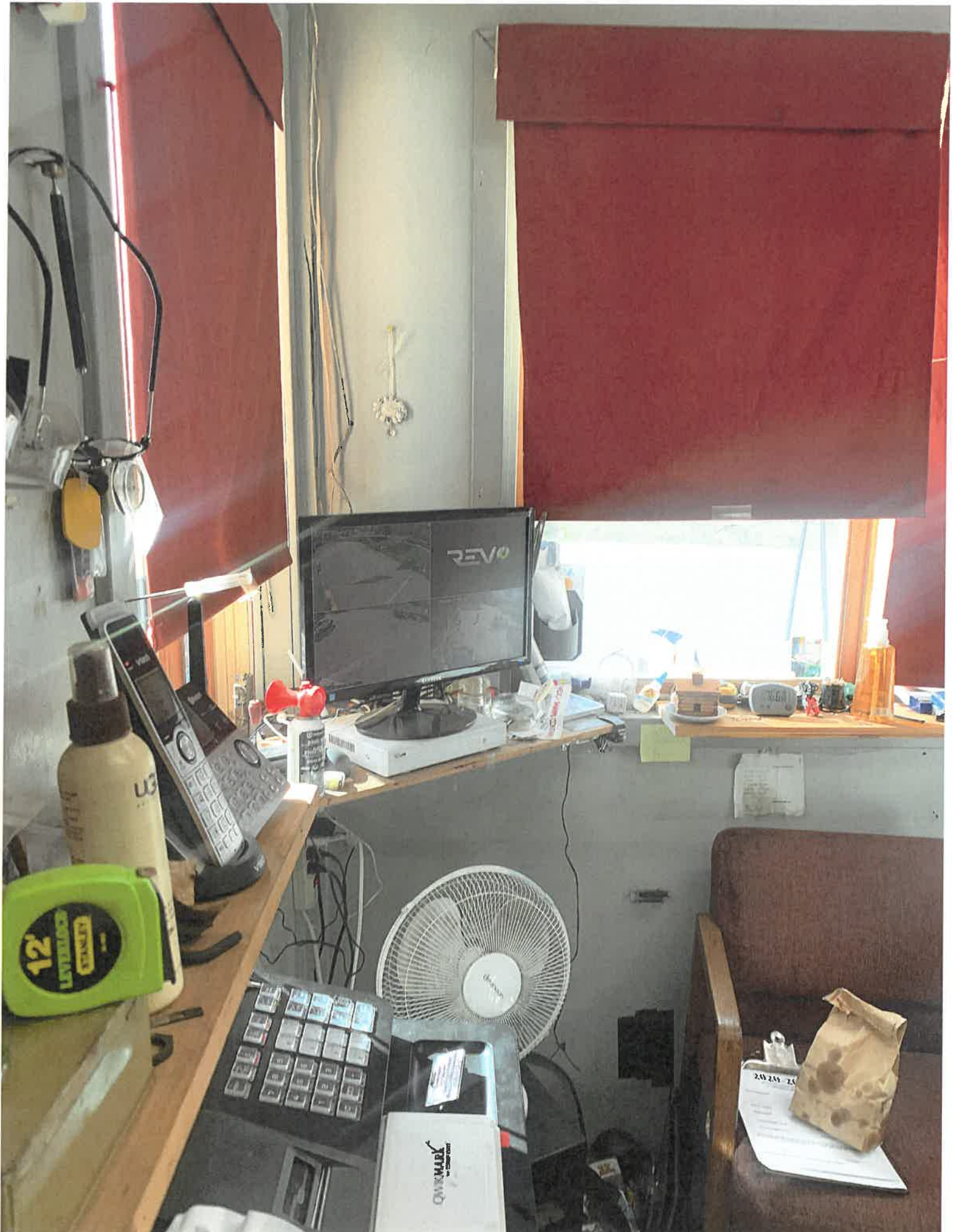








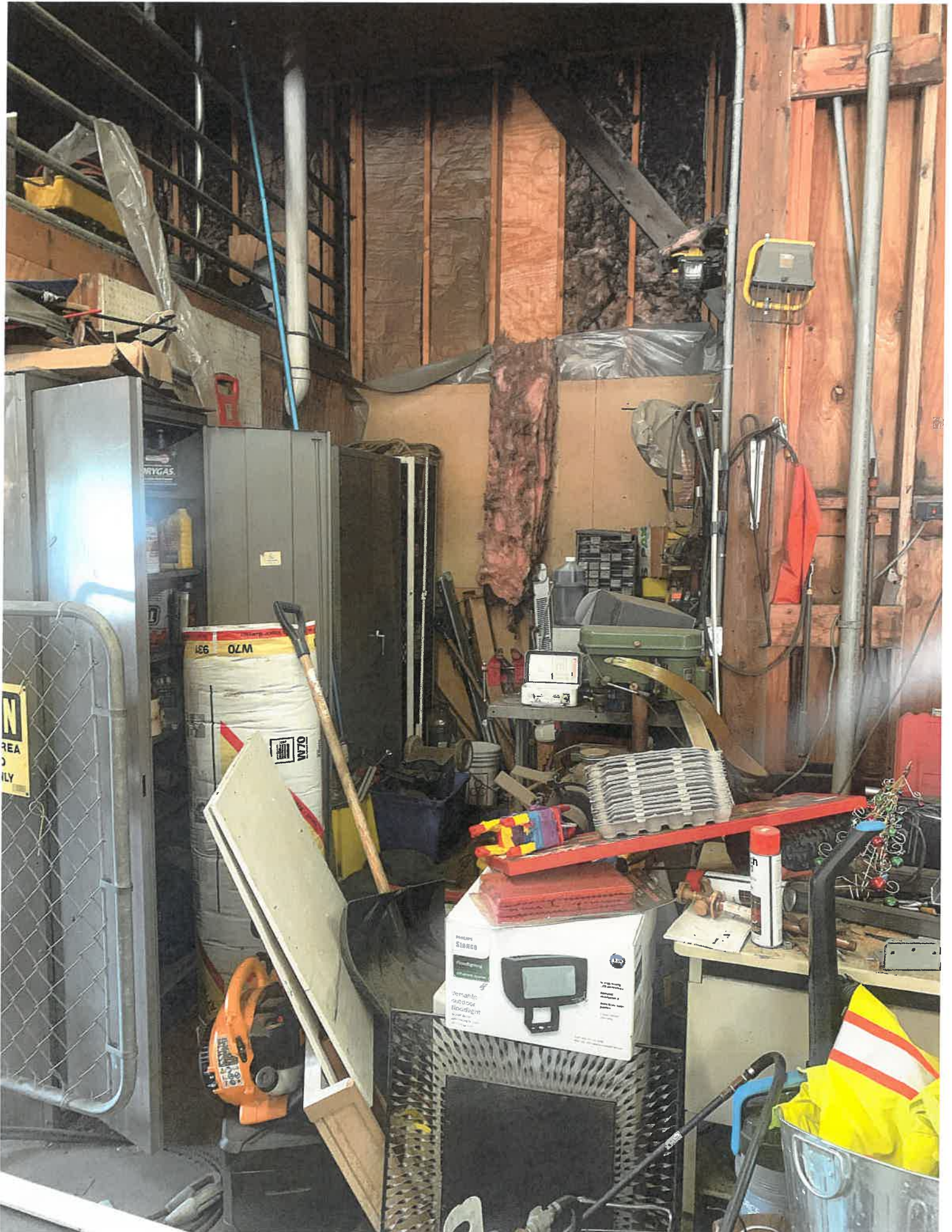




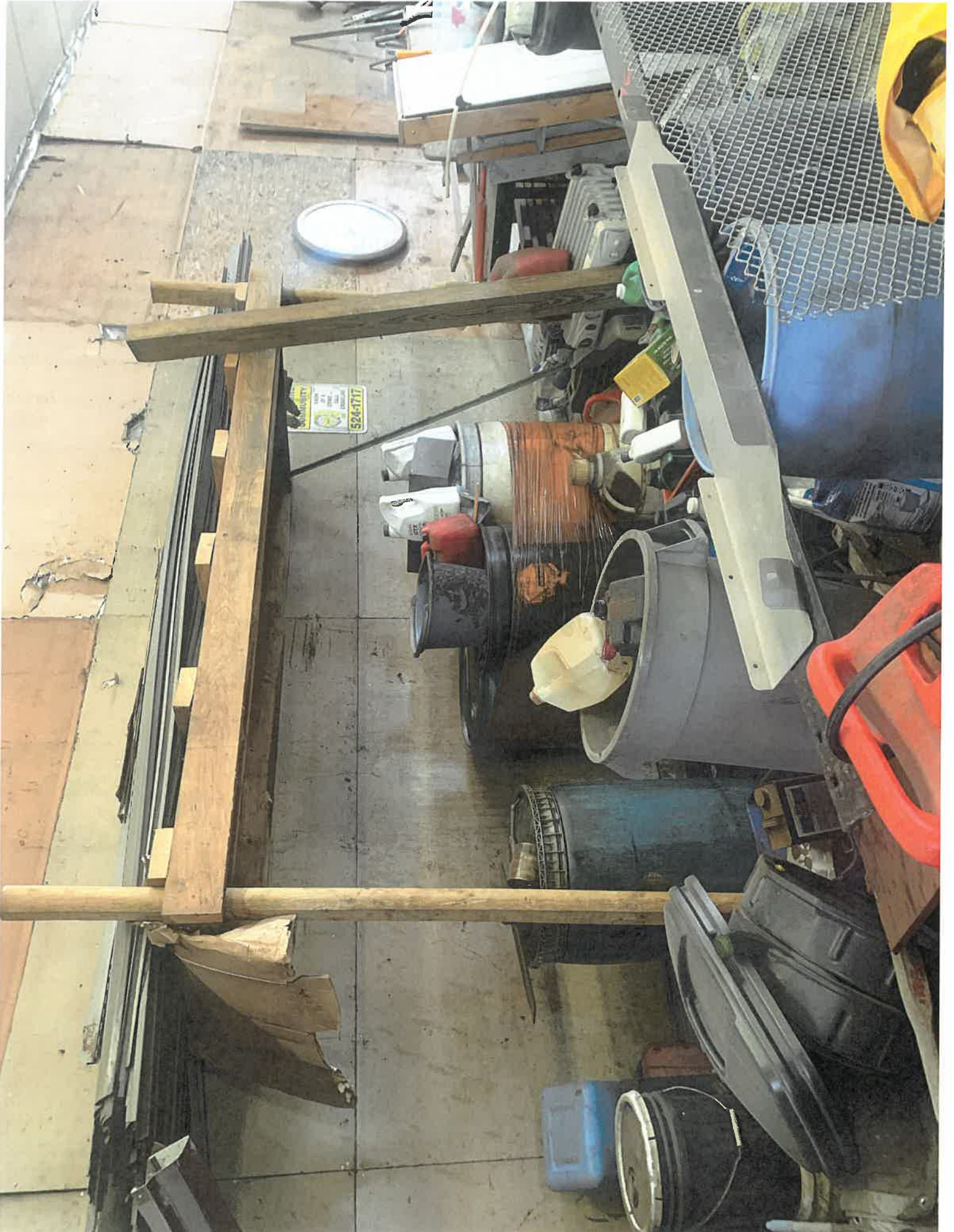














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