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Eastland Mall Owners Held in Contempt of Court, Fined as City Continues to Pressure Owners to Improve Safety

City Attorney Klein says owners failed to make required improvements to ensure safety and security

COLUMBUS, OH— Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein today announced the Franklin County Municipal Court has held the owners of Eastland Mall in contempt of a June 2022 Court order requiring property owners to fix outstanding code violations and bring the site into compliance. Owners failed to comply with provisions of the Court order, and the Court imposed a \$3,500 fine as well as an additional \$250 per day fine for each day the property remains noncompliant moving forward.

“Small business owners, patrons and east side residents deserve better than what they’re getting at Eastland as property owners failed to meet reasonable benchmarks to comply with the Court’s order to improve safety and security,” said Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein. **“The City will continue to pursue every legal option to hold owners accountable and ensure this property is brought into compliance so that it can once again drive economic opportunity on the east side of Columbus.”**

The City filed a case against the property’s owners, Eastland Mall Holdings LLC, in April 2021, and additional violations were filed earlier this year for unsafe conditions and numerous code violations. Following months of neglect and failure of property owners to bring the site into compliance, the City [obtained a court order in June 2022](#) declaring Eastland Mall a public nuisance.

The June 2022 court order required Eastland Mall Holdings LLC to bring the property into compliance. Under the order, the majority of code violations, including litter and solid waste, high grass, noncompliant graphics, graffiti, broken concrete, wall overhang and mortar voids were required to be fixed and brought into compliance by July 13. Parking lot violations were to have been fixed no later than Aug. 13.

In addition, the court ordered the Eastland Mall property owners to conduct daily litter pickup and biweekly maintenance of the grounds to maintain the property and keep it Code compliant.

To date, property owners have not complied with a number of court-ordered fixes.

A status conference is set for Jan. 10, 2023 to re-evaluate compliance with the Court order and determine next steps for the property.

[The latest court document is attached.](#)

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