

STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IN THE MATTER OF

ABATEMENT UNLIMITED, INC.

for a determination pursuant to Section 909 of the New York Labor Law that violations of Labor Law, Article 30 and/or Code Rule 56 took place as hereinafter described

**DEFAULT
REPORT
&
RECOMMENDATION**

Asbestos Case No.
25899689

To: Honorable Peter M. Rivera
Commissioner of Labor
State of New York

Pursuant to a Notice of Hearing issued in this matter, a video hearing was held on July 30, 2013 between Albany and New York City. The purpose of the hearing was to provide the parties with an opportunity to be heard on the issues raised in the Notice of Hearing and to establish a record from which the Hearing Officer could prepare this Report and Recommendation for the Commissioner of Labor.

The hearing concerned an investigation conducted by the Asbestos Control Bureau ("Bureau") of the Division of Safety and Health of the New York State Department of Labor ("Department") into whether Abatement Unlimited, Inc. ("Respondent") complied with the requirements of article 30 of the Labor Law (§§ 900 *et seq.*) or 12 NYCRR part 56 when Respondent undertook an asbestos abatement project at 45 West Red Oak Lane, West Harrison, New York ("Project").

APPEARANCES

The Bureau was represented by Acting Department Counsel, Pico Ben-Amotz (Steven Pepe, Senior Attorney, of Counsel).

There were no appearances made by or on behalf of Respondent.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

On June 3, 2013, the Department duly served copies of the Notice of Hearing on Respondent by first class mail and by certified mail. Respondent signed a Return Receipt evidencing its receipt of the document (HO 2). The Notice of Hearing scheduled a July 30, 2013 hearing and required the Respondent to serve an Answer at least 14 days in advance of the scheduled hearing.

Respondent failed to timely answer the charges contained in the Notice of Hearing or appear at the hearing. As a consequence, Respondent is in default in this proceeding.

At the hearing, the Department produced sworn and credible evidence substantially supporting the Department's charges that Respondent violated the particular provisions of the Labor Law or the Code Rule that are hereinafter particularized.

For the foregoing reasons, the findings, conclusions and determinations of the Bureau should be sustained.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based upon the default of the Respondent in timely answering and contesting the charges contained in the Department's Notice of Hearing, and upon the sworn testimonial and documentary evidence adduced at hearing in support of those charges, I recommend that the Commissioner of Labor make the following determinations and orders in connection with the issues raised in this case:

DETERMINE that Respondent committed two violations of 12 NYCRR part 56 as follows:

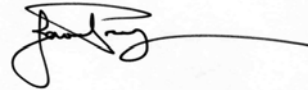
- 12 NYCRR 56-7.8.A.4 – Engineering Controls – Negative Air Pressure Equipment - Manometer. No entries were made in the log as required;
- 12 NYCRR 56-9.1.B – Final Cleaning Procedures. Respondent applied lockdown encapsulant prior to clearance air sampling.

DETERMINE & ORDER that, pursuant to Labor Law § 909 (1) (b), Respondent be assessed the requested civil penalty of \$1000.00 for the violation of 12 NYCRR 56-7.8.A.4, and \$2500.00 for the violation of 12 NYCRR 56-9.1.B, for a total amount of \$3500.00.

ORDER that Respondent immediately remit payment to the Division Of Safety & Health, Asbestos Control Bureau, SOB Campus, Building 12, Room 157, Albany, NY 12240 of the total amount due (\$3500.00), made payable to the Commissioner of Labor.

Dated: July 30, 2013
Albany, New York

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Tracy", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jerome A. Tracy, Hearing Officer