

## Building Inspections - 245 St. John Street

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**From:** Sarah Colton  
**To:** buildinginspections@portlandmaine.gov  
**Date:** 6/18/2015 3:07 PM  
**Subject:** 245 St. John Street  
**Attachments:** 245 st john 1.jpg; 245 st john photo 2.jpg

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Hi Inspections:

staff at Reiche approached me this week about a parent who has been having trouble with her landlord and I just met her. Her name is Edwina Caulker, her cell is 239-0701 and her work # is 338-8389. She has Monday completely off if there is any way to meet with her then.

1. Her basement flooded two weeks ago with over 2 feet of water- the ceiling fell in the process of the flooding and almost hit her daughter. The ceiling tiles are still missing and I am not sure if her basement is still flooded.
2. When they flush the toilet, they can hear it going straight into the basement, so I am not sure if there is raw sewage down there, but...
3. She had bedbugs and he told her that she was going to have to pay for the treatments. So instead she went to Home Depot and bought products on her own.
4. She said she always loses heat in the winter and that the family sleeps in one room with an electric heater. She said sometimes it takes days for someone to fix the heat.
5. Her sink in the kitchen clogged six months ago and when she called the owner to fix it, he told her to do it herself and it has been leaking ever since. On Friday June 12th, he finally showed up with a plumber, but the door was locked and he did not have a key. He told her that she has to pay the plumber \$95.00 for the visit even though nothing was fixed. He as the owner, he should have had a key- he said he left it at home. When she said she was not going to pay the \$95.00, he told her that she needed to move then.
6. He will not provide trash cans. She had to get her own. She tried to get tags for big-items and was told the owner had to get tags and he would not get them for her.

He said will not replace the items she lost in the basement. She has 7 children and 2 jobs- I am not sure how many kids live with her at this residence. While she was telling me all of this, her landlord called her and he told her she had to be out by the end of September. I gave her my number, Chuck's number/Inspections, and the number to Pine Tree Legal. I told her someone from Inspections will probably want to visit the home.

The owner of this property is Jim Cummings. I've attached 2 pics but she is going to send more along I think.

Let me know if you want me to go with you or if you need more information.

Thanks very much, Sarah.

>>> Paul Fagone 5/21/2015 3:03 PM >>>

Effective immediately, for any new complaints, inspections or issues that you may need assistance on, can you please send an e-mail to: [buildinginspections@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:buildinginspections@portlandmaine.gov)

For anything that needs immediate attention please call 874-8703 to access our front end staff and they can log the issue and dispatch an inspector.

thanks, Chuck

Chuck Fagone  
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