

**AB 1078 Highlights:
METHAMPHETAMINE CONTAMINATED PROPERTY**

Effective January 1, 2006, this act will add Chapter 6.9.1 to Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to contaminated property. The bill basically:

- Requires a local health officer or delegate (EHS) to determine property is contaminated, to issue/post an order prohibiting use or occupancy;
- Requires a property owner who receives a contamination order to retain a contractor to remediate the contamination, to submit a preliminary site assessment (PSA) work plan and complete remediation no later than 90 days after the PSA work plan is approved;
- Holds property owner accountable for all related costs;
- In addition, the bill requires a state agency to establish a health-based target remediation standard.

In San Diego County, Department of Environmental Health (as designee) will:

1. Inspect properties within 5 days per law enforcement alert;
2. Issue a vacate the premises order within 48 hrs;
3. Post contaminated property;
4. Approve Preliminary Site Assessment documents:
 - a. Review report
 - b. Determine if authorized contractor is required to clean up property
 - c. Record lien on property with Assessor if contaminated.
5. After clean-up, release the lien and remove the signs from the property
 - a. Send reports to Property owner, Housing authority, CUPA
 - b. Release of lien documents to Assessor's office
 - c. No lien can be released unless the property owner satisfies ALL of local requirements and pays the Lien.
6. If a property owner does not pay the city and/or county for the costs of remediation, local government may record a nuisance abatement lien for actual costs related to the remediation.