

THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS OF BELIZE REVISED EDITION 2011-2017 AMMENDMENT
CHAPTER 131- BELIZE BUILDING ACT

STOP ORDER

20.-(1) Where a person carries out any work without a permit or does any act or fails to do an act in contravention of this Act or regulations made hereunder, the Director or a Building Unit may issue an order in writing (in this section called "Stop Order") to such person directing him or her to cease, by a date specified in the order, the activities specified in the order.

(2) Where a person to whom an order is issued under subsection (1) of this section, fails to take appropriate steps to ensure the cessation of the activity which the order relates, he or she commits an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

(3) Where a person fails or neglects to comply with an order made under subsection (1) of this section, the Director or the Building Unit may execute or cause to be executed the work which the person has failed or neglected to carry out, and any expenses incurred by the Director or Building Unit, shall be a civil debt due to the Director or Building Unit, as the case may be, from the person who has failed or neglected to comply with the order.

(4) The Authority, after consultation with local authorities, may make regulations under this section specifying the circumstances under which a Stop Order may be issued.

(5) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (4) of this section, regulations made under this section may prohibit a person from,

- (a) erecting a structure without an approved building permit;
- (b) erecting a structure contrary to an approved building permit;
- (c) erecting a structure without an approved plan on site;
- (d) erecting a structure without obtaining the approval from a building inspector to proceed;
- (e) demolishing a structure without permission;
- (f) proceeding with the erection, demolishing or alteration of any structure based on reasons of public safety, or the reasonable likelihood of damage to public or private property.

21. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Act, other than those relating to the conduct of building operations, commits an offence and shall on summary conviction be liable to a fine of not less than 1% and not more than 5% of the estimated construction value, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further fine not exceeding one hundred dollars for every day during which the offence is continued after a date set by the Court for the contravention to be corrected.