

THE STATE OF TEXAS, ex rel.  
EL PASO COUNTY ATTORNEY  
CHRISTINA SANCHEZ,  
Plaintiff,

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v.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

GATEWAY HOTEL (*IN REM*), THE  
REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 104 S.  
STANTON ST., EL PASO, TX 79901 (*IN  
REM*), GIGANTE ENTERPRISES LLC.  
HOWARD YUN,  
Defendants.

**PLAINTIFF’S ORIGINAL PETITION FOR ABATEMENT OF A COMMON  
NUISANCE, AND APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER,  
TEMPORARY INJUNCTION, AND PERMANENT INJUNCTION**

El Paso County Attorney Christina Sanchez brings this suit on behalf of the State of Texas, to enjoin and abate a common nuisance, and files this Original Petition for Abatement of a Common Nuisance, and Application for Temporary Restraining Order, Temporary Injunction, and Permanent Injunction against the named defendants, including an *in rem* defendants, pursuant to the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code (CPRC). Defendants maintain and/or assist in maintaining a common nuisance at a lodging establishment, known as “Gateway Hotel” (hereinafter “the Gateway”) located at 104 S. Stanton., El Paso, Texas 79901.

**I.  
SUMMARY**

Gateway Hotel is lodging establishment in downtown El Paso. The building was erected in 1903 and became the Gateway Hotel in 1927-28 under renovation by Trost & Trost. The previous owner was convicted for smuggling and money laundering in a federal case in 2011. The Gateway was condemned by the City of El Paso in 2014 and the building was to remain vacant until it was rehabilitated, and a certificate of occupancy was issued. **Exhibit 1 – Record Condition**

**Notice.** Defendant Yun purchased the hotel in 2015. **Exhibit 2 – “El Paso Gateway Hotel restoration an ongoing labor of love for South Korean immigrant” June 20, 2018 article in the El Paso Times by Vic Kolenc.** Defendant Yun started restoring the Gateway and was granted a “Conditional Certificate of Occupancy” on May 22, 2018 that allowed for the partial use of the lobby and full use of the first floor. This conditional certificate of occupancy expired on November 22, 2018. **Exhibit 3 – Conditional Certificate of Occupancy.** A search of records reveals that a new certificate of occupancy has not been issued, and while Gateway has operated as a hotel for the past six years, it has done so without a valid certificate of occupancy and in violation of city requirements. For the last two years, there have been six hundred and ninety-three (693) calls for service to the hotel. The large volume of calls for service to a single business and State’s analysis of police reports show that the Gateway has habitual criminal activity that violates the CPRC, and additional crimes that contributes to the overall blight this business brings to downtown El Paso. A list of this activity is organized in **Exhibit 4 – violation chart.** A video showing the deplorable state of the inside of the building and the type of activity allowed inside of the business comes from an aggravated assault case. The video shows dozens of people “partying” on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the hotel, drinking, smoking and dancing provocatively while children are present. The video also shows at least one gun being shot, another used to threaten, men holding knives and another man with a hatchet assaulting people and causing damage to the hotel in front of a security guard. **Exhibit 5, still pictures from security footage of aggravated assault on June 16, 2024.** To add to the criminal nuisance of this building, and in addition to building’s absence of a certificate of occupancy, the building has failed at least three inspections by the El Paso Fire Department since July. **Exhibits 6 – 8, inspections from the El Paso Fire Department.** While the County Attorney’s Office does not have jurisdiction to enforce the City’s code violations, they give a

complete picture of the building itself and the conditions where the habitual criminal activity occurs. Affidavits from El Paso Police Department (EPPD) Officers note habitual criminal activity, trash and fire hazards. Most alarming is an increase of suspected gang members using the property. **Exhibits 9 – Affidavit of Officer Samuel Medina and Exhibit 10 – Affidavit of Officer Dionicio M. Alvarez.** The Officers’ observations are documented and counted in **exhibit 4.** In his affidavit, Officer Medina suspects prostitution from the hotel, and notes the “continuous incidents of criminal activity” has increased “with the introduction of the Tren De Aragua organization into the hotel.” **Exhibit 9.** Similarly, Officer Alvarez points out that management does not attempt “to control the conduct of the guests and is negligently allowing gang activity to infiltrate the area.” He also observes the general reputation of the Gateway for “allowing illegal activity (consuming drugs, gang activity, illegal dumping) and known not to make necessary changes to prevent the illegal activities” and that “This establishment will continue to threaten public safety if allowed to conduct ‘business as usual.’” **Exhibit 10.**

## **II.** **PARTIES**

1. Plaintiff, the State of Texas, appears and is represented by and through the El Paso County Attorney Christina Sanchez, with her principal office located at 320 S. Campbell St., Suite 200, El Paso, Texas 79901, and is duly authorized under Chapter 455 of the OCC, Chapter 125 of the CPRC, and Chapter 455 of the OCC, to bring this cause of action to restrain, enjoin, and have abated activities declared to be a common nuisance. The State is not required to verify facts in support of the requested injunctive relief to abate the nuisance activity.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.002(a).

2. Defendant “Gateway Hotel,” (hereinafter, “Gateway Hotel”) is an *in rem* business owned by Howard Yun.<sup>2</sup> Service of citation may be had upon Gateway Hotel by serving the person in care, custody, control or management of Gateway Hotel or the registered agent, Howard Yun, 219 E. Mills Ave. El Paso, Texas 79901, or wherever he may be found. The business does not have an active assumed name registered in El Paso County.
3. Defendant the real property known as 104 S. Stanton St., El Paso Texas 79901, is an *in rem* property owned by Howard Yun. Service of citation may be had upon 104 S. Stanton, El Paso Texas 79901, by serving the person in care, custody, control, or management of 104 S. Stanton, El Paso Texas 79901 or the registered agent, Howard Yun, located at 219 E. Mills Ave. El Paso, Texas 79901 or wherever he may be found. The business does not have an active assumed name registered in El Paso County.
4. Defendant, Gigante Enterprises LLC, is a Domestic Limited Liability Company, and owns the business known as “Gateway Hotel” and the real property known as 104 S. Stanton, El Paso, Texas 79901<sup>3</sup> Service of citation may be had upon defendant by serving the registered agent, Howard Yun, at 219 E. Mills Ave. El Paso, Texas 79901, or wherever he may be found.
5. Defendant Howard Yun is the owner of Defendant Gateway Hotel. Service of citation may be had on Howard Yun at 219 E. Mills Ave. El Paso, Texas 79901 or wherever he may be found.
6. Plaintiff invokes the right to institute this suit against Defendants, or any other name which

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<sup>2</sup> The El Paso County Central Appraisal District identifies the owner of Gateway Hotel as Howard Yun. There is no active record with the County Clerk Assumed Name records for Gateway Hotel. Howard Yun is called Yun Howard in some documents.

<sup>3</sup> The El Paso Central Appraisal identifies the owner of the property as Howard Yun., but the Secretary of State identifies the property owner as Howard Yun.



has been used to designate them, or which they have used. Plaintiff expressly invokes Rule 28 of the CPRC to have the true name of these parties substituted at a later time upon the motion of any party or the Court, in the event any party is not correctly named or not included.

**III.**  
**DISCOVERY**

7. The State intends for this case to be governed under Level II Discovery in accordance with § 190.3 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. The State affirmatively pleads this case is not governed by the expedited actions process in § 169(c)(1)(b) of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure because the relief sought by the State includes non-monetary injunctive relief.

**IV.**  
**JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

8. Venue is proper in El Paso County, Texas because all or part of the acts or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in El Paso County, Texas, and the property upon which Defendants maintain a common nuisance, or are about to maintain a nuisance, is in El Paso County, Texas.<sup>4</sup>
9. This Court has subject matter and personal jurisdiction over the cause and parties for the State's Application for Temporary and Permanent Injunctions based on the CPRC. The real property made the basis of this cause of action is a common nuisance as maintained.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE §§ 15.016 and 125.002(a).

<sup>5</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.002(a).

**V.**  
**FACTS**

10. The Gateway Hotel's reputation is as a business that does not properly document the guests that stay at the hotel, has narcotics trafficking, disorderly conduct, and violent crime.

**Exhibits 4, 9 and 10.**

11. Affidavits from Officers detail law enforcement interactions at the Gateway and describe conditions and experiences that support the Gateway's reputation that it is not run as a legitimate business. Aside from numerous City ordinance violations, the Gateway has a significant problem with crime that defendants do not take reasonable efforts to abate.

**Exhibits 4, 9 and 10.**

12. Crimes prohibited by Chapter 125 of the CPRC are habitually committed at Gateway Hotel.

As noted in **exhibit 4**, there are fifty-three (53) CPRC violations from August 2022 – August 2024 and include but are not limited to at least:

- a. Eleven (11) for Delivery, possession, or use of a controlled substance.<sup>6</sup>
- b. Ten (10) aggravated assault<sup>7</sup>;
- c. Five (5) criminal trespass<sup>8</sup>
- d. Twenty (20) instances of disorderly conduct<sup>9</sup>:
  - a. Thirteen (13) for assaultive conduct/fights;
  - b. Two (2) for terroristic threat;
  - c. Two (2) public intoxication
  - d. One (1) Indecency w/child

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<sup>6</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015(a)(4).

<sup>7</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015(a)(9).

<sup>8</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015(a)(23).

<sup>9</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015(a)(24).

e. Two (2) Disorderly conduct/actions

e. Six (6) criminal mischief<sup>10</sup>;

f. One (1) arson<sup>11</sup>

13. In addition to the criminal activity that violates the CPRC, other crimes habitually occur at Gateway, including at least:

a. Seven (7) theft<sup>12</sup>

b. Six (6) Burglary<sup>13</sup>

c. One (1) Failure to Comply with Sex Registration<sup>14</sup>

d. Three (3) instances when suspected gang members were present

14. Despite direct knowledge of the criminal activity occurring on the property, defendants have not made a reasonable attempt to abate the activity.<sup>15</sup>

15. Defendants refused or failed to cooperate with law enforcement by not providing video surveillance when asked on several occasions, and employees or the owner were often reluctant to cooperate when they did.<sup>16</sup> **See exhibit 4.**

16. The frequency of the violations described above is prima facie evidence that the defendants' collectively and knowingly tolerate the criminal acts.<sup>17</sup>

17. Gateway Hotel is a place where persons have habitually violated and/or will likely continue to violate provisions of the CPRC.<sup>18</sup>

18. In addition to the habitual criminal activity occurring at Gateway Hotel, the problems are

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<sup>10</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015(a)(26).

<sup>11</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015(a)(25)

<sup>12</sup> TEX. PENAL CODE § 31.03

<sup>13</sup> TEX. PENAL CODE § 31.02

<sup>14</sup> TEX. PENAL CODE § 62.102

<sup>15</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015

<sup>16</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.004(d).

<sup>17</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.004(a).

<sup>18</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.0015.

exacerbated because at least ninety (90) city ordinance violations are noted. **Exhibit 4 and discussed in exhibits 9-10.**

- a. Trash is stored/kept continuously on the floors in an unsanitary condition;
- b. Occupants smoke inside the business and do not properly dispose of cigarette butts, often leaving them on the hallway floor (see **exhibit 5**);
- c. Fire exits are usually impeded or blocked;
- d. Other fire code violations are consistently present. The Gateway has been in violation of the El Paso City Fire Code since at least July 11, 2024; however, the nature of the violations listed in **exhibits 6-8** suggest that the violations are persistent. It also appears there was an inspection before July, as Officer Medina mentions seeing an inspection from the El Paso Fire Department that was conducted in April as noted in **exhibit 9**;
- e. The building does not have a certificate of Occupancy. On November 22, 2018, the Conditional Certificate of Occupancy issued to the Gateway by City of El Paso Planning and Inspections on May 22, 2018 expired. The Conditional Certificate of Occupancy only allowed use of the Lobby and the first floor. **Exhibit 3**. The business has operated since November 22, 2018 without a certificate of occupancy, and there is evidence that the defendants allow people to stay on condemned floors that never had a certificate of occupancy since the building was condemned in 2014. **See exhibits 1, 3 - 10**. If every day the hotel has operated without a certificate of occupancy is included, the number of violations skyrockets.
- f. Some on-line reviews of Gateway Hotel supports affidavits from law enforcement that Gateway Hotel has a general reputation for being a hotel that is not a clean

place to stay.<sup>19</sup> **Exhibit 11.**

**VI.**  
**APPLICABLE LAW AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

**B. Temporary and Permanent Injunction**

19. A person maintains a common nuisance if they maintain a place to which persons habitually go for any of the purposes listed in the CPRC and they “knowingly tolerate the activity and fail to make reasonable attempts to abate the activity.”<sup>20</sup>
20. The CPRC provides that “[p]roof that an activity described by Section 125.0015 is frequently committed at the place involved or that the place is frequently used for an activity described by Section 125.0015 is prima facie evidence that the defendant knowingly tolerated the activity.” Evidence of the general reputation of the place involved is admissible to show the existence of the nuisance.<sup>21</sup> In addition, evidence that persons have been arrested for or convicted of offenses for an activity described by Section 125.0015 in the place involved is admissible to show knowledge on the part of the defendant that the prohibited conduct occurred.<sup>22</sup>
21. Relevant violations of the CPRC committed at Gateway Hotel include, but are not limited to:
- a. Sec. 125.0015- Direct knowledge of activity and does not make reasonable attempts to abate;
  - b. Sec. 125.0015(a)(4) - delivery, possession, manufacture, or use of a substance or other item in violation of Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code;
  - c. Sec. 125.0015(a)(9) - aggravated assault as described by Section 22.02, Penal Code;
  - d. Sec. 125.0015(a)(23) – criminal trespass as described by Section 30.05, Texas Penal Code.
  - e. Sec. 125.0015(a)(24) – disorderly conduct as described by Section 42.01, Texas Penal Code.

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<sup>19</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.004(c).

<sup>20</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE §§ 125.0015(a) and 125.004(a).

<sup>21</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE §§ 125.004(a) and 125.004(c).

<sup>22</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.004(b).

- f. Sec. 125.0015(a)(25)-arson as arson as described by Section 28.02, Texas Penal Code
  - g. Sec. 125.0015(a)(26) – criminal mischief as described by Section 28.03, Texas Penal Code.
  - h. Sec. 125.004(c)- Evidence of general reputation of the place involved is admissible to show the existence of the nuisance.
  - i. Sec.125.004(d)- Evidence that the defendant refused to cooperate with law enforcement or emergency services with respect to the activity is admissible.
22. A county attorney has authority to enjoin and abate a nuisance in the county where the nuisance exists. The suit may be brought against any person who maintains, owns, uses or is a party to the use of a place for purposes constituting a nuisance, and may bring action *in rem* against the place itself. All named Defendants either maintain, own, use or are a party to the use of the property.<sup>23</sup>
23. If, after notice and hearing on a request by a plaintiff for a temporary injunction, a court determines that the plaintiff is likely to succeed on the merits in a suit brought under the CPRC, the court shall require that each defendant execute a bond.<sup>24</sup> The bond must be payable to the State of Texas at El Paso County; be in the amount set by the court, but not less than \$5,000.00 or more than \$10,000.00; have sufficient sureties approved by the court; and be conditioned that the defendants will not knowingly allow a common nuisance to exist at that place.
24. Should any condition of bond or any injunctive order by a court be violated, suit upon the bond in the name of the State of Texas should be allowed; and upon a showing of a violation of any condition of the bond or injunctive order, the whole sum of the bond should be ordered forfeited to the originating entity.<sup>25</sup> Further, the court may impose a laundry list of sanctions under § 125.045(b), including cutting off utilities to the place, revoking the

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<sup>23</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.002(b).

<sup>24</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.045(a).

<sup>25</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.003(a)

occupancy permit, prohibiting access through public streets or alleys, limiting hours of operation, ordering termination of the tenant's lease, or any other legal remedy available under the laws of Texas. Subsequent to the bond forfeiture, the court shall order the place where the nuisance exists closed for one year from the date of the order of bond forfeiture.<sup>26</sup>

**VII.**  
**REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

25. The State incorporates, adopts, re-alleges by reference the allegations contained in each and every preceding paragraph of this petition.
26. Violations that occur at Gateway Hotel are common nuisances within the meaning of CPRC. There have been at least one hundred fifty-three (53) violations of the CPRC.
27. The Defendants have failed or refused to abate the nuisances and are likely to continue to maintain Gateway Hotel as a common nuisance unless restrained by injunctive orders, so the State requests temporary injunctive relief against the named Defendants, enjoining them from operating in violation of the CPRC.
28. After notice and a hearing, if the court determines that the State is likely to succeed on the merits, the court shall order reasonable requirements to prevent the use and maintenance of Gateway Hotel as a nuisance and require each Defendant to execute a bond.<sup>27</sup> Each bond must be payable to the State of Texas at El Paso County; be in the amount set by the court, but no less than \$5,000.00 nor more than \$10,000.00; have sufficient sureties approved by the court; and be conditioned that each defendant executing a bond will not knowingly allow a common nuisance to exist at that place.
29. Should any condition of the bond or any injunctive order by this Court be violated, suit

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<sup>26</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.003(a) & (b).

<sup>27</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.045(a).

upon the bond in the name of the State of Texas should be allowed; and upon a showing of a violation of any condition of the bond or injunctive order, the whole sum of the bond should be ordered forfeited to El Paso County.<sup>28</sup>

30. A court that determines a vacant, abandoned or multiunit residential property is a common nuisance, the court may, on its own motion or on the motion of any party, order the appointment of a receiver to manage the property or render any other order allowed by law as necessary to abate the nuisance.<sup>29</sup>

**C. Permanent Injunction**

31. The State incorporates, adopts, re-alleges by reference the allegations contained in each and every preceding paragraph of this petition.

32. The State requests permanent injunctive relief against Gateway Hotel, enjoining Defendants from operating in violation of the CPRC.

33. If successful, the State requests the Court order the named Defendants to abate the nuisance and enjoin them from maintaining or participating in the nuisance. The State requests the Court to order reasonable requirements to prevent the use or maintenance of the place as a nuisance.<sup>30</sup>

34. As Gateway Hotel and the Property are named as *in rem* defendants, the State requests the Court order a judgment *in rem* and order the place where the nuisance exists to be closed for one year after the date of judgment.<sup>31</sup>

35. If a defendant violates any condition of the bond or any injunctive order of this Court, the El Paso County Attorney shall sue on the bond in the name of the State. Upon a showing

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<sup>28</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.003(a).

<sup>29</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.046.

<sup>30</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.002(e).

<sup>31</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.002(e).



of a violation of any condition of the bond or injunctive order, the whole sum of the bond, plus costs and attorney fees, should be ordered forfeited to El Paso County, Texas, the originating entity. Subsequent to the bond forfeiture, the court shall order the place where the nuisance exists closed for one year from the date of the order of bond forfeiture.<sup>32</sup> In addition, the court may impose the laundry list of sanctions under CPRC§ 125.045(b); including cutting off utilities to the place, revoking the occupancy permit, prohibiting access through public streets or alleys, limiting hours of operation, ordering termination of the tenant's lease, or any other legal remedy available under the laws of Texas.

36. A person who violates a temporary or permanent injunctive order is subject to the following sentences:

- a. fine of not less than \$1,000.00 nor more than \$10,000.00;
- b. confinement in jail for a term of not less than 10 nor more than 30 days;
- c. both a fine and confinement.<sup>33</sup>

**VIII.**  
**DEMAND FOR JURY**

The State demands a jury trial.

**IX.**  
**CONDITIONS PRECEDENT**

All conditions precedent to the State's claim for relief have been performed or have occurred.

**X.**  
**ATTORNEY'S FEES**

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<sup>32</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.003(a) & (b).

<sup>33</sup> TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 125.002(d).


To litigate this case, it was necessary to secure the services of attorneys and investigators. Based on §§ 125.003(b) of the CPRC, the State requests the Defendants be ordered to pay reasonable attorney and investigator fees and costs, including investigative costs, witness fees, court costs, and deposition fees.

**XI.**  
**PRAYER**

**WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED,** the State prays that the Court grant judgment in favor of the State for a temporary and permanent injunction and other such relief; issue an order *in rem* against Gateway Hotel and the property located at 104 S. Stanton, El Paso Texas 79901, and all named defendants, appear at a hearing within 14 days for a temporary injunction hearing. The State prays that no bond be required.

Respectfully submitted,

**CHRISTINA SANCHEZ**  
EL PASO COUNTY ATTORNEY  
320 S. Campbell St., Suite 200  
El Paso, Texas 79901  
Telephone: (915) 273-3238  
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BY:   
**Amy Monsivais**  
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
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<b>Type</b> Parcel	<b>Condition Name</b> BSC Condemnation on or about 2014 (Certificate of Occupancy was revoked and the structure(s) are to be remained vacant until rehabilitation is completed and C of O is reissued)
<b>Status</b> Applied	<b>Priority</b>
<b>Applied by Dept</b> P&I Property Maintenance Inspector	<b>Applied by User</b>
<b>Action by User</b>	<b>Status Date</b> 04/17/2023
<b>Parcel</b> M47399903800100	<b>Condition Status Type</b> Applied
<b>Applied Date</b> 04/17/2023	<b>Expiration Date</b>
<b>Effective Date</b> 04/17/2023	<b>Additional Information</b>
<b>Short Comments</b> BSC Condemnation on or about 2014 (Certificate of Occupancy was revoked and the structure(s) are to be remained vacant until rehabilitation is completed and C of O is reissued)	<b>Public Display Message</b>
<b>Long Comments</b> BSC Condemnation on or about 2014 (Certificate of Occupancy was revoked and the structure(s) are to be remained vacant until rehabilitation is completed and C of O is reissued)	
<b>Resolution Action</b>	
<b>Include in Condition Notice</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Condition Name <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Short Comments	<b>Display Notice</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accela Automation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACA
	<b>Action by Dept</b> P&I Property Maintenance Inspector
	<b>Severity</b> Notice

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EL PASO

## El Paso Gateway Hotel restoration an ongoing labor of love for South Korean immigrant



**Vic Kolenc**  
El Paso Times

Published 6:00 a.m. MT June 20, 2018 | Updated 1:51 p.m. MT June 22, 2018



The Gateway Hotel downtown is coming back to life, fulfilling the dream of its new owner Rudy Gutierrez / El Paso Times



The Gateway Hotel at 104 S. Stanton St., in Downtown El Paso, is being renovated by owner Howard "Danny" Yun. He's reopened one floor with 25 rooms and hopes to have all 100 rooms open by the end of the year. RUDY GUTIERREZ/EL PASO TIMES

Howard "Danny" Yun has spent the past three years cleaning and renovating Downtown El Paso's historic Gateway Hotel, which was closed four years ago after being used in an immigrant smuggling ring.

"This building was terrible" when he became owner of the 112-year-old, five-story building in 2015, said the 72-year-old South Korea native who immigrated to the United States almost 40 years ago. He's lived in El Paso 37 years.

"We threw away 20 containers of junk," chimed in Jay Park, 60, Yun's longtime friend — whom Yun calls his brother — who has been a big part of the renovation.

Yun reopened part of the hotel June 1 — the second floor with 25 rooms.

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The three other floors with 75 rooms still are under renovation with lots of work remaining.

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**CONTACT US**

This project was supported, in part, by grant number 8400000004, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.

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**CATHETERS on your Medicare Summary Notice?**

*This is a SCAM!*

If you see charges for items you did not order, call the Texas Senior Medicare Patrol report the scam.

**CONTACT US**

This project was supported, in part, by grant number 8400000004, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.

His goal is to have the entire hotel completed by the end of the year, he said.

It's located at 104 S. Stanton St., across the street from the now vacant, former J.C. Penney store.

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### Low-budget way station

It's only a block away from the new, hip Marriott Aloft hotel in the renovated, 15-story Bassett Tower, but the Gateway is in a totally different hotel world.

**More:** [Historic meets ultramodern in Bassett Tower reincarnation as Aloft Hotel](#)

The Gateway's long been a low-budget way station for mostly travelers from Mexico. And it will continue that way. The smallest rooms with a single bed cost \$38 per night; a large room with a queen bed costs \$58 per night, and the largest rooms with king beds cost \$58 per night.



Howard 'Danny' Yun sits inside a renovated room on the second floor of the Gateway Hotel, which he bought in 2015, and has been renovating ever since. It's in Downtown El Paso. RUDY GUTIERREZ/EL PASO TIMES

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The ground floor lobby has been refurbished, and a large, ground-floor restaurant space was remodeled for a prospective lessee. Several ground-floor retail spaces remain empty because Downtown business is slow, Yun said. A women's clothing shop moved into one small retail space about a year ago.

Yun's racked up a debt of about \$1.75 million — much of it on credit cards — to pay for materials, labor and property taxes, including thousands of dollars in back taxes owed by the previous owner, he said.

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No bank loan officers would give him a loan, he said.

### Saving history

"I didn't know all the problems when I bought the building," Yun said. "Many people said, 'Don't touch this building,' even my wife"

Ron Roth, a chief building inspector for the city of El Paso, said: "The building was in pretty bad shape. That's the reason we had the building vacated (in 2014)."

"Fortunately, it's a structurally sound building," he said.

**More:** [Downtown El Paso redevelopment is a story of two pioneers](#)

"I think it's an important building. It's not on the historical register. But we want to preserve all that we can," Roth said.

Yun bought the hotel in 2015 because it's a historic building that's important to save for Downtown, he said.

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"We have to keep the history. Heritage is very important," he said.

"A lot of people remember this hotel when they were growing up and their parents stayed here," Yun said. "Pancho Villa (the late Mexican revolutionary) stayed here."



Downtown El Paso Gateway Hotel renovations

### Restoration brings stress, anxiety

Yun immigrated from South Korea, first to California in 1979 and then to El Paso around 1981.

Years ago, he operated a tae kwon do studio Downtown and a Downtown general merchandise store, he said. He helps his wife, Grace Yun, operate her women's clothing store, Bella Boutique, at 408 S. El Paso St., in Downtown, he said.

But the hotel restoration project takes most of his time, he said.

While high-profile building owners with big budgets and big work crews have been busy renovating several other Downtown historic buildings into hip or high-end hotels, Yun has patiently and sometimes painfully carried on at the Gateway with only a handful of people. He and Park do most of the cleaning while a general contractor oversees the construction, Yun said.

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**More:** [Iconic Downtown El Paso Plaza building to be reborn as 131-room boutique hotel](#)

"I've had a lot of stress and anxiety" because of this building, Yun said. "I lost weight. I had to go to the hospital."

The city's Roth said he's been working with Yun and Park as they "piecemeal it back together. It's taken them awhile, but they keep plugging along."

"They are a couple of hardworking guys, and persistent," he said.

### Wood floors back to old glory

The hotel's five-story exterior was repainted. Two old Gateway Hotel signs, including a huge one on the roof, remain.

New electrical wiring and new plumbing have been installed in the hotel. New sinks and toilets are being put in the guest rooms' tiny bathrooms. Chemicals are being used to remove years of grit and rust from bathtubs. Rooms are being equipped with individual heating and cooling units.



Old wood-framed windows provide views of nearby Downtown El Paso buildings in a room under renovation in the Gateway Hotel at 104 S. Stanton St. RUDY GUTIERREZ/EL PASO TIMES

Original wood floors inside the 25 now-open guest rooms have been refinished to their past glory. Wood floors will be redone in all 100 rooms, Yun said.

New and used furniture and new mattresses have been placed in the completed rooms. Yun has bought mirrors and paintings from five-star hotels to put in rooms and hallways, he said.

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Carpet has been laid in the second and third floor hallways. The mosaic of tiny, white ceramic tiles still is visible on the hallway floors on the fourth and fifth floors. The ceramic floors were too bad to restore on the lower floors, Yun said. But now, he's debating whether the antique floors are worth saving on the upper floors.

### Years of neglect still evident

Work continues on the third, fourth and fifth floors, where the dilapidation from years of neglect still is on display. A previously leaky roof damaged ceilings and walls. The plumbing was rotten.

"That's my job. To clean this up," Yun said as he pointed to small piles of concrete on a hallway floor next to where a hole was made in the wall to install new water lines.

Bird droppings cover portions of floors in two fifth-floor rooms. Many birds and bats got through broken windows and had to be removed from the building when Yun began renovation three years ago, he said.

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About 150 windows have been replaced, he said.

### Past scarred by smuggling ring

The Gateway Hotel opened in 1928 after being converted from an office building by Trost & Trost, the famed El Paso architectural firm headed by the late, prolific and iconic Henry Trost, according to the building's history written for the El Paso Public Library and posted on the Henry Trost Historical Organization's website.

The exterior of the hotel was in a scene shot for 2004's "Glory Road" movie, about Texas Western College's 1966 national basketball championship team. And the hotel also was in 1972's "The Getaway," starring the late actor Steve McQueen.

The hotel's more recent history is as ugly as the hotel's deterioration, leading the



city to shut it down in 2014 as a safety hazard, forcing people to move out.

The previous operator of the hotel, Song U. Chon, was convicted in federal court in 2011 of money laundering and a scheme to smuggle into the United States thousands of undocumented immigrants, many of whom were housed at the hotel over the course of several years. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

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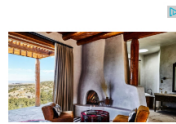
Yun's wife and a friend, David Yoon, owned the hotel building several years prior to Chon's agreeing to buy it, Howard Yun said. In 2015, they took back the building through foreclosure and that same year sold it to Howard Yun, he said.

"I don't want to sell it," Yun said of what has become his labor of love. "I promised to myself to fix it."

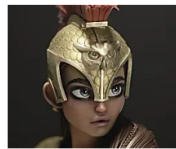
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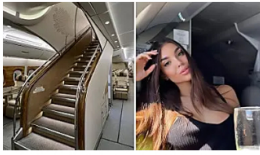
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City of El Paso  
Planning and Inspections  
Conditional Certificate of Occupancy

*El Paso*

This conditional certificate is issued pursuant to the requirements of the El Paso Building Code, Zoning Ordinance and other applicable codes and ordinances certifying that at the time of issuance, this structure is in compliance with the below mentioned codes and ordinances for the temporary occupancy and division of occupancy and the use for which the proposed occupancy is classified.

**Conditional Use Permitted:** 1. CONDITIONAL CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY FOR PARTIAL USE OF LOBBY (NO KITCHEN USE ALLOWED).  
2. FULL USE OF 1ST FLOOR

**Site Address:** 104 S. STANTON, EL PASO, TX 79901

**Permit No:** N/A

**Issue Certificate Date:** MAY 22, 2018

**Expiration Date:** NOVEMBER 22, 2018

All requirements of 30 TAC §290.46(j) and §290.46(f)(3)(E)(IV) and form §290.47(d) have been met.

Building Official :

Victor Morrison-Vega  
Deputy Director Planning and Inspections

**This is your Conditional Certificate of Occupancy  
Valid from May 22, 2018 to November 22, 2018  
Please File in a Secure Place**

DATE	CASE #	OFFENSE	OFFICER/#	NARRATIVE	CODE VIOLATION	COUNT
2011	n/a	Smuggling and Money Laundering		The previous operator of the hotel, Song U. Chon, was convicted in federal court in 2011 of money laundering and a scheme to smuggle into the United States thousands of undocumented immigrants, many of whom were housed at the hotel over the course of several years. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison.	n/a	
2014	n/a	Condemned		City Condemned the Building to remain vacant until COO reissued. (document)	City Ordinance	1
2015	n/a	purchased		Building purchased by Howard "Danny" Yun.	n/a	
2018	n/a	Article		EP Times reported on Yun's three years of renovations.	n/a	
11/22/18	n/a	No cert. of Occupancy		Conditional certificate of Occupancy for partial use of the lobby and full use of 1st floor EXPIRED.	City Ordinance	Everyday since 11.22.18
2/5/22	22036048	Theft	E. Romero #1965 and C. Widman #277	Vio-01 who resides at the Gateway Hotel #209 said property was stolen from the hallway outside his room. Vi-01 left the sofa love seat outside because he was trying to make room inside his small hotel room. Vi-01 did not report his property missing when it occurred because he was relying on the manager that he would recover the property through the hotel's surveillance cameras. The officers met with the manager to the hotel who advised that he's been looking at the surveillance cameras but has met with negative results.	TPC 31.03	1
		Failure to cooperate			CPRC 125.004(d)	1
2/5/22	22036116	Terroristic Threat/Disorderly	A. Torres #3441 and K. Fry #3463	Officers met with VI-0 who advised that while sitting inside of the hotel a subject only known by "Chris" approached VI-01 and lifted his shirt and pulled a machete from his waist band. Chris told him that he needed to talk to him later. VI-01 felt as if Chris threatened him, and feared for his safety.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
2/7/22	22038145	Theft	J. Bueno #3249 and I. Melendez #3478	Relates back to 22-036048 on 02.05.2022. Management told VI-0 they would review the cameras and VI-01 has followed up numerous times with management, and feels as if he is getting the run around. On 02/07/2022, he brought up the on-going issue again with management, and was advised by management they were going to call the cops on him since they were getting harassed by him. Officers attempted to speak with management on the but received little to no-cooperation. One manager only stated that VI-01 had a criminal history, and stated he wanted him gone.	TPC 31.03	1
2/24/22	22055126	Burglary	Officers B. Kearns #3201 and R. Lerma #1952	Vi-1 was arrested on 2/18/2022 and while she was confined asked Io-1 to take care of her dog. When she was released her dog had been removed and various items of property had been stolen. Officers met with Io-1 (Manager) who went into the room several times with one of his employees (Io-2) to enter take care of the dog. At the time of the field interview Io-01 had just come from the tap bar and appeared to be highly intoxicated. Io-1 advised he both used the hotel key to get into the room and at other times had Io-2 pop the door open with a knife. Io-2 stated Io-1 told him to call animal control to take the dog to which he did. Vi-1 advised that she believed that Io-2 was responsible for stealing her property. Attempts to make contact with the other residents of the hallway were unsuccessful. There was a security camera in the hallway but the recordings were unavailable.	TPC 31.02	1

		Failure to cooperate			CPRC 125.004(d)	1
3/11/22	22070203	Aggravated Assault	Palafox #3347 and L. Cenicerros #3504,	Officers were advised that a black male was hitting the hotel manager, VI-01/live-in manager. OF-01 grabbed a kitchen knife and lunged at VI-01. OF-01 had been following a female and calling her names for about an hour. VI-01 was sitting outside of her room with her boyfriend/WI-01 which faces Stanton street and the public sidewalk. Due to OF-01's behavior she attempted to kick OF-01 off the property for the night. OF-01 became irate and grabbed a kitchen knife from his room which is next to her room and walked towards her. OF-01 lunged at her with the knife. WI-01 pushed OF-01 away which allowed them to stand up. OF-01 with the knife still in his hand charged at VI-01 once again, VI--01 pushed OF-01 to the ground, and WI-01 kicked the knife out of OF-01 hand. OF-01 showed signs of intoxication, slurred speech, unsteady balance, and an odor of an unknown alcoholic beverage emitting from his breath and person. Officers asked OF-01 what had occurred, to which OF-01 stated "mental health".	CPRC 125.0015(a)(9)	1
		Public intox/Disorderly			CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
3/23/22	22082153	Burglary	P. Trejo #3234 and O. Ceballos #3181	Vi-01 (apartment tenant) said he and his wife (IO-01) were both placed on an emergency detention order on Sunday (03/20/22) and after being released his apartment was ransacked and numerous items missing, including a handgun and magazine. No forced entry was visible at the front door of the apartment, but the AC unit from the west side window was removed and placed on bed. IO-01, who was still in protective custody, notified him that after he was taken to U.B.H. IO-02 (hotel manager) and another female employee by the name of (Butler, Elizabeth NOI/NOD) came to his apartment. IO-02 said the surveillance cameras located throughout the hotel hallways were not functional. IO-02 said (03/20/22) he came up to Vi-01's apartment to check on their welfare and observed Vi-01's apartment door slightly ajar and unsecured. IO-02 entered the apartment and observed the AC unit at the window, and the apartment undisturbed.	TPC 31.02	1
3/24/22	22083212	Public intox/Disorderly	J. Franco #3093, P. Gomez #2561 and A. Jeddery #3200	IO-01 advised she had pushed and punched IO-01 in self defense. OF-01 was uncooperative with Officers and did not show any signs of visible injuries. OF-01 showed signs of blood shot eyes, slurred speech and had trouble walking while in the officers presence.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
		Assault/Disorderly			CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
4/16/2022	22106110	Burglary	Valdez. I #3361/Trejo, P #3234	VI-01 advised that on 04/15/2022 at approximately 0800 Hrs he left his hotel room for a doctor's appointment and returned to find many things missing, including medication. He left the door locked when he left and the door was locked when he returned later that day. Officers did not observe forced entry nor any surveillance cameras pointing in the direction of VI-01's hotel room door. Officers were unable to collect any latent prints due to the surface of the night stand. VI-01 was issued an incident card along with a case number and was advised accordingly.	TPC 31.02	1



5/5/22	22125196	Narcotics	K. Fry #3463, W. Butzon #1840, Sgt. D. Medina #2331	Yazmine Barraza (10/3/1995)/RP-01 is the daytime desk clerk. RP-01 entered OF-01's room to make sure the property was ready for housekeeping to turn the room over for a new tenant. RP-01 two large bags of Marijuana were found. As RP-01 pointed out the marijuana, officers saw 5 new athletic jerseys in plastic packing with tags attached. The jerseys were collected of a recent burglary involving sport affiliated jerseys and it was suspected that these items may have been stolen. Over 1 pound of marijuana was seized.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
5.30.2022	22150002	Burglary	D. Niebla #3567 and M. Urquidi #3442	VI-01 who explained that his WIFI router had been stolen from his apartment. VI-01 explained that he is the only one who has a key to his apartment and believes no one else should have one. The building security guard (Lassich, Joe ) said the owner of the building is the only one with access to the security footage. Officers did not observe any signs of forced entry into the property.	TPC 31.02	1
6/14/22	22165127	Theft	Alvarado #2362, Nava #3213, and Lerma #1952	Rp-01 stated that during the listed date and time Of-01 (ex-employee) stole \$5,500. on 05.28.22 via card reader. Rp-01 saw the transaction on CDA and Of-01 was the only one on duty that day and she was the only other person that had the password.	TPC 31.03	1
9/12/22	22255218	Assault/Disorderly	A. Banda #3450 and Officer J. Ruiz #3432	VI-01 and OF-01 are dating. OF-01 uses drugs. VI-01 recorded OF-01's behavior and Officers reviewed footage of OF-01 acting aggressively towards VI-01. OF-01 pushed VI-01 into a wall causing her hand to hit the she had a small cut on her index finger. OF-01 either kicked or kneed VI-01 in the right shin area and Officers noted a large bruise on VI-01 right shin. VI-01 stated that while OF-01 was on top of her, OF-01 placed his whole body weight on VI-01's chest and placed his forearm on her chest/neck area as well so that she could not breathe and felt dizzy. OF-01 got off of her and retrieved a bottle of hot sauce. OF-01 threw hot sauce directly into her eyes.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
10/1/22	22274119	Assault/Disorderly		OF became angry at VI when he was told he could not be at the hotel and immediately reached for VI's hair, pulling out 6 of her hair extension braids.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
11/24/22	22328035	Arson	J. Ortega #9844	Dispatch to a fire. Upon arrival, they heard no audible alarm or signs of a fire. FST Mielke made their way to room 209 but OF-01 refused to come out. OF-01 admitted to starting a fire but extinguished it before the fire department's arrival. He had nailed the door shut and that they would have to force entry into the room. EPFD forcibly entered the room and OF-01 had a knife in his hand. A little while later, EPFD was dispatched again. and upon arrival, there was no audible fire alarm or occupants evacuating the premise. The second floor hallway was full of smoke. OF-01 said he was afraid for his life then fled the scene on foot. The fire had multiple points of origin and it was determined the ignition source for the fire was an unknown portable open flame or heat source.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(25)	1
12/22/22	22356041	Assault/Disorderly	O. Ceballos #3181 and P. Trejo #3234	Vi-01 said he and OF-01 were awake and agreed to engage in sexual intercourse. While having sex, Of-01 became upset and punched him approximately three times in the face. Of-01 said she woke up to victim having sex with her and she "panicked" and punched victim in the face. Of-01 suffers from schizophrenia and psychosis and has mental break downs regularly.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1

12/28/22	22362084	Theft	Ezparza-Izaguirre, D. C1628	VI called the telephone reporting unit on 12 28 2022 to report the following. VI stated that between the listed times, an unknown offender took the listed property from the lobby of the hotel. VI stated that he was informed there is possibly video footage of the incident.	TPC 31.03	1
1/6/23	23006216	Narcotics	W. Ochoa #3283 and S. Medina #3336	Officers heard a female crying through the door of an apartment and knocked on the door. OF-01 answered and said he said he and OF-02 (Wife to OF-01) argued. Officer observed OF-02 naked and manically rolling around on the bed. Officer and asked if she was okay, and she stood up and jumped around not making any sense. Officer Ochoa asked OF-02 to put on clothes and she said OF-01 had drugs and fire arms. OF-02 opened a drawer and pulled out a clear plastic baggy with Methamphetamine (3.0 grams). OF-02 gave it to Officer Ochoa stating "these are his drugs." Officer Ochoa saw a black hand gun. OF-01 had outstanding traffic warrants. OF-01 said they've live there one year.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
1/26/23	23026080	Burglary	Niebal, D #3567	RP-01 saw OF-01 walking out of the basement, but he was not allowed down there. OF-01 said he was doing "some work" in the basement and would return at a later time to finish. RP-01 observed items stolen items and many other items out of place. RP-01 reviewed the security footage and observed OF-01 along with another male down in the basement going through items. RP-01 recognized the second male to be a guest in the hotel that lives there, Jorge Martinez. Officer observed the security footage and obtained a still picture of OF-01 in the basement.	TPC 31.02	1
		notice/tolerates			CPRC 125.0015	1
1/30/23	23030245	Assault/Disorderly	J. Franco #3093 and P. Gomez #2561	OF-01 yelled at VI-01 to get away from her doorway and "shut up". OF-01 said VI-01 punched her in the face. IO-02 (VI-01's husband) fought with IO-01 while in the middle of the hallway. OF-01 had redness on her left eye, left cheek, nose and a small bump above her left eyebrow. VI-01 said was outside her room and OF-01 opened the door and yelled at her. VI-01 told OF-01 to get back inside her room and mind her own business. OF-01 took a step towards her and slapped her neck with an open palm 1 time. OF-01 attempted to assault her again on her face but was able to strike OF-01 on the face in order to get OF-01 away from her. VI-01 advised at this point IO-02 got in the middle of the altercation as both parties went back inside their hotel rooms. OF-01 had a red mark on her neck.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	3
2/7/23		Sex offender registry		A sex-offender moved to the hotel and lists room on the 2nd floor as his residence.	n/a	
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
2/22/23	23053104	Failure to comply with sex Registration	Martinez, M. #2381	Officers conducted a check of a sex offender that was to be living at the Gateway. The offender had absconded.	TPC 62.102	1

3/24/23	23083223	Assault/Disorderly	D. Perez #3570 and A. Aguilar #3169	Wi-01 who works the front desk was taking a receipt up to a room when he observed OF-01 and Vi-01 in the hallway arguing. OF-01 punched Vi-01 in the face. Wi-01 observed Vi-01's face to jolt back and blood splatter onto the door and her lip bled profusely. There was a camera pointed in the direction of the room but Wi-01 advised that he did not have access to the video footage.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
		Failure to cooperate			CPRC 125.004(d)	1
4/5/23	23095025	Trash	Castro, J. #2239 and Velazquez, N. #2673	RP-01 who advised IO-01 took the trash from the dumpster and tossed to the street and also threw a glass jar to the outside wall of the hotel. RP-01 said they wanted IO-01 trespassed. IO-01 put trash back inside of the dumpster and RP-01 advised IO-01 in front of the officers that he not longer was welcome in the hotel.	City Ordinance	1
5/23/23	23143256	Exec of Criminal Warrant	A. Torres and A. Hernandez #3468	Dispatched reference to a subject with a gun. Officers met with OF-01 and OF-02. Both Of's advised of a dispute that occurred inside. Neither party advised of a gun being pointed or displayed.	n/a	
7/6/23	23187139	Theft	Quezada-Castro, C. #3158	VI-01 said he left his Silver Razor A6 scooter Valued \$108 at the hotel's lobby in an area where bikes are stored. The VI-01 stated that someone took his property without his authorization.	TPC 31.03	1
7/7/23	23188011	Aggravated Assault	D. Lopez #3205 and D. Jairam #3604	VI-01 stated the argument got heated, and OF-01 grabbed a pair of scissors and threatened to cut VI-01's dresses. OF-01 told her, Bitch, I will kill you and put you in a fucking casket, and I will be the one to embalm you." OF-01 struck VI-01 two times in face and choked her with his hands, then drug her by the hair, skinning her knees. VI-01 stated that the force of OF-01 pulling her from her hair ripped a small chunk of hair out of her head. OF-01 then stood over VI-01 with the scissors in his right hand over his head with his arm fully extended upward causing her to fear for her life. OF-01 grabbed VI-01's phone and fled the scene.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(9)	1
7/7/23	23188204	Criminal Mischief	Officers K. Leal #3639 and A. Aguilar #3169	Officers met with Maintenance worker, WI-01, who stated that while he was working on another unit in the hotel, he heard the tenant in room number 308, suspected offender, banging on the door. OF-01 kept banging on the door he saw OF-01 break the middle of the door. WI-01 verbally confronted OF-01 and OF-01 ran out of the hotel room . Other hotel staff stated that OF-01 is known to cause problems and has damaged the room before. WI-01 walked Officers to room 308 and Officers noticed the middle of the door to be broken, inside of the room to be damaged, there was shattered glass on the floor from the bathroom mirror, and multiple dents on the wall, a microwave knocked over, and a mini fridge moved out of place. WI-01 stated that the damages were approximately \$500.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(26)	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
		notice/tolerates			CPRC 125.0015	1

7/16/23	23197133	Theft	W. Ochoa #3283 and A. Marquez #3671	At 1843 hours, Vi-01 let an unknown female (OF-01) into his residence to assist her with a place to live. OF-01 had stated to him she was waiting to receive money. VI-01 left OF-01 in his apartment complex and went to the store. When he returned OF-01 was gone, as well as his documents, containing all of his personal information. VI-01 quickly made his way back downstairs and observed OF-01 in the lobby and took video of OF-01 and photos. OF-01 denied any of it. She left.	TPC 31.03	1
8/8/23	23240225	Indecency w/child/Disorderly	C. Aguilar #3499 and D. Moreno II #3644	14 year old Victim said she was at Circle K an unknown male subject asked if she had any place to stay for the night. The Victim responded "no" and he said she could stay with him at a hotel for the night and they walked to Gateway Hotel. She did not really understand what the subject was saying since he only spoke Spanish. Offender had a tattoo on his forehead with a playboy symbol and had a tattoo sleeve on his arm. When they got to the hotel the male subject touched her chest and breast area underneath the shirt. The Victim and male subject fell asleep till the following day the Victim noticed her pants were hanging off her buttocks and felt a little discomfort in her vaginal area but she was not sure if he penetrated.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
8/15/23	23227022	Criminal Mischief	R. Mendoza #3210	OF-01 retrieved a metal pipe and hit the pipe against the window causing it to break. RP-01 advised he believes the window is around 250 dollars. OF-01 said RP-01 was not there to let him in the hotel so he entered the door and then walked down the street.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(26)	1
8/24/23	23236030	Aggravated Assault	M. Vazquez #3443 and J. Rodriguez #3577	VI-01 sustained a stab wound to his left thigh and was bleeding profusely and a substantial amount of blood on the lobby floor near VI-01. Officers asked VI-01 if the offender was still on scene when he replied with "he's not here" as he was winking with his left eye. Officers found it odd and asked VI-01 what he meant by his statement. VI-01 kept winking while making the same statement. VI-01 advised a black male with a black shirt attacked him. Officers requested more descriptors of the offender but VI-01 was uncooperative. Two suspects matching the description were patted down for weapons but none were located. The clothes on both individuals were clean without any traces of foreign blood. VI-01 advised that he was outside and this black unknown male wearing a black shirt approached him and stabbed him once on his thigh with a pocket sized black foldable knife for no reason then fled.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(9)	1
9/13/23	23256083	Assault/Disorderly	R. Elicerio #2246 and Detective Kearns #3201	Vi-01 was in the front lobby and saw Of-01 walk in. Vi-01 stopped Of-01 before she went upstairs, and asked her to leave the business. A verbal argument ensued between Vi-01 and Of-01, but he managed to convinced Of-01 to leave. He followed Of-01 outside and told her not to come back. Of-01 turned around and punched Vi-01 in the chest.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1



11/6/23	23310155	Narcotics	J. Lopez #3277 and M. Martinez #3518	Officers made contact with OF-01 because he had outstanding criminal warrants and was placed under arrest. OF-01 had a small container containing methamphetamine in his front right pant pocket and a clear glass pipe with burnt residue. Officers transported OF-01 to CRCC for processing and located a clear glass pipe with burnt methamphetamine residue in OF-01's small black bag.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
1/30/24	24030070	Theft	Telephonic reporting system	RP said his property was missing.	TPC 31.03	1
2/7/24	24038177	General Reputation	Lechuga Rincon, #3406, Sgt Hernandez # 2378	RP-1 (neighbor of Gateway) said Gateway Hotel should not be operating. Subjects get on the Hotel's roof and jump on her roof and throw trash from their room into the alley between the buildings. Trash lands on their mechanical equipment and emergency egress stairwell. Officers observed a large amount of trash, including mattresses and furniture, accumulated in the alley. The Hotel has multiple broken windows, no screens on the windows, and multiple rooms occupied with no heating and cooling systems and the fourth floor of the hotel should not have occupants. She has contacted the Public Health Department, One Stop Shop at City 1, Code Enforcement, along other entities, but no assistance has been received. RP-1 stated she had been advised by Code Enforcement that EPPD was in charge of issuing and inspecting the hotel permits. Officers met with Code Enforcement #1903. Code Enforcement advised that they would start by addressing the issue of the trash located in the alley between buildings.	CPRC 125.004(c)	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
2/27/24	24058044	Criminal Mischief	Greer, A. #3196 and Pedroza, J. #3023	Hotel staff said OF-01 continuously cuts the wires from the fire alarm, and is very aggressive. OF-01 stated the alarm keeps going off and he detached the wires.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(26)	1
3/6/24	24066112	Aggravated Assault	J. Reyes #2274	Officers arrive to an aggravated assault in progress call. The Of-01 had a yellow tallboy can in his hands and threw it at the officer. Sgt. Reyes saw that Of-01 had a hammer in his hand. The Of-01 took several steps towards the officer and Sgt. Reyes deployed his taser. Sgt. Reyes continued to give the Of-01 commands to drop the hammer however the Of-01 tucked his hands as he rolled.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(9)	1
3/22/24	24081225	Aggravated Assault	Officer Morales, Sgt. Martin and Officer Marquez	Officer Morales, Sgt. Martin and Officer Marquez gave the Of-01 several verbal commands to place his arms behind his back to which the Of-01 refused and stiffened up his body and arms. Officer Morales lifted the Of-01's face up and continued to give verbal commands to have him place both of his arms behind his back. Of-01 refused to give his left arm.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(9)	1
4/7/24	24098040	Aggravated Assault	D. Guerrero #3601	VI-01 and OF-01 were arguing over cheating suspicions. OF-01 punched her in the face 3 or 4 times. VI-01's left eye swollen with red and purple marking to VI-01's left cheek. OF-01 kicked her and, drug her by her hair. OF-01 choked her with both hands and she could not breath. VI-01 had red markings on her neck. OF-01 pulled out his pocket knife and pointed at her and stated "bitch I'm going to kill you" "I hope to God I kill you as God is my witness."	CPRC 125.0015(a)(9)	1

4/17/24	24108222	Assault/Disorderly	J. Holmes #3199, Hernandez #3468, Perez #3482, Lopez #3516	Officer were dispatched to an aggravated assault at 104 Stanton, the Victim stated he was arguing with his mother inside his room and decided to leave the room to cool off. When he left the room, several unknown "Venezuelan" migrants entered the room & assaulted him w/ blunt objects. He had a deep laceration over his left eye and a swollen left hand. Victim stated he had been assaulted by them before but doesn't like to call 911. Victim did not desire prosecution.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
4/18/24	24109244	Burglary	A. Morales #3067 and A. Chapa #2675	Officers met with VI-01 who stated that unknown OFs had entered his room and stolen his immigration documents. He last saw his immigration papers on April 13th at approximately 0916 hrs. and noticed them to be missing on April 17th around 1525 hrs. Officers did not observe any signs of forced entry to the room. VI-01 always leaves his door closed and only his cousin (IO-01) has keys to his room. VI-01 suspects his cousin or friends of cousin might have entered his room and taken his documents since IO-01's documentation papers were also missing and he did not seem to be stressed out or worried. VI-01's documents were inside a dresser along with IO-01's immigration documents. Officers along with VI-01 contacted IO-01 who resides at room 328. IO-01 stated that he did not enter VI-01's room and did not take any documents. VI-01 advised Officers that he wanted his key back and IO-01 handed VI-01 the spare room key.	TPC 31.02	1
4/19/24	24110234	Assault/Disorderly	B. Ramirez #3159 and R. Castro #2930	Officers met with Vi-01 who stated to the officers that he was outside his room arguing with a male while holding a drink in his right hand. The subject hit his arm and the content of the cup spilled. Another subject hit him from behind in the back of the neck/shoulder area in a slapping motion.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
5/22/24	24-143191	EDO	Flores, M. #2696, EHN A. Ruiz	Dispatched reference to a suicide threat. They found IO-01 on the steps of the Gateway Hotel. He was anxious and appeared to be on an unknown narcotic or coming off it. IO-01 stated he was having homicidal, and suicidal ideations. He never kept up with his appointments, and began using narcotics to substitute for the medication he did not have. Officer placed him under an emergency detention.	n/a	
6/9/24		Assault/Disorderly	Medina, S. #3336, Lechuga-Rincon, A. #3406	Dispatched to a fight. A tenant Butler saw Tenant Young walking to the basement with property. Butler knew Young was not paying rent, and Young punched Butler in the face. Butler punched back. Young had been kicked out of the 4th floor. Young said Butler charged at her and hit her.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
6/11/24	24-163189	General Reputation	Gonzalez, R. #2505	VI-01 s was at the corner of Oregon and Father Rahm (Northeast corner), laying on the ground with his backpack near his head. A male subject told him to give him VI-01's backpack. VI-01 tried to walk away when other males arrived and punched him in the face (nose) then took his backpack. The male subject took a handgun out from his pocket and stated "culo te vamos a matar" if VI-01 reported the incident to the police and shot the handgun into the air. VI-01 was cooperative and provided as much detail about the incident that he recalled. The OF-01 hangs out at the Gateway and is believed to be part of the Tren de Aragua gang.	CPRC 125.004(c)	1

6/16/24	24168039	Aggravated Assault	P. Paoli #3155	A witness saw Vi-01 suffering from multiple stab wounds after an altercation on the third floor. VI-01 was part of a large group of individuals partying on the third floor. Officers observed a trail of blood leading from the plastic chair, down the hallway to a small alcove that had two more rooms. The blood stoppped in front of room 307. Officers knocked but no one answered, so Officers forced entry into room 307 but were unable to locate anyone. VI-01 emerged from a separate hallway and had suffered from multiple stab wounds to the chest, shoulder, and back and was bleeding profusely. VI-01 was uncooperative and refused to answer any questions. Security camera video footage of the incident showed a party with young children in attendance and later a large altercation in the third floor hallway. Aggravated assaults ocurred with guns (2 men had a gun) knives (several men had a knife) and a hatchet. Pictures of the scene also so bullet holes in the wall and cigarettes that were put out on the floor.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(9)	4
		Criminal Mischief			CPRC 125.0015(a)(26)	1
		Smoking in a business			City Ordinance	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
6/16/24	24168092	Terroristic Threat/Disorderly	A. Castaneda #2727 and D. Wesenberg #3086, A. Torres #3441 and A. Turrey #3496	Vi-01 (hotel clerk) said it started with a car parked in front of the business and Of-01 had used a chain to keep the front door open to make it easier to come in and out of the business as he was taking groceries. Vi-01 unlinked the chain and tried to explain to Of-01 that they could not leave the door open as the heat comes in the building. Of-01 got upset and threatened him in Spanish “voy a अगर un cuchillo y te voy a punalar.” Vi-01 provided a description of a “migrant” male. Wi-01 was in the back and came to the front when he heard screaming and sounded like a fight. Vi-01 told him Of-01 was going to get a knife. Wi-01 told Vi-01 to call police while he stayed inside and talked calmly to Of-01 and calmed him down.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
6/18/24	24170019	Narcotics	R. Mendoza #3210, C. Chavez #3543	Officers dispatched reference a burglary in progress. Officers determined no burglary had occurred but they located a baggie cocaine on the hallway floor.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
6/19/24	24-171082	Criminal Tresspass	R. Mendoza #3210, A. Lechuga Rincon # 3406	Officers conducted a business check and the manager said the 4th floor was supposed to be vacant. Officers check all floors while on the 4th floor the found it to be full of trash. Officers made contact with 2 subjects who stated they were still in the process of moving. Manager asked the Officers to advised them they only had til the end of the day.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(23)	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1

6/19/24	24171088	Disorderly	S. Medina #3336 and A. Jaziel Lechuga-Rincon #3406	OF-01 stated she knew OF-02 was not paying rent and confronted her about it. OF-02 punched OF-01 several times around her right side of the face. OF-01 stated she punched back as well due to her wanting to defend herself. Officer Lechuga-Rincon made contact with OF-02 who had previously been kicked out of the fourth floor of the gateway hotel due to it being condemned. OF-02 said OF-01 was upset because she was not paying rent as others. IO-02 stated he observed injuries of both Offenders making him think they had both gotten into a scuffle. Officers were not able to observe surveillance videos due to the cameras inside the hotel not working.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
6/20/24	24173009	Narcotics	A. Morales #3067 and A. Chapa #2675	Business check with other Metro Units at the Gateway Hotel and smelled burnt marijuana. They met with Offender who had a marijuana grinder and smoking pipe with residue on top of his dresser.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
6/20/2024	24-171082	Criminal Trespass	A. Lechuga Rincon #3406 and S. Medina #3336	Officers observed the 4 <sup>th</sup> floor to have trash all around, along with furniture and mattresses along the hallway. Officers observed some of the rooms had empty beer cans, along with dirty mattresses, and broken furniture. Officers observed the door of room #405 to be open and met with IO-1 and IO-2 who were inside the room. Officers observed the room to have property inside, along a mattress, a dresser, operating AC unit, clothes hanging inside the room, and also a microwave connected to the power outlet.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(23)	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
6/23/24	24174022	Info Received	A. Morales #3067 and A. Chapa #2675	Officers met with Reporter who advised Officers that maintenance man had pulled an extension cord from her ceiling after arguing with her about her air conditioning system. Reporter stated the extension cord struck her on the left side of the face. Reporter stated that she wanted the incident documented. Officers obtained a case number and documented incident.	n/a	
6/24/2024	24-171082	Trash	Lerma #1952	Master Case for Metro Unit. No supplement found for that day.	n/a	1
6/25/2024	24-171082	Narcotics	A. Lechuga Rincon #3406 and S. Medina #3336, D. Vargas #3336, J. Pedroza #3023 and A. Greer #3196, C. Nava # 3213 and R. Escobar #3090 and Sgt Hernandez #2378	Officers made contact with IO-4 (clerk for the hotel). Officers asked IO-4 if they could conduct a business check for the hotel, to which IO-4 stated the Officers could. Officer Lechuga Rincon asked IO-4 if anybody was still in the 4 <sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel. IO-4 stated nobody was supposed to be in the 4 <sup>th</sup> floor. IO-4 advised the Officers could check all the floors. While checking the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, Officers observed the door to room #332 to be open. Officers observed 3 people from Venezuela who claimed to work for the hotel in the room. Officers smelled burnt marijuana from inside the room. Officers observed the door to the 4 <sup>th</sup> floor to appear to be pried open. Officers also observed a gooseneck wrecking bar close to the door.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1

6/25/24	24177226	Smoking in a business	D. Wesenberg #3086 and A. Castaneda #2727	The officers observed IO-01 sitting in a lawn chair holding a cigarette to his lips but did not actually smoke the cigarette before he was advised by the officers that smoking is not allowed inside any business in the city of El Paso. IO-01 was asked if he lived in the building and IO-01 stated that he lives a couple of rooms down and then walked into his apartment (#303) to provided the officers with his positive identification. IO-01 told the officers that he did not know it was against city and hotel policy to smoke a cigarette inside the hotel. IO-01 continued to tell the officers that everybody smokes and he was unaware of the rules. The officers stated that hotel management has a zero-smoke policy within the building and it is also against city ordinance to smoke inside a public building within the city limits of El Paso.	City Ordinance	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
6/30/24	23-187139	Criminal Mischief	Leal, K #3639	The VI-01 stated that he left the listed property (Silver Razor A6 scooter Valued \$108) at the hotel's lobby. The VI-01 advised there is an area where bikes are stored and someone took is scooter. There is video surveillance in the lobby.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(26)	1
7/1/24		Fire Code Violations	D.M. Alvarez #22851	Hotel Check. People behind front desk without hotel insignia or uniform looking at paperwork. The manager said the people behind the desk were employees. The elevator was broken. The stairwell was unstable and dangerous. Trash blocked the fire exits and management was informed. Two unsupervised children (around 8 - 12 years old) were on the stairwell. Officer noted members of a Venezuelan criminal organization/gang called "Tren De Aragua" or TDA at the hotel.	City Ordinance	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
		Narcotics			CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
		Gang presence			Gang Presence	1
7/2/24		Fire Code Violations	D.M. Alvarez #22851	Responded to Trespass in progress. The trespasser had left, but the officer noted trash on the 2nd and 3rd floors and trash blocking the emergency exits. There was also trash on the 4th floor, and evidence of narcotics use. Management indicated there are no employees at the hotel after 11pm. She suspects squatters and transients stay on the condemned floors when the employees leave.	City Ordinance	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
		Narcotics			CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
7/2/24	24-185057	Criminal Tresspass	Officers R. Escobar #390 and Officer C. Nava #3213	Officers Lechuga and Medina viewed the camera footage that positively identified Of-01, who was trespassed, enter the hotel along with three other individuals.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(23)	1

7/3/24	24-185193	Criminal Trespass	A. Torres #3441, A. Turrey #3496 A. Castaneda #2727, D. Wesenberg #3086, R. Castro #2727 and B. Ramirez #3159	Dispatched for criminal trespass and Officers where advised that the subject was a Venezuelan male approximately 25 years old named Brian and wearing a grey shirt and blue jeans. Responding officers located OF-01 on the first floor in room B and made contact. While Officers spoke to OF-01, Officer Torres was flagged down by IO-01 (Manager of Hotel) who identified OF-01.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(23)	1
7/3/24	24185057	Criminal Trespass	R. Escobar #390 and Officer C. Nava #3213	Lechuga and Medina viewed the camera footage and positively identified Of-01 who had a criminal trespass, enter the hotel along with three other individuals.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(23)	1
7/11/24	ENFD24-00240	Fire Code Violations	Lance Facio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduit is open and exposed wiring outside for front signage. Multiple electrical hazards through out building.</li> <li>3. Painted sprinkler heads</li> <li>4. Trash on roof is a fire hazard</li> <li>5. Door for egress on fourth floor to small</li> <li>6. Unknown if outdoor deluge system is functional</li> <li>7. Valve missing for standpipe on roof</li> <li>8. Stairwell requires fire rated self latching doors</li> <li>9. Provide extinguisher on second floor by hall way and secondary means egress</li> <li>10. Fire alarm panel has trouble for telephone line. FACP signage required on Alarm door</li> <li>11. Illegal store being run out of room 115</li> <li>12. Expired fire suppression system in kitchen</li> <li>13. Heater door is missing and is exposed to plastic and various types of trash must clear 36 inches around heater.</li> </ol> <p>Upstairs from kitchen single room</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. Stairwell that exit basement has unacceptable repair</li> <li>15. Sprinkler coverage missing in closets in basement and various portions of the building.</li> <li>16. Various sprinkler heads taped over And escutcheons missing throughout building.</li> <li>17. Appliances misaligned under commercial kitchen hood that is expired.</li> <li>18. Building has no current certificate of occupancy</li> <li>19. Holes in various walls and ceilings throughout the entire building will not notify building inspector</li> <li>20. Sprinkler system Yellow tagged</li> </ol>	City Ordinance	19

7/13/24	23-194147	Death Unattended	M. Leblanc #3606 and I. Gutierrez #3556	Officers went to the hospital in response to a possible death. IO-01 said she had been living with De-01 for the past two years at the Gateway Hotel, and De-01 worked as security at the hotel. IO-01 last saw De-01 in the afternoon when he gave her a ride to work. De-01 was acting differently that morning, and was quieter than normal. De-01 told her he wasn't feeling well and didn't say anything else about why he was acting strange. She attempted to contact De-01 via telephone, but he did not answer. She called the front desk of the Gateway and asked IO-03 (maintenance) to check on him and IO-03 said De-01 was being transported to the hospital, so she left work and ran back to the Gateway Hotel. IO-01 stated that she got there just as Rescue 3 was transporting him, and she rode with them to the hospital. IO-01 advised that De-01 had 2 Semi heart attacks in the last 4 months. She suspected by De-01s behavior that he may be using drugs.	n/a	
7/14/24	24171082	Failure to cooperate	C. Nelms #2150, A. Perez #3482, A. Hernandez #3468	While riding past the hotel, Sgt. Nelms saw a person shouting from the front entrance area to the hotel and observed two males and one female standing outside in front of the hotel. The female was shouting up to the open windows of hotel rooms asking for someone to come downstairs to open the door. The two male individuals were trying to open the front door, but the door appeared to be locked. The female stopped shouting, turned toward Sgt. Nelms, and danced to music that one of the males was playing. The female told Sgt. Nelms to "bailar... bailar", which is Spanish for "dance... dance...". Sgt. Nelms heard the music playing to repeat the phrase "policia" several times, Spanish for police. Other officers arrived and observed hotel occupants looking down from the hotel at officers from the open windows. Officers tried to make entry to the hotel lobby to conduct a business check, but the door was locked. As officers prepared to leave, a male subject walked downstairs to open the front door to the hotel for the three individuals, then ensured the door was closed and locked. No employees at the lobby desk or in the surrounding area of the entrance were present.	CPRC 125.004(d)	1
7/17/24	24199213	On condemned floor	D. Wesenberg #3086 and A. Castaneda #2727	Officers observed IO-01 coming out of room #317 smoking a cigarette. IO-01 was asked in Spanish, as IO-01 only spoke Spanish, if he lived in the building and IO-01 stated that he lives a couple of rooms down and then walked into his apartment (#323) to provide the officers with positive identification. IO-01 was advised by the officers that smoking is not allowed inside any business in the city of El Paso. IO-01 told the officers that he did not know it was against city and hotel policy to smoke inside of the hotel. IO-01 was educated about the ordinance.	City Ordinance	1
		Smoking in a business			City Ordinance	1
7/19/24		Fire Code Violations	D.M. Alvarez #22851	Hotel Check. Trash on 2nd - 4th floor. Trish blocking fire exits. Manager was informed. Officer could smell burnt marijuana on the 3rd floor.	City Ordinance	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
		Narcotics			CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1

		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
7/20/24	24202070	Assault/Disorderly	Medina, S. #3336, Lechuga-Rincon, A. #3406	RP-1 works for the Gateway hotel and was sitting in front of the hotel, and IO-1 offered him alcohol. RP-1 told IO-1 he did not want any alcohol. IO-1 kept insisting RP-1 to drink alcohol, but RP-1 refused. IO-1 punched him in the face. RP-1 stated he did not want to do anything against IO-1, but that he wanted IO-1 trespassed from the hotel. Officers observed IO-1 to be talking to herself, and to switch between conversation topics rapidly and she walked up to random passerby and yelled at them with fists balled. IO-2 (Front desk employee of the Gateway Hotel) told IO-1 that she was criminally trespassed from the hotel. Officer Lechuga Rincon told IO-1 that if she came back to the hotel, she would be arrested.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
7/19/24		Fire Code Violations	D.M. Alvarez #22851	Hotel Check. Trash on 2nd and 3rd floor. Trish blocking fire exits. Manager was informed.	City Ordinance	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
8/3/24		Disorderly	R. Elicerio #2246, J Alvarez #2602, Lt. S. Rangel #2482, R. Escobar #3090	Front desk clerk said there is continuous noise and drinking on the 2nd floor until 4a. Officers went to the 2nd floor and saw empty beer cans and cigarette butts. On the 3rd floor, there was furniture in the hallway and piles of trash blocking a fire exit. One of the people who said they lived on the thrid floor had a tattoo associated with the Tren de Aragua gang.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(24)	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
		blocked fire exit			City Ordinance	1
		Smoking in a business			City Ordinance	1
		Gang presence			Gang Presence	1
8/7/24		Fire Code Violations	D.M. Alvarez #22851	Hotel Check. Trash on 2nd and 3rd floor. Trash blocking fire exits. Manager was informed. Also observed empty beer cans on 2nd and 3rd floor and evidence of narcotics use.	City Ordinance	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
		Narcotics			CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
8/8/24	EPFD24-00240	Fire Code Violations	Lance Facio	Only corrected "11. Illegal Store being run out of room 115." the other 18 failures remained unchanged, included painted sprinkler heads and "18. Building has no current certificate of occupancy."	City Ordinance	18
8/9/24		Fire Code Violations	D.M. Alvarez #22851	Hotel Check. Trash on 2nd and 3rd floor. Trash blocking fire exits. Manager was informed. Also observed empty beer cans on 2nd and 3rd floor and evidence of narcotics use.	City Ordinance	1
		Trash			City Ordinance	1
		Narcotics			CPRC 125.0015(a)(4)	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1



8/23/24	23235130	Criminal Mischief	Pedroza #3023	VI-01 stated that a male subject had damaged the fire/emergency stair case to her property, next to the Gateway Hotel, between the two buildings. VI-01 had pictures of the subject moving furniture on the staircase, and she heard some knocking noise as if the subject had been "hitting" something. He broke the hand rail to the first set of stairs on the fire escape. The subjects staying at the Gateway Hotel often use the fire escape stairs on her building to move furniture or even paint the building, which had caused damage to her property. The cost to repair the damage caused to the staircase would be approximately \$5,000.00. Officers contacted the Hotel's Security Guard who recognized the subject and he would "go get him". The OF-01 told the Officers that the Hotel Manager asked him for help moving a sofa out of the Hotel, so he took the sofa out through the side of the building using the fire escape stair case. The OF-01 stated that as he was bringing the sofa down it "slipped" and he accidentally dropped it, causing it to hit the rail of the staircase. Officers advised the owner of the of the ongoing incident.	CPRC 125.0015(a)(26)	1
8/19/24	EPFD24-00240	Fire Code Violations	Lance Facio	Only corrected "4. Trash on roof is a fire hazard" and "10. Fire alarm panel has trouble for telephone line. FACP signage required on Alarm door." The other 16 violations still present.	City Ordinance	16
8/23/24		Fire Code Violations	R. Elicerio #2246, J. Alvarez #2602	Noticed Venezuelans walking out of a room and cooking fumes coming from the room. The fire marshals has already warned them that they were not allowed to cooking inside their room. They said they had permission. The man had a tattoo that was consistant with the Tren De Aragua Gang.	City Ordinance	1
		On condemned floor			City Ordinance	1
		Gang presence			Gang Presence	1





Camera 08



06-15-2024 Sat 16:09:26



Camera 08



06-15-2024 Sat 19:13:44



Camera 01

06-15-2024 Sat 19:13:48



Camera 01



06-15-2024 Sat 19:15:37



Camera 01

06-15-2024 Sat 19:25:45



Camera 04



06-15-2024 Sat 19:26:21



Camera 01



06-15-2024 Sat 19:23:09



Camera 08



06-15-2024 Sat 19:23:21



Camera 03

06-15-2024 Sat 19:23:28



Camera 08

06-15-2024 Sat 19:24:39



Camera 08



06-15-2024 Sat 19:24:56



Camera 08



# FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION \*\*OFFICIAL NOTICE\*\* INSPECTION FORM



## FIRE DEPARTMENT

416 N. Stanton Ste: 300 El Paso, TX 79901 (915) 212 - 5699 Fax (915) 212-5634 FD-FPDPermits@elpasotexas.gov

Name/Title: VERONICA GUTIERREZ

ENFD24-00240

Business: GATEWAY HOTEL

Date: 7/11/2024

Address: 104 S STANTON ST, EL PASO, TX 79901

Phone: 9152791483

**We found your facility to be non-complaint with the International Fire Code 2021 edition.  
The following violations were found and require your immediate attention and correction:**

1. Conduit is open and exposed wiring outside for front signage. Multiple electrical hazards through out building.
3. Painted sprinkler heads
4. Trash on roof is a fire hazard
5. Door for egress on fourth floor to small
6. Unknown if outdoor deluge system is functional
7. Valve missing for standpipe on roof
8. Stairwell requires fire rated self latching doors
9. Provide extinguisher on second floor by hall way and secondary means egress
10. Fire alarm panel has trouble for telephone line. FACP signage required on Alarm door
11. Illegal store being run out of room 115
12. Expired fire suppression system in kitchen
13. Heater door is missing and is exposed to plastic and various types of trash must clear 36 inches around heater. Upstairs from kitchen single room
14. Stairwell that exit basement has unacceptable repair
15. Sprinkler coverage missing in closets in basement and various portions of the building.
16. Various sprinkler heads taped over And escutcheons missing throughout building.
17. Appliances misaligned under commercial kitchen hood that is expired.
18. Building has no current certificate of occupancy
19. Holes in various walls and ceilings throughout the entire building will not notify building inspector
20. Sprinkler system Yellow tagged

**A re-inspection will be conducted to assure that these items are corrected. If you have any questions, please contact us.**

**Inspection Result: FAIL W/REFEE Re-inspection Date: Amount Added: \$72**

VERONICA GUTIERREZ		7/11/2024
<b>PRINT NAME (Responsible Party)</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>
LANCE FACIO		7/11/2024
<b>PRINT NAME (FPD Official)</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>





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## FIRE DEPARTMENT

# FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION \*\*OFFICIAL NOTICE\*\* INSPECTION FORM

416 N. Stanton Ste: 300 El Paso, TX 79901 (915) 212 - 5699 Fax (915) 212-5634 FD-FPDPermits@elpasotexas.gov

*This is not a citation. Signing of this Official Notice is not an admission of guilt.*

*Payments: Development Services Cashier // 811 Texas Ave. // El Paso, Texas 79901 // (915) 212-0104*



# FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION \*\*OFFICIAL NOTICE\*\* INSPECTION FORM

EXHIBIT  
**7**

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

416 N. Stanton Ste: 300 El Paso, TX 79901 (915) 212 - 5699 Fax (915) 212-5634 FD-FPDPermits@elpasotexas.gov

**Name/Title:** VERONICA GUTIERREZ

**ENFD24-00240**

**Business:** GATEWAY HOTEL

**Date:** 8/8/2024

**Address:** 104 S STANTON ST, EL PASO, TX 79901

**Phone:** 9152791483

**We found your facility to be non-complaint with the International Fire Code 2021 edition.  
The following violations were found and require your immediate attention and correction:**

1. Conduit is open and exposed wiring outside for front signage. Multiple electrical hazards through out building.
3. Painted sprinkler heads
4. Trash on roof is a fire hazard
5. Door for egress on fourth floor to small
6. Unknown if outdoor deluge system is functional
7. Valve missing for standpipe on roof
8. Stairwell requires fire rated self latching doors
9. Provide extinguisher on second floor by hall way and secondary means egress
10. Fire alarm panel has trouble for telephone line. FACP signage required on Alarm door
12. Expired fire suppression system in kitchen
13. Heater door is missing and is exposed to plastic and various types of trash must clear 36 inches around heater. Upstairs from kitchen single room
14. Stairwell that exit basement has unacceptable repair
15. Sprinkler coverage missing in closets in basement and various portions of the building.
16. Various sprinkler heads taped over And escutcheons missing throughout building.
17. Appliances misaligned under commercial kitchen hood that is expired.
18. Building has no current certificate of occupancy
19. Holes in various walls and ceilings throughout the entire building will not notify building inspector
20. Sprinkler system Yellow tagged

**A re-inspection will be conducted to assure that these items are corrected. If you have any questions, please contact us.**

**Inspection Result:** **FAIL W/REFEE** **Re-inspection Date:** **Amount Added: \$72**

VERONICA GUTIERREZ		8/8/2024
<b>PRINT NAME (Responsible Party)</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>

LANCE FACIO		8/8/2024
<b>PRINT NAME (FPD Official)</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>DATE</b>

*This is not a citation. Signing of this Official Notice is not an admission of guilt.*



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## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

# **FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION \*\*OFFICIAL NOTICE\*\* INSPECTION FORM**

416 N. Stanton Ste: 300 El Paso, TX 79901 (915) 212 - 5699 Fax (915) 212-5634 FD-FPDPermits@elpasotexas.gov

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FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
\*\*OFFICIAL NOTICE\*\*
INSPECTION FORM



FIRE DEPARTMENT

416 N. Stanton Ste: 300 El Paso, TX 79901 (915) 212 - 5699 Fax (915) 212-5634 FD-FPDPermits@elpasotexas.gov

Name/Title: VERONICA GUTIERREZ ENFD24-00240
Business: GATEWAY HOTEL Date: 8/19/2024
Address: 104 S STANTON ST, EL PASO, TX 79901 Phone: 9152791483

We found your facility to be non-complaint with the International Fire Code 2021 edition.
The following violations were found and require your immediate attention and correction:

- 1. Conduit is open and exposed wiring outside for front signage. Multiple electrical hazards through out building.
3. Painted sprinkler heads
5. Door for egress on fourth floor to small
6. Unknown if outdoor deluge system is functional
7. Valve missing for standpipe on roof
8. Stairwell requires fire rated self latching doors
9. Provide extinguisher on second floor by hall way and secondary means egress
12. Expired fire suppression system in kitchen
13. Heater door is missing and is exposed to plastic and various types of trash must clear 36 inches around heater.
Upstairs from kitchen single room
14. Stairwell that exit basement has unacceptable repair
15. Sprinkler coverage missing in closets in basement and various portions of the building.
16. Various sprinkler heads taped over And escutcheons missing throughout building.
17. Appliances misaligned under commercial kitchen hood that is expired.
18. Building has no current certificate of occupancy
19. Holes in various walls and ceilings throughout the entire building will not notify building inspector
20. Sprinkler system Yellow tagged

A re-inspection will be conducted to assure that these items are corrected. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Inspection Result: FAIL W/REFEE Re-inspection Date: Amount Added: \$72

Table with 3 columns: Name, Signature, Date. Rows for Veronica Gutierrez and Lance Facio.

This is not a citation. Signing of this Official Notice is not an admission of guilt.

Payments: Development Services Cashier // 811 Texas Ave. // El Paso, Texas 79901 // (915) 212-0104

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

§

COUNTY OF EL PASO

§

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Before me the undersigned authority, on this day, personally appeared Officer Samuel A. Medina #3336, who being duly sworn and upon oath stated:

“My name is Samuel A. Medina. I am over 21 years of age, of sound mind, capable of making this affidavit, and have personal knowledge of the facts stated within this document. I affirm the facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and I am competent to testify to these facts.

Affiant is employed as a Police Officer with the El Paso Police Department (EPPD) in El Paso County, Texas and has been employed as such since January 22, 2019. Affiant is presently assigned to the Central Regional Command Center (CRCC) Metro Unit in El Paso, TX. Affiant along with the Metro Officers noted below conducted business check operations and responded to criminal calls for service at the Gateway Hotel located at 104 S. Stanton St. in the City of El Paso, El Paso County Tx. 79901. Further details of the investigations and conversations, noted below, are in EPPD case number reports.

On Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 2145 hours, Officers J. Holmes #3199, A. Hernandez #3468, A. Perez #3482 and M. Lopez #3516 responded to 104 S. Stanton #317 (Gateway Hotel) reference a subject disturbance. Upon arrival the officers were flagged down by Blanca Arredondo de Romero (Mother of Moctezuma Arredondo) reference an aggravated assault. The Officers observed M. Arredondo had a deep laceration over his left eye just above the eyebrow, and a swollen left hand. The Officers requested FMS to the scene for injuries to M. Arredondo. Officers Lopez placed a bandage around M. Arredondo's head to stop the bleeding. While at the scene Officer Holmes spoke to B. Arredondo de Romero who stated she had got into an argument with M. Arredondo because he had been drinking. B. Arredondo de Romero stated she had yelled for someone to call the police, because she felt M. Arredondo could get violent. B. Arredondo de Romero stated that several Hispanic Males from Venezuela entered the room and beat up M. Arredondo. B. Arredondo de Romero did not know what weapons were used if any. FMS pumper 1 and rescue 1 responded and M. Arredondo was transported to UMC. The officers followed the blood trail to room 317. The officers observed the room to be in disarray with a blood trail beginning on the right side of the bed and leading out the door. Officers Lopez and Perez conducted a follow-up at UMC Hospital to meet with M. Arredondo. M. Arredondo stated that he got into an argument with his mother (B. Arredondo de Romero) and that whenever they get into an argument, B. Arredondo de Romero leaves the room to calm down. According to M. Arredondo, once B. Arredondo de Romero exited the room, a group of migrants (unsure how many) went inside the room and assaulted him with blunt objects. M. Arredondo then pointed to his forehead to show the officers how he got the laceration to his forehead and the swollen left hand. M. Arredondo mentioned that this is not the first time that he

has gotten assaulted by the same group of people; however, he does not like to call 911 for assistance.

On Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup> of 2024, Officer P. Paoli #3155, was dispatched to 104 S. Stanton (Gateway Hotel) in reference to a stabbing in progress. Upon arriving on scene, Officer Paoli met with Veronica Miranda Gutierrez (Clerk for the hotel) who advised that she had seen Francelus Coronado (Tenant) suffering from multiple stab wounds after an altercation occurred on the third floor. Gutierrez said Coronado was part of a rather large group of individuals partying on the third floor and that some sort of altercation broke out that resulted in Coronado being stabbed multiple times. Gutierrez went on to say that "they" (immigrants staying at the Gateway) don't respect anything and are always partying (drinking, smoking weed) and leaving a mess all over the place. Officer Paoli made his way to the third floor in an attempt to locate Coronado. On the third floor, Officer Paoli observed a white plastic chair in the middle of the hallway covered in blood, but was unable to locate Coronado, even after announcing his presence on scene. Officers Pozas #3349 and Sanchez #3678 arrived on scene to assist. Officers observed a trail of blood leading from the plastic chair, down the hallway to a small alcove that had two more rooms. Officers observed the blood to stop in front of room 307. Officers knocked loudly and announced themselves but were met with negative results. Coronado emerged from a separate hallway. Coronado was suffering from multiple stab wounds to the chest, shoulder, and back and was bleeding profusely. Coronado was extremely uncooperative with the Officers and refused to answer any questions. Coronado just insisted on getting help for his injuries. FMS arrived on scene and assisted in transporting Coronado to University Medical Center for treatment. Officer Paoli conducted a follow up at UMC. While at UMC Officer Paoli was advised by medical staff that after tests and imaging services were conducted on Coronado, he was not in danger of expiring and that his wounds were not serious. Officer Paoli returned to the original scene and was shown security camera video footage of the incident. Officer Paoli observed a large altercation between 10-15 individuals break out in the third-floor hallway and Coronado and Carlos Andre Matutes exchanged words and the altercation turned physical, resulting in Coronado getting stabbed.

On Sunday June 16<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 1701 hours, Officers A. Castaneda #2727, D. Wesenberg #3086, A. Torres #3441 and A. Turrey #3496 while on patrol were dispatched to an aggravated assault in progress. Upon arrival the officers met with Ray (Hotel Clerk) who was sitting down across from the business. Ray said that it started with a car parked in front of the business and the subject used a chain to keep the front door open to make it easier to come in and out of the business as he was taking groceries. Ray unlinked the chain and tried to explain to the subject that they could not leave the door open as the heat comes in the building, the subject got upset and threatened him in Spanish "voy a agarrar un cuchillo y te voy a puñalar." Ray provided a description of a "migrant" male about 5'10 wearing a red and white shirt and shorts and was possibly wearing a cap but unsure about the cap. Officers talked to Chambless Jr. who was in the back and came to the front as he heard screaming and sounded like a possible fight. Chambless Jr. spoke to Ray who told him the subject said that he was going to get a knife. Chambless Jr. stayed inside and talked calmly to the subject and was able to calm him down. Chambless Jr. stated that the subject was very upset and Chambless Jr. believed he could have a knife but that he never saw the unknown subject with a knife.

On Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 0250 hours, Officers C. Chavez #3543 and R. Mendoza #3210 were dispatched to 104 N Stanton in reference to a burglary of habitation in progress. After determining there was no burglary, Officers located a small vial with a white powdery substance in the hallway. Officers believed and later confirmed it to be cocaine using test kit G. Officers weighed and submitted the vial as abandoned.

On Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 1300 hours, Officers A. Lechuga Rincon #3406 and Affiant conducted a business check at 104 S. Stanton St. (Gateway Hotel). Officers contacted Rosselyn Lyda Ratjen (clerk for the hotel). Officers asked Ratjen if they could conduct a business check for the hotel, to which Ratjen stated the Officers could. Officer Lechuga Rincon asked Ratjen if anybody was staying on the 4th floor of the hotel. Ratjen responded nobody was supposed to be there due to it being condemned and everybody had been told to move out of the 4th floor and the deadline had been the beginning of June. Ratjen requested Officers to search for people on the 4th floor. Officers observed the 4th floor to have trash all around, along with furniture and mattresses around the hallway. Some of the rooms had empty beer cans, along with dirty mattresses with obvious signs of people sleeping on them overnight. Officers observed the door of room #405 to be closed but heard chatter coming from inside of it. Officers made contact and met with Jaqueline Young (Tenant not on any lease) and Luis Jose Jaramillo Zurita (Tenant not on any lease) who were inside the room. The room had property inside, a mattress, a dresser, operating AC unit, clothes hanging inside the room, and a microwave connected to the power outlet. Young advised she was living inside the room, but that she was moving out, and that Zurita was helping her. Officer Lechuga Rincon contacted Ratjen and asked her about Young and Zurita. Ratjen said everybody had been told to leave the 4th floor and Young needed to move out of the 4th floor that same day. Officer Lechuga Rincon relayed the message to Young.

On Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 1355 hours, Affiant and Officer Lechuga Rincon #3406, were dispatched to the Gateway Hotel located at 104 S. Stanton St. in reference to a fight in progress. Upon arrival, Officers met with several parties at the front lobby of the hotel. Affiant contacted Elizabeth Butler (Tenant) who advised she was sitting outside in the lobby along with Raul Lopez-Corral (Tenant) and Cruz Anjelica Alvarez (Tenant) singing and chatting. Butler saw Jacqueline Young (Tenant) walking down from the stairs of the 2nd floor and noticed she was heading to the basement along with property. Butler knew Young was not paying rent and confronted her about it. Butler told Young she could not stay downstairs in the basement. Young got highly upset and started charging towards Butler punching her several times around her right side of the face. Butler punched back to defend herself. Officer Lechuga Rincon contacted Young who had been kicked out of the fourth floor of the gateway hotel due to it being condemned. Young advised she was placing her belongings in the basement for Alvin Ardell Chambless Jr. (Maintenance) to hold them for safekeeping and noticed Butler walked towards her. Butler was highly upset because she was telling Young she was not paying rent as others. Young argued back verbally with Butler and Butler charged towards her pushing her to the wall and punching her several times causing minor redness and scratches around her neck and upper chest area. Affiant asked Chambless Jr. and Alvarez if they had observed anything as they were with Butler but stated they only observed Butler go towards the basement hallway to argue with Young. Chambless Jr. stated he separated both Butler and Young as they were verbally arguing. Chambless Jr. observed injuries of both Offenders making him think they had



both gotten into a scuffle. Officers were not able to observe surveillance videos due to the cameras inside the hotel not working.

On Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 1000 hours, Officers A. Lechuga Rincon #3406 and Affiant, conducted a business check at 104 S. Stanton St. (Gateway Hotel). Officers D. Vargas #3363, R. Lerma #1952, J. Pedroza #3023, A. Greer #3196, C. Nava # 3213, Sgt. R. Hernandez #2378 and R. Escobar #3090 were also at the hotel to assist. Officers contacted Veronica Gutierrez (clerk for the hotel). Officers asked Gutierrez if they could conduct a business check for the hotel and Gutierrez stated they could. Officer Lechuga Rincon asked Gutierrez if anybody was still in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel and she said nobody was supposed to be in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor but would like Officers to check all the floors including the basement, and to let her know if anybody was in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Officer Lechuga Rincon asked Gutierrez if she had a log with the people that were occupying each room and Gutierrez provided the Officer with a paper with all the rooms written down along the names (first name only) of the people at each room Gutierrez told the Officer approximately how many people where in each room and that she did not know if some of the rooms still had people living in them because they had not paid rent. She also said some residents kept bringing in people that where not on the hotel's records. Gutierrez gave the Officer a copy of the Fire Inspection Notice that the hotel received on 04-25-24. Officers noticed some of the rooms had extension cords coming out of the rooms, which ran through the hallway and were connected to electrical outlets along the hallway wall. The 3rd floor north fire exit was blocked with trash and broken furniture. Officer Lechuga Rincon notified Gutierrez of the issue. On the 4th floor, Officers observed the door to room #405 was locked. Officers knocked on the door, and Thomas Langley (not on any lease) opened the door. Langley had a pocket knife in his right jeans pocket along other sharp tools. Officers believed Langley was trespassing. Langley was detained and his knife and sharp tools were removed. Jaqueline Young was also inside the room. Both Langley and Young were encountered the day before (06/19/24) and were not supposed to be in the room. The room still had all the furniture and clothing the Officers had observed the previous day Gutierrez requested Officers to escort Young and Langley off the 4th floor.

On Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 2255 hours, Officers A. Morales #3067 and A. Chapa #2675 while conducting a business check along with other Metro Units at the Gateway Hotel (104 S. Stanton) met with Ricardo Linado Mazo (Tenant) who in plain view had a marijuana grinder and smoking pipe with residue on top of his dresser. Mazo stated he smoked marijuana earlier in the day but did not have any more on him or his property. Officers issued Offender a Class C Citation (33713440) for the drug paraphernalia. Officers submitted the drug paraphernalia at CRCC mailbox as evidence.

On Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2024, at approximately 0210 hours, Officers A. Morales #3067 and A. Chapa #2675 were dispatched to 104 S. Stanton (Gateway Hotel) in reference to an assault call. Upon arrival, Officers met with Rosselynn Lyda Ratjen (Tenant) who advised Officers that maintenance man had pulled an extension cord from her ceiling after arguing with her about her air conditioning system. Reporter stated the extension cord struck her on the left side of the face.



On June 25<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 1055 hours, Officers A. Lechuga Rincon #3406, conducted a business check at 104 S. Stanton St. (Gateway Hotel). Officers D. Vargas #3336, J. Pedroza #3023 and A. Greer #3196, C. Nava # 3213 and R. Escobar #3090 and Sgt Hernandez #2378 were also at the hotel to assist. Officers contacted Veronica Gutierrez (clerk for the hotel). Gutierrez told Officers they could conduct a business check. Gutierrez stated nobody was supposed to be on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Officers observed the door to room #332 to be open. Daniel De Jesus Ariza Ayala, Stephani Dixberli Gurrola Morales and Ricardo Lindado, subjects from Venezuelan were inside the room. Ayala and Lindado said they worked for the hotel, and that they were working on the room. Morales said she cleaned for the hotel. Officers smelled burnt Marijuana inside the room. Ayala and Lindado stated they smoked Marijuana earlier in the day, but did not have anymore. Officers did not observe any Marijuana inside the room. Officers observed the door to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor to be pried open. There was a gooseneck wrecking toolbar close to the door. No subjects were located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel.

On Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> of 2024, at approximately 2254 hours, Officers D. Wesenberg #3086 and A. Castaneda #2727 arrived at 104 S. Stanton (Gateway Hotel) in reference to daily hotel checks for the property. The officers observed Pedro Enrique Rojas-Carmona (Tenant) sitting in a lawn chair holding a cigarette to his lips but did not actually smoke the cigarette before he was advised by the officers that smoking is not allowed inside any business in the city of El Paso. Rojas-Carmona was asked if he lived in the building and Rojas-Carmona stated that he lives a couple of rooms down and then walked into his apartment (#303) to provide the officers with his positive identification. Rojas-Carmona told the officers that he did not know it was against city and hotel policy to smoke a cigarette inside the hotel. Rojas-Carmona continued to tell the officers that everybody smokes and he was unaware of the rules. The officers stated that hotel management has a zero-smoke policy within the building and it is also against city ordinance to smoke inside a public building within the city limits of El Paso.

On Tuesday, July 2, 2024 Officers R. Escobar #3090 and C. Nava #3213 were dispatched to 104 S. Stanton in reference to a criminal trespass in progress. The Officers arrived on scene and met with Veronica Gutierrez who stated the last time the Officers were there, she had a subject who was criminally trespassed walk into the hotel with a group of other individuals. Gutierrez told the subject, "You cannot be in here, you need to leave". Gutierrez stated that the individual kept walking upstairs and that is when she called police.

The Officers asked Gutierrez where was the subject was located, she stated that he went to the 4th floor then watch him on the cameras leave out the back door into the alley. The Officers checked the alley area for the subject but were unable to locate the subject.

On Wednesday, July 3, 2024, Officers R. Escobar #3090, A. Lechuga Rincon #3406 and Affiant conducted a follow up in reference to the Criminal trespass at the listed address at approximately 9:30hrs. The Officers arrived on scene and met with Ray who played the video footage of Burgos-Morales coming into the hotel. Officers Lechuga Rincon and Affiant viewed the camera footage and positively identified Burgos-Morales who entered the hotel along with three other individuals. The investigation revealed that the listed offense had occurred.

On Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> of 2024, at approximately 1650 hours, Officers A. Torres #3441, A. Turrey #3496, A. Castaneda #2727, D. Wesenberg #3086, R. Castro #2727 and B. Ramirez

#3159, were dispatched to 104 S. Stanton in reference to a criminal trespass in progress. Officers were advised by dispatch that the subject was a Venezuelan male approximately 25 years of age by a name of Brian wearing a grey shirt and blue jeans. Dispatch had also advised that day shift Officers had previously attempted to locate the subject earlier in the day but were met with negative results. Responding officers located Burgos-Morales on the first floor in room B and made contact. While Officers spoke to Burgos-Morales, Officer Torres was flagged down by Gutierrez (Manager of Hotel). Gutierrez pointed at a live surveillance feed and stated "That's him, that's Brian" and pointed at Burgos-Morales on the screen. Officer Torres then went back to room B and placed Burgos-Morales into handcuffs to detain Burgos-Morales to further investigate. Burgos-Morales was escorted outside of the business by other officers while Officer Torres gathered information from dayshift officers about the listed Burgos-Morales's on-going criminal trespass investigations. Due to the fact that Burgos-Morales did not have a valid picture ID on him and because he matched the description of the subject previously investigated for criminal trespass, Burgos-Morales was transported to CRCC for paperwork. While at the station, Officers determined that Burgos-Morales's criminal trespass investigations are still on-going pending additional information. (See Field Contact # 24-0439 and Case # 24-185057). Burgos-Morales was then released from the station along with his property. Burgos-Morales was advised his case is still under investigation and would be documented. Burgos-Morales was then given a trespass warning on behalf of The Gateway Hotel due to the fact the Gutierrez advised that she had told Burgos-Morales several times already that he was not allowed to be at his business and that he needed to leave. Burgos-Morales stated that he understood what the warning meant and that he would not go back.

On July 14, 2024, at approximately 2300 hrs., Sergeant C. Nelms #2150, rode past 104 S. Stanton St. (Gateway Hotel). While riding past the hotel, Sgt. Nelms observed a subject shouting from the front entrance area to the hotel. Sgt. Nelms approached and observed two males and one female standing outside of the front doorway to the hotel. Sgt. Nelms stopped his bicycle to hear more clearly what the individuals were yelling. The female individual was shouting upward towards open windows of hotel rooms as if indicating for someone to come downstairs to open the door. The two male individuals were trying to open the front door by pulling on the front door, but Sgt. Nelms observed the door to appear to be locked. The female individual stopped shouting, turned toward Sgt. Nelms, and began dancing to music that one of the male individuals was playing. The female then started telling Sgt. Nelms to "bailar... bailar", which is Spanish for "dance... dance...". Sgt. Nelms observed the music playing to repeat the phrase "policia" several times, Spanish for police. Officers A. Perez #3482 and A. Hernandez #3468, then arrived to the scene and observed several hotel occupants looking down from the hotel at officers from the open windows. Officers attempted to make entry to the hotel lobby, in order to conduct a business check of the listed premise, but observed the door to be locked. Officers then knocked several times so that an employee would open the door but were met with negative contact due to the front desk and surrounding area being unoccupied. As officers were preparing to leave, they observed a male subject walk downstairs to open the front door to the hotel for the three individuals that Sgt. Nelms observed outside initially. After allowing the subjects in, the male subject then ensured that the door was again closed and locked. Officers again observed there were no employees at the lobby desk or in the surrounding area of the entrance.

On August 3, 2024, at approximately 1015 hours, Officers R. Elicerio #2246 and J. Alvarez #2602 were conducting a business check at 104 S. Stanton. Officers were assisted at the scene by Lt. S. Rangel #2482 and Officer R. Escobar #3090. Upon arrival, officers met with the front desk clerk, Victor Ray who immediately advised of continuous noise disturbances and drinking on the second floor late into the night (until 4 am). Officers asked the front desk clerk if it was ok for the officers to go and check the floors upstairs. Officers went upstairs to the second floor and did notice several empty beer cans and cigarette butts throughout the floors, especially outside of rooms 221 and 219. Officers proceeded to the third floor where they observed several furniture items on the hallway as well as piles of trash blocking a fire exit on the third floor. Officers noticed several empty beer cans and cigarette butts outside of room 302 and knocked on the door to meet with the occupants (Raul Jose Salazar-Velasquez and Oriadna Borjas-Rodriguez) in that room. Officers met with the occupants in room 302 and they stated that they had just rented the room for two hours and had no idea about the empty beer cans. Officers continued to check the fourth floor as well as the roof top and they checked ok. On their way down, on the second floor, Officers met with Junior Jose Salcedo-Mojica who advised he was trying to get a better signal for his phone, and he lives on the third floor in room 315. Officers asked Junior Jose Salcedo-Mojica for an ID and he said it was in his room. Officers went upstairs and met with Lonnie Alejandro Villanueva-Rodriguez (Salcedo-Mojica's roommate). Officers had noticed a tattoo in Salcedo-Mojica's left forearm associated to the Train De Aragua gang. Officers also noticed a tattoo a rose to Salcedo-Mojica's right neck area. After meeting with Villanueva Rodriguez, officers noticed a tattoo of two names with a five-point crown on his right forearm (inside). Officers asked the meaning of the tattoos, and he stated it was his daughters' names.

On Thursday August 23, 2024 Affiant, Officers R. Elicerio #2246 and J. Alvarez #2602 responded to a domestic violence call for service that turned out to be civil in nature and no assault had occurred. As Officers were walking out of the building on the second floor, they noticed a couple of Venezuelans (Frandi David Lucena Caruzi and Vicmary Yesenka-Torres Martinez) walking out of their room #210. Officers noticed cooking fumes coming out of the room and contacted them. Officers asked why they were cooking inside their small bedroom as they had been told by the El Paso fire marshals that they are not allowed to cook inside the tenant's rooms, especially if they are propane propelled portable hot stoves. Caruzi stated he is allowed to cook their food inside their rooms since he was given permission by the front desk management. Caruzi, had a crown tattoo on his arm along with paw tattoos. Affiant and my partner have noticed a trend of Venezuelans that carry the same tattoo representing Tren De Aragua Gang association. Upon stating the facts of the above-mentioned calls for service, criminal incidents along with business checks, these incidents demonstrate all of the criminal activity that's occurring based on Officers encounters each time at the Gateway Hotel. Thru my training and experience I can easily say there's a very high level of Drug activity happening from drug addicts squatting on the condemned floors. We have contacted subjects that are sleeping on the vacant rooms with obvious signs of disorientation, due to them being high on narcotics, with clear glass pipes and small plastic baggies next to them.

There should be concern due to the establishment and rise of the Venezuelan Criminal Organization "Tren de Aragua" at the Gateway Hotel. We discovered several Venezuelans have

the tattoo identifiers of Tren de Aragua. Myself and my partner Lechuga Rincon have contacted more than ten Venezuelans claiming to work at the hotel in order to be able to pay rent. As we contact them we track and document all of their tattoos which represent different ranks in the criminal organization some examples being: Basketball athlete "Michael Jordan #23 Logo" representing the revolution Aragua, Venezuela. AK47 tattoos representing their strongest caliber gun Aragua members like to use when committing aggravated assaults. Star tattoos representing high level rank within Tren de Aragua. And many Venezuelans with grenade tattoos representing their criminal organizations to be bulletproof. And finally, many Venezuelans with Train tattoos representing their name of the Gang Tren de Aragua or Train of Aragua.

Through Officers training and experience we suspect there is Prostitution happening inside the Gateway hotel. A Venezuelan female suspected of running prostitution, has been seen coming out of the hotel multiple times and get picked up by multiple vehicles, then dropped off several hours later. The female has been seen at the Sacred Heart Church area going in with multiple Venezuelan males into the port-a-potties in past incidents. After speaking with different Venezuelans in the area, they state that the female offers sex for money. We confirmed the female lives at the Gateway Hotel with her kids. Further, several subjects have told us about the high activity of narcotics, prostitution and weapons occurring inside the hotel. All subjects have become uncooperative in providing their information to law enforcement as they want to remain anonymous due to fear of retaliation from the criminal organization.

In Conclusion, what I believe would happen if the Gateway Hotel were allowed to remain operating would be continuous incidents of criminal activity like aggravated assaults. Even in prior years there was high level of calls for service from the hotel regarding subjects consuming methamphetamine and assaulting each other, with criminal activity increasing with the introduction of the Tren de Aragua organization into the hotel. I think there would still be problems there because the building is not well maintained for living conditions. Since they don't charge 100 percent for rent, usually homeless, Venezuelan gang members with low-income wages will choose to live there causing them to start criminal activities in order to generate income. Other than the criminal activity, if it remains open, it is so hazardous that pretty soon a child or a teenager will have an accident due to the windows not having screens and no locking mechanism to keep them from kids accidentally falling from the windows or the side stairs.

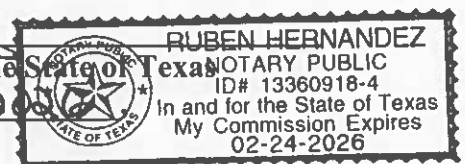
**Samuel Adrian Medina #3336**  
**El Paso Police Department**  
**CRCC Metro Unit**

  
3336  
\_\_\_\_\_  
AFFIANT

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED  
August, 2026.

before me on this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the State of Texas  
Commission expires: 02-24-2026



20 \_\_\_\_.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF EL PASO

Before me the undersigned authority, on this day, personally appeared Officer Dionicio M. Alvarez #2285, who being duly sworn and upon oath stated:

“My name is Dionicio M. Alvarez #2285. I am over 21 years of age, of sound mind, capable of making this affidavit, and have personal knowledge of the facts stated within this document. I affirm the facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and I am competent to testify to these facts.

Affiant is employed as a Police Officer with El Paso Police Department in El Paso County, Texas and has been employed as such since August 2002. Affiant is presently assigned to the Community Relations Unit as a Police Area Representative (“PAR”) in El Paso, Tx.

Unless otherwise indicated, this affidavit describes the participation of PAR, Affiant in full uniform operations at the Gateway Hotel located at 104 S Stanton, in the City of El Paso, El Paso County, TX. 79901. The purpose was to investigate criminal violations that have occurred in this location. Any mention, in this affidavit, of criminal activity or violations further details of the investigations and conversations, noted below, are in El Paso Police Department reports.

On 7/01/24, Officer D.M. Alvarez #2285 Affiant arrived to Gateway Hotel at approximately 12:45 p.m., The Affiant entered the Gateway Hotel for a regular business check. Once inside Affiant observed several people behind the courtesy desk looking through paper work. Affiant did not observe any type of uniform nor any type of logo displaying on their person or clothing to show these people worked for Gateway Hotel. Affiant asked for the manager of the Gateway Hotel and was referred to Veronica Gutierrez who confirmed to she was the manager. Affiant asked if the people behind the desk were employees and learned that they assist the manager during working hours. Affiant checked the elevator in order to get to the second floor and learned that the elevator has not been in service for over a year due to maintenance upkeep. Affiant took the stairwell to get to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floor, which appeared to be unstable and dangerous for the public to walk on. During the duration of the operation/business check, Affiant walked upstairs and observed trash throughout 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Affiant checked the emergency exit and observed trash on the fire escape blocking access to the fire exit stairs. Affiant, while walking up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor found 2 children of ages 8 to 12 years of age in the stairwell playing

games on their cell phones blocking the entrance to the hallway. Affiant asked if they were ok and the children in the stairwell stated that they were and continued to play games on their cellular phones. Affiant did not observe any type of supervision to the children on the stairwell. Affiant continued the check and observed several males speaking Spanish with an accent different than what Affiant is familiar to in El Paso, Tx. Affiant discovered several Venezuelans that had tattoo identifiers of Tren de Aragua, a gang affiliated to Venezuela. Affiant observed males walking through out the hotel with tattoos associated with the criminal organization known as "Tren de Aragua", Affiant made contact with manager (Veronica Gutierrez) of Gateway Hotel and advised her of the trash blocking the fire exits. Affiant also observed, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, empty beer cans and clear plastic baggies corners torn in a manner commonly used to hold narcotics. Affiant also learned that the males walking around are employees that work for Gateway Hotel in order to pay for their stay at the hotel. Affiant observed the employee/tenants did not have a uniform or clothing with any type of logo to show employment by Gateway Hotel.

On 7/02/24, Affiant arrived to Gateway Hotel at approximately 12:30 p.m. for a trespass in progress. Affiant checked the Gateway Hotel and met manager Veronica Gutierrez who advised said the offender (trespasser) left and was a visitor of an occupant of the Gateway Hotel. Affiant checked the business and observed trash throughout the hallways on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors. Affiant informed the manager of the trash that blocked emergency exits. Affiant did not locate a trespasser. Affiant also informed the manager that on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Affiant observed empty beer cans and clear plastic bags that had their corners torn in a manner commonly used to hold cocaine. Affiant explained that there should be no one on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor due to it being condemned. The manger stated that no one is up on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, but after approximately 23:00 hrs, when management leave, unknown residents, possibly transients, make their way to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor and leave prior to 7:00 a.m. Affiant explained to the manager that there should be no one on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor for their safety. The manager agreed and informed Affiant the owner of the property did not want to pay for security after hours and bad things happened in the late hours of the night. Affiant explained to her that tenants need to call 9-1-1 if there are illegal activities happening late hours at the Gateway hotel.

On 07/11/2024, Affiant arrived to Gateway Hotel at approximately 19:00 a.m. to assist Fire Marshalls, Code Enforcement and the City of El Paso Building inspectors on a business check and Affiant provided escort.

Affiant learned through the fire marshals investigation (ENFD24-00240) that the hotel was found in violation. Affiant also learned that Code Enforcement and building

inspectors created cases for building noncompliance on several violations. Code Enforcement case number is ENEC24-30248, reference to trash in hallways and trash blocking fire exit.

On 7/19/24, Affiant arrived to Gateway Hotel at approximately 14:30 p.m for a regular business check. Affiant walked upstairs to check the business and observed trash throughout the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors. Affiant checked the emergency exit and observed trash on the fire escape blocking access to the fire exit stairs. Affiant made contact with manager (Veronica Gutierrez) of Gateway Hotel and advised her of the trash blocking the fire exits. Affiant also smelled burnt marijuana coming from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor but was unable to determine the exact location. The manager advised Affiant that they hired security that was in plain clothes and checks all floors and helps with maintenance. The manager stated that security will check on the smell of the unknown marijuana coming from the unknown floor and deal with it if were to happen again. Affiant advised the manager again to call 9-1-1 if there is any illegal activity that is occurring and the police department will take the appropriate steps to or such actions.

On 7/22/24 Affiant arrived to Gateway Hotel at approximately 15:00 p.m. for a regular business check. Affiant walked upstairs to check the business and observed trash throughout 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Affiant checked the emergency exit and observed trash was still on the fire escape blocking access to the fire exit stairs. Affiant made contact with manager of Gateway Hotel and advised her, again, of the trash blocking the fire exits.

On 8/07/24 Affiant arrived to Gateway Hotel with Code inspections officers at approximately 13:30 p.m., to assist code inspectors on a follow up to previous check.

Affiant walked upstairs to check the business and observed trash throughout 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The officer checked the emergency exit and also observed trash on the fire escape blocking access to the fire exit stairs were cleared. Affiant made contact with manager of Gateway Hotel and advised her of the trash blocking the fire exits. The Affiant observed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor empty beer cans and packaging associated with cocaine that were always in different locations at different times and dates. The Affiant observed occupants that were walking appeared nervous as Affiant checked the business. The occupants quickly walked away from Affiant to a room and closed the door quickly.



On 8/09/24, Affiant arrived to Gateway Hotel at approximately 13:10 p.m. for a regular business check. Affiant walked upstairs and observed trash throughout 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Affiant checked the emergency exit and observed trash on the fire escape blocking access to the fire exit stairs. The Affiant made contact with manager of Gateway Hotel and advised her of the trash blocking the fire exits. On every visit Affiant observed the same issues of trash in trash bags lined in the hallways of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Empty beer cans on different floors, along with different types of drug paraphernalia, ex: clear empty plastic baggies, broken crack pipes, cigarette paper known for use of marijuana blunts. Affiant made it clear to the security on duty and the manager that these illegal activities cannot be ignored and need to be addressed. The manager stated that she is aware but the activities occur in the late hours of the night when she is not there. Affiant was advised that security only is on duty early evening hours and is not employed late hours when the illegal activity occurs. Affiant knows management is aware of criminal activities occurring late at night, but has made no effort to change the schedule of security due to owner not wanting to pay for late night security. After each inspection by Affiant trash accumulation, blocked fire exits, and drug/alcohol paraphernalia increased and did not improve.

Overall, management is not attempting to control the conduct of the guests, and is negligently allowing gang activity to infiltrate the area. Affiant has learned that Gateway Hotel has gained a reputation for allowing illegal activity (consuming drugs, gang activity, illegal dumping) and known not to make the necessary changes to prevent the illegal activities. If allowed to continue this creates a grip for increased organized crime and more violent crimes, which are already starting to occur. This is clearly affecting the neighborhood and downtown area, ultimately threatening public safety.

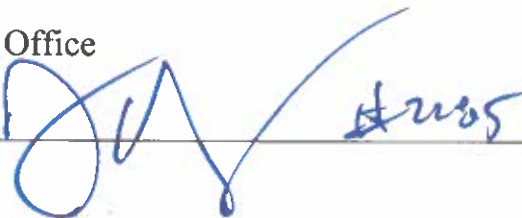
Affiant believes from his training, experience, and observations inside the establishment that the employees of the location are conducting and allowing these violations to occur. This establishment will continue to threaten public safety if allowed to conduct "business as usual."

Dionicio M. Alvarez #2285

El Paso Police Department

Police Area Representative (PAR)

El Paso Par Office

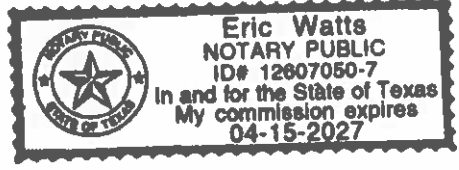
 #2285 AFFIANT



SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me on this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.

DT. ERIC WATTS #2270  NOTARY PUBLIC in  
and for the State of Texas

Commission expires: 4-15-2027, 2027.





# Gateway Hotel

## Gateway Hotel

4 stars 1.5 (4 reviews)

Claimed • Hotels

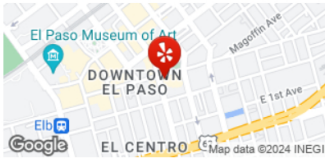
Open 7:30 AM - 10:00 PM See hours

See all 7 photos

- Write a review
- Add photo
- Share
- Save

### Location & Hours

Suggest an edit



104 S Stanton St  
El Paso, TX 79901

Get directions

Mon	7:30 AM - 10:00 PM
Tue	7:30 AM - 10:00 PM
Wed	7:30 AM - 10:00 PM
Thu	7:30 AM - 10:00 PM
Fri	7:30 AM - 10:00 PM
Sat	8:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sun	8:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Open now

### Reach out to other businesses

This business has not enabled messaging on Yelp, but you can still contact other businesses like them.

Start request

(915) 303-5922



Get Directions

104 S Stanton St El Paso, TX 79901



Suggest an edit

### Other Hotels Nearby



#### DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel El Paso Downtown

3 stars 2.8 (139 reviews)

0.4 miles away from Gateway Hotel

Joe M. said "I stayed here for 45 days for work so I really got to see how this hotel operates. This should be a long review. I checked in and the check-in went smoothly. The employees were very friendly and helpful. I am a Hilton Honors member..." read more in Hotels



#### Hilton Garden Inn El Paso / University

4 stars 3.7 (98 reviews)

1.4 miles away from Gateway Hotel

Ed D. said "Hello Mr Adatao. I would like to start by saying I never take the time to write a review, However this incident forced me to do so. We had just arrived in El Paso from Las Vegas and due to the time change thought we still had an..." read more in Hotels

### You Might Also Consider

Sponsored



#### Versalles Palace & Events Center

12.3 miles

Versalles Palace will exceed your expectations. We offer all inclusive packages.... read more



#### Topgolf

4 stars 4.0 (136 reviews)

4.3 miles

#### Free 30 Min Of Game Play

Reservations Only, Weekdays 9am Until 5pm read more

### Amenities and More

Accepts Credit Cards

Free Wi-Fi

### About the Business

All customers are welcome! Bienvenidos todos! Under new management. Nueva administracion

Read more

### Ask the Community

Ask a question

Yelp users haven't asked any questions yet about Gateway Hotel.

## People also searched for

Q New Hotels

Q Cheap Motels

Q Hotels And Motels And Inns

## Recommended Reviews

**Your trust is our top concern**, so businesses can't pay to alter or remove their reviews. [Learn more about reviews.](#)



**Username**

Location

📍 0 📷 0

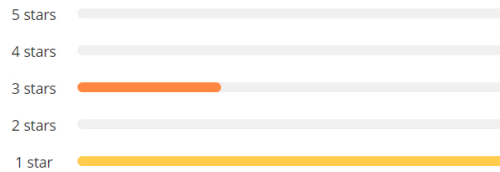
☆☆☆☆☆ Select your rating

With so few reviews, your opinion of **Gateway Hotel** could be huge. Start your review today.

### Overall rating



4 reviews



Yelp Sort

English (3)

Filter by rating

Search reviews



**Mina L.**

Montebello, CA

📍 1 📷 49 📝 63

☆☆☆☆☆ Jul 13, 2023

This is place unorganized, even though you call to make a confirmation it doesn't matter to them. I will never recommend this place to anybody.



Helpful 0



Thanks 0



Love this 0



Oh no 1



**Jared H.**

Eules, TX

📍 9 📷 74 📝 26

☆☆☆☆☆ May 11, 2022

I wasn't 100% sure about this one, especially after SEEING and reading so many reviews about BEDBUGS, but holy cow... I went out back to the Alley behind this place, and there are roaches, bedbugs, scorpions, and more hanging out back there! There was a GIGANTIC dead snake carcass too... I'm talking HUGE snake! Idk if he came FROM the hotel, but someone had cut his head off, and it looked like he had been thrown out from a window or something above. No. WAY! Trust me, save the time and go for something a little more \$\$\$ and less apt for issues like these. El Paso is a place where, if it's SUPER cheap, that's a bad bad thing. This is one of those places. Don't risk it...let a new management company take it over, and rehab it first.



Helpful 4



Thanks 0



Love this 2



Oh no 1



**Rita D.**

Phoenix, AZ

📍 0 📷 123

☆☆☆☆☆ Feb 18, 2023

The Keurig coffee maker did not work. This is the second time staying here in 3 months and the room coffee makers are still broken. The breakfast was awesome and they had very healthy and delicious fresh cut up melons. It was very noisy at night and I could not sleep well. The room mini fridge made a buzzing sound about each hour that kept me from sleeping well. The hall had night noises too



Helpful 1



Thanks 0



Love this 0



Oh no 0

1 of 1

7 other reviews that are not currently recommended