



VBH BOT FYI Zoning

2 messages

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Fri, Aug 27, 2010 at 6:27 PM

Latest From Breaking News Center
Schaumburg man living in front yard demands jury trial
Story posted 2010.08.27 at 05:41 PM CDT
Chicago Tribune

The Schaumburg man who has lived in his front yard all summer will fight the village's effort to clean his cluttered property, asking for a jury trial that a judge scheduled for next week.

Village officials are trying to get a court-ordered cleanup of John Wuerffel's property in the 1400 block of Hampton Lane, which is littered with cars and garbage. During a court hearing today, Judge Alfred Levinson set a jury trial date for Aug. 31.

HSBC Mortgage Corp. started foreclosure proceedings against Wuerffel late last year and put a lock on the door, leading Wuerffel, 62, to live outside in his van.

But that lock was removed Wednesday, and Wuerffel has been seen going in and out of his home, village officials said.

Village prosecutor Elmer Mannina said he objects to Wuerffel's request for a jury, arguing municipal law in this case might require a bench trial. He also said Wuerffel did not file a request for a jury soon enough. Wuerffel's request for a trial surprised some village officials.

"I didn't see this coming," said Schaumburg public health officer Mary Passaglia.

If the village wins the case, it will be the third time officials will up the yard. Village officials said they will then try to get inside the home to clean.

– Kate Thayer

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

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Fri, Aug 27, 2010 at 6:45 PM

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