

From: "Aaron Vidaver" <vid@runcible.org>
Subject: Request for Issuance of Complete Affidavit Package
Date: Fri, 08 Nov 2002 12:49:22 -0800
To: mayorandcouncil@city.vancouver.bc.ca



Day 56 of the Woodwards Squat
08 November 2002

Dear Mayor and Council,

Last night, after dark, on Abbott Street in Vancouver a man claiming to act on behalf of the City of Vancouver handed me an unmarked file-folder containing what appears to be a miscellaneous collection of 15 affidavits sworn by Marsha Selk, Boon Wei Hoh, Colin Ligertwood, Judy Graves, Sylvia Berry, Allan Berry, Troy Nixey, Jay Mason, Tim Pegg, Thomas Donovan, Gerry Lee, Ian Adam, Michael G. Thomson, Cameron Gray, and Bob Ross.

While I can appreciate that the City of Vancouver has dedicated an astonishing volume of its financial, legal, and staff resources to the thorough pursuit of a "permanent restraint" order against Vancouver's homeless, I must confess that my package is missing important documents. I request that I receive a complete Affidavit package at your earliest convenience.

First, Tom Hammel's affidavit was not included with the documents delivered to me. Second, Thomas Donovan's videographic recording of 04 November was not delivered. Instead, I received a black and white photocopied reproduction of the plastic videocassette case. Third, the black and white photocopied reproductions of the twenty photographs of what appear to be images of the Woodwards Squat are of such a poor quality that I have difficulty distinguishing the structures, objects, substances or things which are purported to be at issue in the alleged By-Law infraction.

I am able to view a copy of the videographic recording in the standard VHS format used in North America and would appreciate receiving my copy of this document in this format. Machines are available at the Vancouver Public Library. As for the photographs intended to serve as exhibits "F" through "Y" in the affidavit of Mr. Thomson, I request copies of them in digital (JPEG) format (at a reasonable resolution) on compact disc (again, in the standard encoding format used in North American data-retrieval or play-back machines). If digital versions are unavailable at this time, I request to receive photographic prints (of the same dimensions as the photocopies presented in my package and of a reasonable quality).

While I have not yet had time to review your affidavits in detail I now have a clear understanding that the City of Vancouver does not seek a political solution to this crisis in the downtown eastside but instead wishes to turn the problems facing our unhoused citizens over to the Vancouver Police Department for processing. A strategy of confrontational By-Law enforcement backed up with threats of violence is not a plan that the City should be sponsoring at this time.

Aaron Vidaver
Citizen of Vancouver

PS--Please instruct City staff who visit the Woodwards Squat to park their vehicles in City-designated parking spaces. Last night your process server parked his vehicle half-way onto the sidewalk on Abbott street and prevented traffic from use of the west lane. This obstructed our free use of the sidewalk and could have easily caused a serious vehicular traffic accident.

cc. Pivot Legal Society, Cameron Ward