

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR MANATEE COUNTY, STATE OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 08 CA 11315

DIVISION: B

MARY LOU SMITH, an individual, and
SHARON DENSON, an individual,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

TRAILER ESTATES PARK AND RECREATION
DISTRICT, an independent special
taxing district, JANET JONES, an
individual, JOHN VANDER MOLEN, an
individual, JOSEPH SALERNO, an
individual, and MARY LOU MCNULTY, an
individual,

Defendants.

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DEPOSITION OF: GAIL OPPER

(Volume I)

DATE: Tuesday, December 1, 2009

TIME: 1:33 p.m. - 6:05 p.m.

LOCATION: Kirk, Pinkerton, P.A.
1301 Sixth Avenue West
Suite 401
Bradenton, Florida 34205

REPORTED BY: NANCY E. PAULSEN, CRR, RPR, FPR
Notary Public
State of Florida at Large
US Legal Support

1 A. I don't have to be speaking about Sharon or
2 Mary Lou to be -- I'm speaking about anybody. If
3 someone. I'm not speaking about Sharon and Mary Lou. I
4 never have spoken about Sharon and Mary Lou.

5 **Q. Okay. Well, do you believe that there are**
6 **people who, in their words or actions at board meetings,**
7 **have disrupted the meetings and should be removed from**
8 **the meetings?**

9 A. Yes, I do.

10 **Q. Okay. Who are those people?**

11 A. I -- do I have to even consider answering that
12 question?

13 **Q. Yes, ma'am.**

14 A. Oh. Well, I don't think that's a very kind
15 thing. I mean, these are my fellow residents.

16 **Q. Ma'am, are there people that you believe that**
17 **have disrupted meetings, either through words or acts,**
18 **such that they should be physically removed from the**
19 **meetings?**

20 A. I think that they -- it -- we -- they're not
21 going to be removed from the meetings because we don't
22 have a security guard. That's a moot point.

23 **Q. You know, this would go a lot quicker if you**
24 **would just answer the question that's asked.**

25 Do you believe that there are residents who

1 **have disrupted Trailer Estates board meetings such that**
2 **they should be physically removed from the meetings?**

3 A. Since we don't have a security guard, I can't
4 answer that question. What I can say is I do believe
5 that there is -- there are people that perhaps a
6 restraining order would be a good idea.

7 **Q. Okay. Do you believe my clients have -- are**
8 **such people?**

9 A. No.

10 **Q. Okay. Do you believe my clients have**
11 **disrupted board meetings?**

12 A. Definitely not in actions.

13 **Q. Do you believe their words have disrupted**
14 **board meetings?**

15 A. I don't know if I would say disrupted. I
16 would say have caused people harm.

17 **Q. Okay. So they have, what, hurt the feelings**
18 **of trustees?**

19 A. Um, well, if you look at physical, I mean,
20 over physical time, we have 80-year-old people, two
21 80-year-olds that are being sued. So that would take a
22 toll on a 50-year-old, let alone an 80-year-old, so I
23 think that's harmful.

24 **Q. So you're saying they have harmed the Board by**
25 **suing the Board?**