

Exam adjourned for suit involving library

A pretrial hearing in a sexual harassment and discrimination suit brought by a former librarian against the Farmington Community Library and former library director Gordon Lewis has been adjourned again.

The pretrial scheduled for Nov. 14 before Oakland Circuit Judge Eugene Schnetz was rescheduled to Dec. 10, at the attorneys' request. This is the second adjournment since the complaint against the library was filed in June, said Schnetz's clerk.

In the five-count complaint, former children's librarian Jill Locke claims she was "constructively discharged" — transferred from a supervisory to non-supervisory position — for refusing and rejecting Lewis' alleged requests for sexual favors.

Grant plan is approved

There was no opposition at a public hearing Monday to the proposed use of Farmington's 1987-88 Community Development Block Grant money.

City officials plan to use \$26,300 of the estimated \$41,300 for central business district improvements as part of the current push to revitalize the downtown area. Specific CDBG project goals include:

- supporting the operations of the downtown development organization,
- employing professional consultants as needed in engineering, marketing or design,
- providing parking and environmental improvements as needed, and
- assisting property owners and merchants with improvements

which conform to the development plan.

THE REMAINDER of the money will be used for barrier-free improvements to city facilities. The Minor Home Repair Program will continue using funds carried over from last year's CDBG money.

Farmington has participated in the CDBG program for the past 11 years, which has brought more than half a million dollars in improvements to the city, according to City Manager Robert Deadman. This is the last year of a 3-year program. Next year, another 3-year program will be proposed if the CDBG program continues, he added.

CDBG money is funneled through Oakland County by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which, in turn, directs it to local communities.

A 13-year veteran of the Farmington Community Library staff, Locke resigned in February 1985, about one month after she was transferred to a non-supervisory position as coordinator of community services.

Locke previously had worked in the supervisory positions of branch head for the Farmington Hills library and as children's coordinator for both Farmington and Farmington Hills branches.

The complaint alleges Locke was constructively discharged for refusing to work for less-qualified employees who "were engaging in sexual relationships with defendant Lewis."

In the complaint, Locke alleges she was "constantly and continuously subjected to sexual discrimination in the form of sexual harassment by her superior and direct supervisor Gordon Lewis."

The sexual harassment by Lewis, Locke alleges, was comprised of unwelcome sexual advances, and promoting other women with whom he had a sexual relationship, while demoting Plaintiff (Locke), with whom he did not have a sexual relationship.

LOCKE ALSO alleges that she was forced to "work for one of the women with whom he (Lewis) was having a sexual relationship, who was much less qualified" professionally than Locke.

The former librarian's resignation last year touched off a flurry of protests, including a financial audit that later led to Lewis' resignation as library director.

Farmington Hills Police arrested Lewis Oct. 11, 1985, following an investigation that stemmed from findings released in the financial audit of library finances by Plaintiffs and Moran CPAs of Southfield.

In early May, Lewis pleaded guilty in 47th District Court to a charge of purchase by a public official upon public credit for private use — a misdemeanor. Lewis was sentenced to one-year probation and \$105 in costs, according to Judge Margaret Schaeffer of Farmington.

Schaeffer allowed Lewis to leave the state for employment.

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