

Garfield County Citizens

CITIZEN BASED PETITION

Prepared for Garfield County Board of Commissioners and Addressed to:

Trési Houpt
Larry McCown
Fred Jarman

Garfield Board of County Commissioners
Board of Adjustments

Dear **Trési Houpt** (384-3665) thoupt@garfield-county.comL
Larry McCown (945-5004 x 1330) lmccown@garfield-county.comL
Fred Jarman (945-8212) cedinger@garfield-county.com

The Board of Garfield County Commissioners and The Board of Adjustments

I, the undersigned, would like to show my support for the Vezzoso's right to continue their business as the county told them they could do in 1991. I believe what you are doing is unfair and unjust. As my elected & appointed representatives for Garfield County I believe you should be spending our tax dollars on a better causes and stop trying to railroad a 25 year old local business into the ground. Please do what's right. Reconsider your position and stand up for the Vezzoso's right to earn a living as the county said he could do in 1991.

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A History of the Injustice & PROOF of the TRUTH

ALL STATEMENTS, TESTIMONY, FACTS AND PROOF OF THE TRUTH CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT
www.stopGARCOinjustice.com

1) In 1991 the Garfield County cited Bill Vezzoso for running his excavation business from his property; they took him to court [Case # 1990 M 0000263] along with 5 other excavators in 1991. The county and then county commissioner came together with the judge to make an agreement that anyone with 5 or more acres could have up to 10 pieces of heavy equipment on their property. Any less than 5 acre parcels would have to be shut down, like Frogg Excavation.

2) The county is now trying to say that never happened and shut Bill Vezzoso's business down based on a false "anonymous complaint". They are doing this in light of 5 people testifying that the county made the agreement in 1991 to let them continue.

a) Frog Excavation, Jerry DesJarlais

Who was put out of business because he didn't have enough property to support it, he had less than 5 acres. The county seized his equipment and shut down his business.

b) Joe Zamora

Who was grouped with Bill Vezzoso and allowed to keep up to 10 pieces of equipment on his property along with others in his group as long as they had a large enough sized property (5 acres or more).

c) Bill Vezzoso

He has testified to what happened. It may be hard for others to remember the details, but since the county was trying to stop his way of supporting his family, he remembers every detail.

d) Bruce Hammer

He testified in front of the county that he sat side-by-side with Bill Vezzoso in the court house in 1991. He remembers the agreement exactly and has offered his sworn statement and has even offered it under a polygraph test.

e) Eagle District Judge, Fred Gannett

He represented Joe Zamora and Bill Vezzoso and testified to The County that there were two groups, those that prevailed absolutely and those who didn't - Mr. Vezzoso was in the group that prevailed.

3) The county forced Bill Vezzoso into a public meeting on March 12th, 2007 and told him he had to stop his 25-year old business, and ignored many things, including testimony from 5 people. The county ignored people that they forced out of business and is now saying it didn't happen and IF it did it wasn't official. They have a letter from Frogg Excavating, but continue ignore it along with testimony from an Eagle District Court Judge.

4) Bill Vezzoso is fighting to get his rights back, but needs your support to send a message to the Garfield County that they shouldn't be allowed to ignore testimony from 5 people to shut down a 25 year old business. The county is wasting our valuable tax dollars to shut down Bill Vezzoso's livelihood who has lived in the Roaring Fork Valley for over 40 years.

A History of the Injustice & PROOF of the TRUTH Continued

The commissioners have never responded to the [response provided by the Vezzoso's](#) and [powerpoint presentation](#) (27mb) at the Feb. 5, 2007 BOCC Meeting ([read the transcript Online](#)). The commissioners adjourned for an entire month to review our response, but in the next meeting they failed to answer any of the questions and arguments posed by the Vezzoso's on Feb 5th, 2007.

This attack was carried out by Ron VanMeter who, in a letter to the Vezzoso's, tried to cite them with any and every different kind of violation hoping something would stick. All the of the county's accusations have been responded to, but they continue to pursue and attack the Vezzoso's - all based off an "anonymous" complaint about some dirt in a pasture. We would like to ask Trési Houpt and Larry McCown why they refuse to answer the [point by point response](#) to the county's claims against the Vezzoso's.

Not one of the county's "CODE COMPLIANCE" issues with the Vezzoso's were in the complaint, yet they're position is they had to respond because they have to respond to every complaint. And to each and every issue of the 5 they still contend, the county has ignored 5 witnesses, court documents, and failed to respond or provide a counter argument when pointed to the specific laws (section by section) of why the Vezzoso's have every right to do what they are doing on their property. Every time the Vezzoso's respond the county either ignores it or searches for loopholes by trying to use definitions from other laws, conveniently ignoring the actual definition in that section. It's time the county answer why they can't read the law in black and white.

After the BOCC ruled in March 07' the Vezzoso's filed an appeal with the Board of Adjustments as the next step to resolve the injustice caused by Trési Houpt and Larry McCown. The BOA, to no ones surprise, on May 30, 2007 agreed with their fellow county board members and also ignored, in an official hearing, 5 witnesses, court documents, testimony from a now District County Court Judge Gannett who was the lawyer on record for Bill Vezzoso in 1991 and testified to this matter at the BOA Hearing. [Read the Judge's testimony Online](#). [Read the transcripts Online \(27mb\)](#). How does this kind of behavior go on in this day and age? How can these people tell citizens of Garfield County what they can and can't do, no matter what the law says or what agreements it has made in the past?

Now the Vezzoso's only recourse is to sue the county under Rule 106, which is not what they want to do, it is still possible for Trési Houpt and Larry McCown to join John Martin in correcting this injustice. We hope if enough citizens and people from all over Colorado voice their opinions it will make them realize they need to fix this and fix this now.

Enough is enough. Voice your opinion.

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