

My name is Indigo Michaud. I am writing to address grievances I have with Ivan Erdman, the Manager of Highland View Mobile Estates, specifically regarding an unsettled dispute I have with my neighbor over the boundaries of my garden. I have lived in this park for almost 14 years and for the last several years I have been living with my friend and companion, Barbara Hollingshead. Barbara bought this place 20 years ago for her mother and then subsequently moved in to take care of her before she passed. I moved to the park in a small fifth-wheel trailer and then bought a single-wide down the street where I continued to struggle with alcoholism and PTSD until committing to sobriety a little over 7 years ago. Barbara and I had become close friends and in the transition that ensued I started living here full time.

The trailer I had bought was condemnable. Although I fixed it up over a few years, it was still not habitable when I gave it up. I had been having problems with a set of neighbors who were involved with drugs, there was a rat infestation next door, and I was subject to regular thefts, vandalism, harassment and intimidation if I complained. I watched as a different one of these dilapidated trailers had been given to another drug addict, and how the Manager pushed him out, trespassed him, and then kept the trailer in his name for the next year and a half to defraud his family. When a heroin addict moved in on the other side of my trailer and my neighbors moved their friends into the space behind mine, I was surrounded by people I couldn't trust. Addicts were sleeping in the abandoned place across the street and the stench from whatever the neighbors were smoking was too much to deal with. I had many grievances from those days and I made many complaints to the Manger, but he did nothing. Ultimately, I refused to pay and I forced him to evict me so that I could be sure the place would no longer be in my name.

This is where my grievances with the Ivan began. We went to court. I explained myself to the judge and agreed to pay court costs, and the trailer became his responsibility again. I was clear about my position, that I lived with my friend and that I intended to stay. Ivan wanted me evicted from the whole trailer park but the judge told him in no uncertain terms that it was a separate case and that he would have to file separately. He refused to accept the court costs I had agreed to pay. I had to get a cashiers check, send it notarized and certified, and then go to the court to make them confirm that he had received it before my record would reflect that I had a settled judgment. He had intentionally misspelled my name, obscuring it from case-sensitive searches, too. The key issue for Ivan is that neither Barbara nor myself have ever signed a lease agreement. As a result, we are governed solely by Chapter 90 of the Oregon Revised Statutes that covers landlord-tenant law in mobile home parks. And according to the law, he waived his right to require a lease agreement from us by not doing so within the year long time allowable. He was upset with the judgment and threatened to evict Barbara if she wouldn't ask me to leave and sign a lease. We got a 30 day notice and hired a lawyer who explained the law to him again. We received a letter back from Highland View stating they wouldn't be pursuing eviction after all... so, he asked all the neighbors to ignore me, telling everyone not to talk to me, and tried to let a month go by that he could

claim I had left and wasn't allowed back... I think he even tried to have me trespassed by the police, though he wouldn't sign an official notice. He then went to Barbara's family's residence and tried to convince them I shouldn't be here. We got offers to sell the house by interested parties, and assisted living facilities started trying to recruit her. Barbara was adamant about her position, saying that I was welcome and when she decided to sell, there'd be a sign in the front yard.

Now a judge and a lawyer have confirmed our rights as tenants, but Ivan wouldn't hear of it. For many years now, he has gone on about his regular business, collecting trash, performing maintenance, and so on, while shunning me and acting like I have no right to be here. He's downright condescending, refuses to acknowledge my authority here, and has continued to support anyone who might make us want to leave - we were vandalized with spray paint by one of the neighbors (again), went to court over it and won, and something turns up missing just about every month. I've accused Ivan of aiding and abetting these drug addicts and thieves, to which he's responded, "You can't prove anything". We have had drug raids in this park, overdoses, suicides, and more than a few questionable deaths. The police are here for something almost every week. And yet, we are the ones he wants evicted. And it should be noted, I was far more welcome when I was still drinking.

In all the years that have passed, Barbara had a small stroke, her mother passed away, and she was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Although she recovered amazingly well from the stroke, some days are more difficult than others with Parkinson's. For the most part, she's able to maintain a fair amount of independence but there are days when having someone around is a big help. I have my own pre-existing conditions, and there have been times when we're both having a bad day, but besides some emotional episodes and a few big arguments, we aren't guilty of anything more than occasionally disturbing the peace (usually with music). The rent and bills have been paid consistently, without fail, for the last 20 years. And the yard has always been maintained. Barbara grew up here. She retired from teaching inner city kids in L.A. and has worked for the Red Cross, Vina Moses, and Salvation Army. She bought this place a long time ago and we have both invested a lot of time, energy, and money here. She deserves to stay as long as she wants to, with an adequate amount of security and management that will support her rights.

Now the area between our trailer and the neighbors has never before been disputed. Originally, people shared. At one time, Barb's Mother maintained the whole yard. Then, the last resident moved in and wanted to garden, and they shared it. When she got too old to work out in the yard, a line was drawn between the places for the respective landscapers and our part was returned to lawn. The current resident didn't want to garden, and rarely even mows his lawn, so for a few years we've used the remaining garden plot for flowers and would occasionally trim the hedges or mow for him. Although he never asked us to, we never asked for money and he always thanked us. This year, as a result of the Covid-19 shutdown and losing our lawn guy, we decided to grow a larger garden than usual, adding two trellises and a number of vegetables. And

although some of the plants were struggling, and there have been persistent rabbits, we hadn't had any problems with the neighbor or the landlord, both of whom were well informed and watched our progress as we built this garden over the last few months.

One day, however, my neighbor came home in a mood I've never seen. He yelled at me for garden lights I had been working on, then went on threatening to tear everything down if I didn't remove it myself - the lights, the deer netting, the chicken wire, the railing, the stakes - the whole garden! He said I had until that evening, made the gesture of a gun with his hand, and kept saying things like 'you'll see what happens if those things are still there tonight, you'll see'. The police were called. The landlord showed up. My neighbor's son, who owns Many Hands Trading - he showed up and started threatening me, too. What happened is: The landlord, Ivan, asserted his authority and he drew a line as minimally distant from our place as he could, placing it several inches under one of the trellises. Then the police told our neighbor he was allowed to remove anything on his property and place it on our side. Nevertheless, we have invested a lot of time, energy, and money into this garden. Chapter 90 of the Oregon Revised Statutes, which governs landlord-tenant law for mobile home parks, is very clear about changes in agreed upon boundaries and any such change has to be given the option to appeal or seek mediation. After being informed about what we were doing in the garden, nobody complained. And no one asked us to make any changes before then. In fact, we got a lot of compliments from people walking in the park. Barbara even offered to revert the space to lawn at the end of the year, and I suggested a mediator, but to no avail. In a follow up call from the Police, they said they thought I was right about the law... but nothing changed.

A couple days later, our neighbor and his son showed up and evicted us from our garden. They took down everything and dumped it on our side of the bogus line. We're very upset about this. I have photo and video documentation of every stage of my garden, and a 45-minute long video of their destroying several days work, along with the guy who'd vandalized me, literally taunting me. They said they were going to put up a fence and that I wasn't allowed on that side of the line again... then a few weeks passed and nothing happened. For almost a month now, I've been chasing rabbits out of my garden and they've taken 7 tomato plants and a rose bush Barb's daughter bought her. The deer will get in if this isn't remedied, and the neighbor couldn't be bothered to even mow his lawn. Complaining to Ivan again resulted in him yelling, "I am the law here!" - the fact is, I have been very careful to act well within the constraints of the law (which I don't make up), and Ivan is obligated to uphold the law, too. Then he told me I was allowed to put up a fence, but only where he drew the line. Ironically, Ivan has a fence around his space and recently had the humane society pick up cats to keep them out of his wife's rose garden. And in all the other spaces, he says the boundaries are up to the tenants. Again, the law is clear about fairness. When he showed up a couple of days ago with a tape measure, his wife informed me that she was under instructions not to talk to me. When Barb tried to talk to the neighbor, he told her flatly to never talk to him again. I called the owner this time and he spoke to me until the word 'court' came in to play, then the same

thing... so, what other choice is there? I called a mediator and he said Ivan has refused to cooperate. I'm not going to abandon my home or my friend. After talking to the owner, all the lawns got mowed, but there's still no fence. What I want is to be allowed to put the fence back where it was, along with \$100 for my trouble, a token of what it's cost me. Barring that, I want a full reimbursement for the \$1000 I've invested in improving this space if I'm not allowed to protect it from deer and rabbits (and drug addicts and thieves). Regardless of the final outcome in this dispute, I want management's acknowledgement that I am a legal resident here with as many rights as anyone - I have ample proof of this, as all of my licenses and both vehicles are registered here in my name, and I'm well known in the neighborhood. I have every intention of staying here until I choose to leave, at which time I will inform Highland View in writing. I reserve the right to maintain possession of this home, and I reserve the right to pursue further legal action if the discovery of more information warrants. I have long suspected some kind of fraud or identity theft, and I do think the Manager is complicit with the manufacture and distribution of dangerous drugs on this property from which he profits. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Owner, the Manager, and the District Attorney seeking resolution. I also intend to circulate this letter among the legal offices in this area in search of representation, as well as the possibility of using this for a gofundme campaign for legal expenses. Please don't hesitate to contact me with information or advice, and let me know if there's anything I can do to assist with finding justice in this situation.

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