TRYING TO REMEMBER WHY YOU RECOGNIZE MIKE SCHAEFER?

HE JUST MANAGES TO MAKE THE NEWS . . .

Judge Threatens Slumlord Schaefer With Jail Term

By MYRNA OLIVER, *Times Staff Writer*

LOS ANGELES — Former San Diego City Councilman Michael Schaefer was held in contempt of court Tuesday and sentenced to 35 days in jail for failing to clean up a Los Angeles apartment building he owns.

Schaefer. "You are living in the United States. You are not living in some other country that would tolerate these conditions.

"This court intends to make sure that you comply or you go to jail," ... there has not ... suggest you ... h on Oct. 15 ... to jail."

Schaefer com ... point court in- ... will consider ... sentence per-

...ave to accept ...t property, it ...e up to stan-

...FER, Page 6

Ex-Councilman Faces Jail for Failure to Comply on Fire Code

By MARK FORSTER, *Times Staff Writer*

Former San Diego City Councilman Michael Schaefer will start a six-month jail term Dec. 1 for failing to comply with a 1979 directive to improve fire safety at a downtown apartment building he owns.

Schaefer was ordered to jail ... a hearing before ... Stahl Stahl

Schaefer time to put his business affairs in order.

Schaefer told Stahl during the hearing that he made several attempts to comply with the city's order to improve fire safety at the five-story Riveria Apartments at 1312 12th Ave., but that problems with contractors or plans prevented completion.

Please see SCHAEFER, Page 5

Schaefer Defies Judge, Draws 10 Days in Jail Plus Threat of Worse

By MYRNA OLIVER, *Times Staff Writer*

LOS ANGELES — Former San Diego City Councilman Michael Schaefer was jailed Friday for 10 days for contempt of court because he failed to patch and plaster a Los Angeles apartment building he owns.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Leon Thompson gave Schaefer, 44, until Nov. 23 to make other court-ordered repairs or return to jail for 25 more days.

Schaefer was convicted of contempt and sentenced to 35 days in jail on Aug. 31, but Thompson suspended the sentence on condition Schaefer make required repairs.

An attorney, Schaefer is one of nine candidates seeking a San Diego Municipal Court judgeship on the Nov. 2 ballot. Last spring, he was an unsuccessful candidate in a Republican congressional primary.

He also faces legal problems stemming from dilapidated apartments that he owns in San Diego. Schaefer is appealing a 100-day jail sentence on a 1979 conviction for fire code violations at a downtown San Diego apartment building.

"This case shows Mr. Schaefer's total lack of respect for society's concern with the human condition," Thompson said in ordering deputies to handcuff and jail the landlord. "This court intends to show Mr. Schaefer that if he rents property, he is going to be respectful of that concern."

Thompson said the most serious problem in Schaefer's 68-unit building at 1621 S. Grand Ave. is rodent infestation. That problem, Thompson said, must be eliminated. The court order also requires Schaefer to repair fire doors, replace broken windows, install smoke detectors and repair or replace kitchen drainboards.

Larry Wasserman, Schaefer's attorney, said he will ask an appellate court for Schaefer's release. Thompson denied Wasserman's request to allow Schaefer to serve the term on weekends or to suspend it until Monday to permit time for an appeal.

Los Angeles Times

Michael Schaefer in court.

Deputy City Atty. Gwendolyn Ryder said she was pleased with Thompson's ruling even though he did not impose the entire 35-day sentence. City prosecutors have maintained that they are more interested in forcing landlords to clean up rundown buildings than in sending them to jail.

Schaefer and his attorney continued to blame tenants for at least part of the unsanitary cor ...ions.

"The tenants themsel ... complying with the ... there are people comi ... street," Wasserman t ... 'It is not a problem h ... in one day. But work ...

The city attorn ... took Schaefer to cc ... force him to clean up the ... Avenue building and two adjoining buildings at 627 S. Berendo St., one of which a fire inspector termed "the worst habitational building I have ever seen." Schaefer ended the Berendo litigation by selling that complex.

He is banned by court order from selling the Grand Avenue building until it meets all code requirements.

Ex-councilman ordered to serve 6 months in jail

Former San Diego city councilman Michael Schaefer has been sentenced to six months in county jail and fined $500 for failing for two years to bring two of his apartment buildings into compliance with safety rules.

Municipal Court Judge Robert J. Stahl Jr. revoked Schaefer's probation yesterday and ordered the former councilman to report to the jail Dec. 1 to begin serving his sentence.

"I placed him on probation in 1979 and ordered him to comply with the Municipal Code. Last year, I fined him an additional $150 for failing to do it," Stahl said.

Stahl said that the fire doors in the two buildings, the Riviera Apartments and Ramona Apartments, are inoperative and "not in compliance" with fire safety rules. Other inadequacies in the two buildings include inadequate numbers of fire exits, lack of fire stairways, and lack of signs advising tenants of fire exits.

"He stalled around long enough. The fire marshal's office is concerned for the safety of the tenants," Stahl said.

Schaefer also was convicted in Los Angeles of violating health and safety codes with an apartment building. He was granted two years' probation and appealed.

He served on the council from 1965 to 1971.

Mike Schaefer jailed; failed to clean building

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former San Diego City Council member Mike Schaefer has been sentenced to 10 days in jail for failing to clean up a roach-infested downtown apartment building he owns.

Schaefer, who also is one of nine candidates in the Nov. 2 election for the Municipal Court bench position of former judge Lewis A. Wenzell, was sentenced yesterday for contempt of court.

Superior Court Judge Leon Thompson termed the roach and rodent problem in Schaefer's 68-unit building "the most serious problem that exists in this building."

In addition to the infestation, the building had broken windows and needed smoke alarms.

Schaefer was led from the courtroom in handcuffs by two sheriff's ...

months.

Last August the court ordered Schaefer to pay utility bills and maintain the building, and finally cleared the way for him to sell it.

Schaefer repeatedly claimed he tried to upgrade the building but was "defrauded" by repairmen.

for two ... 23, but allowed a stay until yesterday to permit Schaefer to bring the building into compliance with health and safety codes.

Tenants May Be Evicted

'Worst' L.A. Apartments Owned by Ex-S.D. Official

By LAURIE BECKLUND, *Times Staff Writer*

Los Angeles fire officials say a former San Diego city councilman-turned-slumlord has let his mid-Wilshire apartment building deteriorate so grossly that they may have to move 41 tenant families out on an emergency basis today.

The six-story apartment building at 757 S. Berendo St. "Is the worst habitational building I have ever seen," said Inspector Bill Wakeland of the Los Angeles Fire Department. "The cockroaches are so big you can saddle them and there is almost literally no fire protection at all."

He said he ordered arson investigators stationed around the clock at the building as of Wednesday night.

Litter is piled high in the building's hallways. Toilets leak through ceilings. Banisters lie broken in the halls, an obvious safety hazard to the dozens of children who could fall through the rubble to floors below. Gang members have taken over apartments abandoned by tenants

mer city councilman in San Diego, blamed the problems on vandals who have destroyed parts of the building and on contractors and apartment managers he contends have pocketed money intended for repairs.

City fire and health officials began a long legal battle with Schaefer nearly a year ago over the Berendo building and a larger building he owns downtown.

But the battle reaches emergency proportions today when the electricity and water is scheduled to be shut off in the Berendo building because Schaefer has failed to pay about $4,000 in utility bills.

Wakeland said the Fire Department will be forced to shut down the building immediately if the utilities are cut. He said he contacted several local charities to help relocate the families and provide them emergency lodging should eviction be necessary. "No matter what," he said, "we cannot let anybody live in a building that would

Apartment Tenants Sue Schaefer For $1 Million

6-6

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Tenants of a 61-unit apartment building have sued former San Diego City Councilman Michael Schaefer for at least $1 million, claiming he illegally allowed the apartments to become uninhabitable.

The class action suit filed Monday in Superior Court asks the former politician to pay $1 million in punitive damages in addition to the tenants' rents for the last eight

*Excerpts from the San Diego Union, San Diego Tribune and Los Angeles Times

...AND WHY SHOULD YOU VOTE TO RE-ELECT SUPERVISOR LEON WILLIAMS

[mss-0398.004.007.011]

In his tenure as a public official, Supervisor Leon Williams is known for honesty, reliability and the ability to solve the problems in our community.

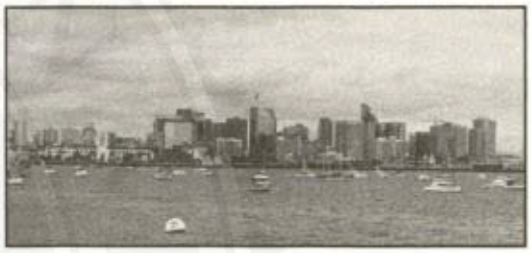
Here's what our community leaders say about Leon Williams:

"His support for law enforcement and the fight against drugs and gangs is crucial to controlling crime. He made the Freeway Callbox System possible. Leon Williams makes San Diego a safer place to live."

Dick Lewis and George Varela
San Diego Police Department, ret.

"His push for relocation of corporate headquarters is bringing needed jobs to San Diego. Leon Williams is a leader in economic development."

Jack Raymond, Past President
Economic Development Corp.



"Leon is a strong fiscal manager fighting for our fair share of funding from the State while demanding more efficiency from the County staff. He is a tireless advocate for the taxpayers."

Barry Newman, Immediate Past-Chairman
San Diego Taxpayer's Association

"Leon Williams led the fight for regional planning of our growth. He cut the use of pesticides at the County. Leon Williams is a friend of the environment."

Diane Takvorian

Friends of Leon Williams
2505 Congress Street
San Diego, CA 92110

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1889
San Diego, CA

LEON WILLIAMS
LEADERSHIP WORKING FOR YOU!

Paid for by Friends of Leon Williams