

Dr. Stolman Prosecution Slated To Rest Its Case

The prosecution was scheduled to rest its case today in the fraud trial of Emanuel Stolman, the Santa Cruz doctor charged with 23 felony counts of illegally receiving Medi-Cal money.

Dist. Atty. Art Danner presented the six-week case to a six-man, six-woman jury. Stolman's attorney, George Walker of San Francisco, will open his case Thursday.

That's not to say that Walker has been silent during the past six weeks. He has battled

Danner's assertions throughout.

For example, when Danner presented testimony by criminalist Paul Dougherty of San Mateo County that, Danner claimed, proved that Stolman altered his patients' files, Walker quickly won the admission from Dougherty that his laboratory tests are not absolute proof of anything.

Under questioning from Danner, Dougherty said slips of paper found in patients' files detailing patients' conditions

may have been written in a sequence on a similar pad after Stolman realized he was under investigation by authorities.

However, under cross-examination from Walker, Dougherty admitted that there was no way he could tell when any of the documents were actually written.

Last week, Walker also battled evidence presented by Danner in the form of testimony from an undercover sheriff's deputy who posed as a Medi-Cal patient.

Under questioning by Danner, Deputy Jim Morris said he had been given a Medi-Cal card with a false identification, and had visited Stolman in October of 1974.

Morris said he had made up a story to tell Stolman that his wife and daughter had been killed in an automobile accident and that he was having great difficulty even working around cars at his job.

Morris then told the court that Stolman had not taken a urine sample during his examination.

"Would it surprise you if I tell you he billed the state for a urine analysis?" Danner asked.

An objection by Walker, sustained by Judge Donald May, cut Morris' answer short.

In Walker's cross-examination of Morris, Walker hammered away at Morris' investigative techniques.

Morris agreed that he gave Stolman only one Medi-Cal "sticker," which Medi-Cal patients give their doctors to prove they were really examined.

"You wanted him to take two stickers, did you not?" pressed Walker.

"Personally, sir, I could not have cared less," replied the deputy.

"Your instructions, were they not, was to try and see if Dr. Stolman would take two Medi-Cal stickers?" persisted Walker.

Morris admitted that he had been so instructed.

The rest of Danner's case centered on testimony of nursing home operators who claimed that Stolman had not provided services for which he had billed the state.

Naturally, those claims were challenged by Walker, who lashed back at several of the nursing home operators claiming what Dr. Stolman did and when he came to examine his patients.

Walker indicated at the beginning of the trial that Stolman would testify in his own behalf.

The trial is being held in Department One of Santa Cruz Superior Court.

Monteville Tax Question Raised

By PAUL BEATTY
Sentinel Staff Writer

The question of whether Monteville Mobile Home Estates in Scotts Valley should be taxed as regular land improvements, or continue to be taxed under the vehicle tax of mobile homes, has been raised again.

Bob Colonna, executive director of the Community Economic Ownership Foundation (a citizens group), has written the State Department of Housing and Community Development telling them that years ago they denied the mobile home estates park a mobile home park permit.

Colonna told the press Tuesday that by his estimation, the failure of the county assessor to tax the property as normal home developments "has cost the county about \$700,000 since 1970."

Back in December of 1971, County Assessor John Seidlinger tried to impose normal

assessments on the mobile home park, according to the Sentinel files, but at that time was strongly opposed by Scotts Valley City Manager Friend Stone. Stone accused the county of trying to "hog" the taxes, as at that time Scotts Valley had no city taxes and could only receive revenues from the park if it were taxed as a mobile home park.

Monteville has mobile homes that sell for the lower \$40,000 range.

Colonna said that he will take his information and concerns to the board of supervisors next Tuesday and will also see that the information is brought to the attention of the newly-forming county committee on assessments.

A couple of months ago, Colonna locked horns with Supervisor Dan Forbus when he accused the supervisor of having under-assessed property. Colonna later said that he in no way meant to imply the supervisor had knowledge of any under-assessment, but that there were many under-assessments in the county.

Colonna gave the press a copy of a May 21, 1968 letter from the state department of housing in which the developer of Monteville was told "Placing a mobile home on permanent underpinning or foundation such as you propose would, in fact, convert it to a building subject to building code requirements (and) the department cannot approve your request."

A second letter from the department of housing on June 6, 1968, stated: "The material submitted to this department indicated that the platforms are permanent structures which this department cannot approve (and) the City of Scotts Valley does not have authority

Crime Report

One woman was injured and another arrested after a dispute resulted in one ramming her car into the other, Scotts Valley police reported Tuesday.

Booked on a charge of assault and then released on bail was Sheryl Lee Stewart, 23, 126 Cabrillo St., Capitola.

According to police, she was arguing with Diana Bond, 20, of Santa Cruz outside a Scotts Valley residence about 5 p.m. As Bond was getting into her car, Stewart ran her car into Bond, who was pinned between