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Christ Circle Members Jailed

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Three members of the controversial Christ Circle community were led off to jail today after a Superior Court judge found them in contempt of an order prohibiting them from working on two illegally-constructed buildings.

One of the three men faces a total of 20 days in jail and a \$2,000 fine for his work on the two buildings at the group's Boulder Creek complex.

Christ Circle itself was ordered to pay \$2,000 in fines for its failure to stop work on the two disputed buildings.

Superior Court Judge Rollie Hall called the case one of the most aggravated cases of building code violations he has seen as a judge or an attorney, according to Dwight Herr, assistant county counsel.

The quasi-religious organization was also ordered to close up both of the disputed buildings which include a modular classroom and a two-story stucco dormitory, according to court records.

The three business-suited workers were led to jail today after the late morning hearing.

Hall ordered Christ Circle to pay \$2,000 in fines for a total of four violations of the court order to stop work on the two buildings.

Joshua Allen, a leader at the community, was found guilty of four counts of contempt and ordered to pay a total of \$2,000 in fines and spend 20 days in jail, according to court records.

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Workers Terrence John Martin and and Laurence Etheredge were found guilty of one count of contempt and each ordered to pay \$500 and spend five days in jail.

The court order was originally brought against the group after the county claimed Christ Circle had built the two buildings without proper permits.

The group was also ordered to remove everything it had installed since the court order to stop the building including sheet rock, flooring, plumbing and pipes from the dormitory building.

A second hearing has been set for May 5.