Residents must respond

A Santa Cruz County Superior Court judge has given residents of a mobile home park in Seacliff one month in which to file a motion for a judgment on the validity of a rental increase that they have claimed is illegal.

Superior Court Judge Donald May also has "stayed" (delayed) the eviction of 111 of the residents who have withheld the portion of their rental increase which they believe violates a county ordinance

on mobile home rent con-

The issue in the suit, which was filed Aug. 19, is whether the owners of Seacliff Mobile Home Park (in Aptos) can ask residents to pay for utility costs that were incurred before individual meters to each rented space were installed.

Attorney James Rumble, who represents the tenants, said the three owners of the park are claiming that they had a cost overrun of \$13,-

000 on the utility bill, which they believe should be paid by the tenants.

Rumble said the tenants intend to file the motion for "summary judgment" on the validity of the rental increase by the end of this month. He is seeking a court hearing before Judge May on Oct. 22.

Meanwhile, the eviction notices, which were sent to 69 space holders in the park (111 people in all), are being held up while the issue of the rent increase is argued in court.

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