

Man sues Heights over sale of his property to settle debts

Chris McGuinness | Herald staff writer

Dec 11, 2014

1 of 2



Paul Ball gives a tour of one of his properties on East Stacie Road.

Nick Delgado

HARKER HEIGHTS — An elderly man who has been feuding with the city since the 1980s is suing Harker Heights.

Paul Ball, an 81-year-old Heights resident and a disabled Army veteran, filed the suit in Bell County District Court on Nov. 21.

The suit claims Ball was left owing more than \$15,000 after three pieces of property were sold to pay off thousands of dollars in judgments and fines he owes the city.

The sale of the three properties, including Ball's home on East Stacie Road and two other properties on Amy Lane, occurred in September and were the result of an accumulation of city code enforcement violations.

According to data from the city's code enforcement department, from January to August, the city noted 86 vehicle violations and 24 fence violations on Ball's properties.

The lawsuit, filed by Ball's attorney Steven Duskie, stated the sale of the three properties totaled \$28,000. However, the judgments against Ball exceeded that amount, leaving him short \$15,420. The suit claims Ball is entitled to a determination of the fair market value of the properties.

"The properties sold had a value in excess of the judgements," the suit stated. "Therefore, (Ball) is entitled to an offset against the deficiency."

Duskie did not return calls seeking comment on the suit. The city also declined to go into details.

"The city has no comment other than we are aware of the suit and are preparing our response," Heights City Manager David Mitchell said.

Contact Chris McGuinness at chrism@kdhnews.com or (254) 501-7568. Follow him on Twitter at [ChrisKDH](https://twitter.com/ChrisKDH).

Chris McGuinness