

EQUITY AND CRIMES

Ordinance: It is unlawful to permit dogs or cats to run at large within the corporate limits of the City. Local law enforcement officials have been instructed to issue a summons to any owner of a cat or dog who is permitting the animal to run at large. Each owner who violates this statute is subject to a fine of \$50 per violation.

Background: 1) Dog owner Davis continually allows his dog to run loose.
2) Neighbor Nelson continually complains to the city officials.
3) Sometimes the city officials act, sometimes they don't. Sometimes Davis is fined \$50 and pays, sometimes he is not fined.

Consider the following actions in light of the material in pages 351-356, 380-389 of the casebook. See Equity and the Criminal Law, 2000 Ark. L. Notes 1. Be prepared to make arguments for your client:

Davis

Nelson

the city attorney

- 1) Davis seeks equitable relief against his neighbor Nelson to bar Nelson from complaining to the police.
- 2) Davis seeks equitable relief against the city attorney to bar further prosecutions.
- 3) The city attorney seeks equitable relief against Davis to compel Davis to obey the ordinance.
- 4) Nelson seeks equitable relief against Davis to compel him to obey the ordinance.
- 5) Nelson seeks relief against city officials to compel them to enforce the ordinance against Davis consistently.