

# Straight Inc. donors seek injunction

Drug program shouldn't spend proceeds from property, they say

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Donors to the defunct Straight Inc. drug treatment program in southwestern Ohio are intensifying efforts to recoup their money.

Attorney Gerald W. Simmons is asking Chief Judge Carl B. Rubin for a preliminary injunction barring Straight from taking the money out of Ohio or using it to pay for other lawsuits.

At stake is the Miami Township property bought by Straight with some of the more than \$1.5 million raised locally.

The land and building are on the

market for \$1 million. Programs ended in 1987 as controversy over treatment methods caused a drop in local support.

Donors fear Straight will spend the proceeds on drug and alcohol treatment programs elsewhere.

Contributors sued in U.S. District Court to win control of the property or money so that the Greater Cincinnati Foundation could reallocate it for local substance abuse programs.

At a recent hearing where Rubin certified the suit as a class action, Straight lawyer D. Michael Poast said there may be no pro-

ceeds if the property is sold.

Straight has creditors and is incurring legal expenses as it defends at least three lawsuits in addition to the class action, he said.

Friday's motion responded to that caution. It asked Rubin to stop Straight from "depleting the proceeds of sale in any way (i.e., paying attorney's fees, expert witness fees, or settling other litigation) without court or donor permission."

No date has been set for arguments on the injunction.