

Woman who refuses to sell home to Trump gets a 60-day reprieve

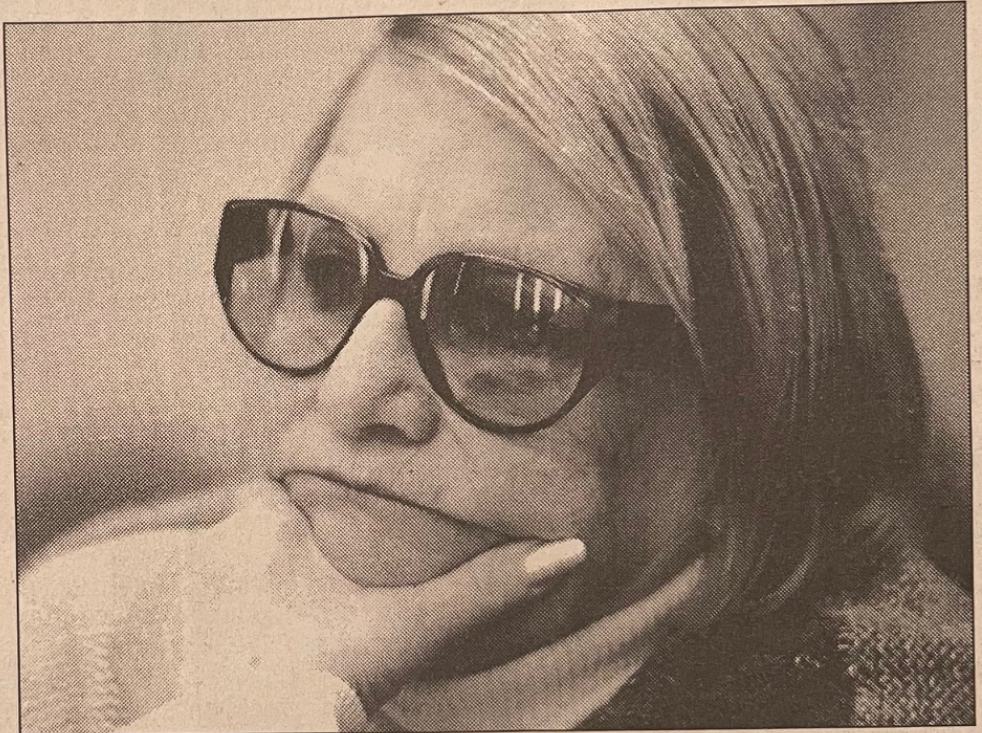
HOMEOWNER from B1 that had been erected around the property by Penthouse magazine tycoon Bob Guccione after Coking refused to sell to him.

Coking dropped Trump from the lawsuit in February and accepted a \$90,000 settlement from Iaconelli Contracting Inc. Those funds — minus attorneys' fees, related expenses, and \$30,000 that will be paid to Atlantic City for back taxes on the property — will be available next week. Zeitz said the work needed to repair the place Coking has called home for more than 35 years would cost \$12,000. A contractor Coking has hired is awaiting building permits from the city.

Whether the work gets done might ultimately be up to Trump. Two letters from Zeitz requesting permission from the Trump organization for Coking's contractor to have access to a foot or two of Plaza property to do the necessary siding and roofing work have gone unanswered. Zeitz said the letters were faxed to Kevin Smith, who heads the Plaza's legal department, on March 26 and on Monday.

Smith could not be reached for comment yesterday. Under questioning by Zeitz, Herzog acknowledged having had a discussion with Smith about one of the letters. Shortly after that admission, Zeitz fired back with the dog accusation.

"All you are right now is a barking dog for the Trump organization," Zeitz said, pointing a finger



For The Inquirer / CLIFF MAUTNER

Vera Coking is fighting to keep her home despite a state eminent-domain action to assist Trump with the expansion of his casino.

across the table at Herzog. "You should be ashamed of yourself."

After the hearing, Herzog denied he was there at the behest of Trump.

"I act in the interest of public safety," Herzog said. "I don't bark for Trump or anybody else."

Meanwhile, Coking is pressing on with her fight, now before the state Supreme Court, to keep her home despite a state eminent-domain ac-

tion to assist Trump with the expansion of his Plaza casino.

Coking, a widow in her 70s, let Zeitz do her talking after the hearing.

"She's staying put and she's going to continue to fight," Zeitz said. "She has said all along that all she wants is to be treated fairly."

For each day that doesn't happen, her asking price, now more than \$1 million, increases, Zeitz said.