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Randy Marcus
Village Attorney

Cayuga Heights officials attempted to **FOOL THE MAJORITY** into thinking they were the minority, then **VIOLATED FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW** and **WASTED THOUSANDS OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS** to conceal documents that would prove their deception.

They **MISLED** the public into believing that their plan to **mass-shoot deer in Cayuga Heights neighborhoods** was blocked by just a small fraction of residents.

Mayor KATE SUPRON at Nov. 13, 2012 meeting of the Village Board:

"About **10% of the properties** in the village were 'no' properties on all deer management activities."

FALSE

Village Attorney RANDY MARCUS at Nov. 20, 2012 meeting of the Village Board:

"After receipt of the owners' consents, although it was determined that **only about a 10% number of property owners did not give permission for culling**, the scattering of those properties randomly through the village resulted in your not having the ability to identify feasible sites for culling."

FALSE

Then-trustee ROBERT ANDOLINA at Nov. 13, 2012 meeting of the Village Board:

"We've gotten the community's buy-in to the point where, you know, **10% can change our ability to execute**"

FALSE

The TRUTH is in the DATA they spent taxpayer money to conceal: Statistics from Landowner consent forms **ORDERED TO BE RELEASED** by NY State Supreme Court Judge Robert Mulvey proved that **owners of 701 properties — 75% of all properties in the Village — did not grant permission to the Village for deer to be shot on their land or guns to be fired near their homes. The 10% figure repeated over and over by Village officials at public meetings and in the media was completely false.** The judge even ordered the trustees to pay more than \$7,000 in attorney's fees because their repeated refusals to make this data available violated the law. **Will the Cayuga Heights trustees stop at nothing to impose backyard shooting on our peaceful community?**

CayugaDeer.org's complete investigative report, including video and court documents, can be found at CayugaDeer.org/coverup.htm

Documents reveal discrepancy in Cayuga Deer controversy



By: Tamara Lindstrom 07/03/2013

It's a bitter controversy fraught with public outrage, mutual mistrust and accusations on all sides. Even after nearly all the does in the Village of Cayuga Heights have been captured and sterilized, the debate continues. Tamara Lindstrom tells us why.

CAYUGA HEIGHTS, N.Y. -- Nearly every aspect of the deer issue in Cayuga Heights has been fervently debated for years; from fences, to guns, to whether or not the deer are even a problem.

"Things are tense in our community now," said Cayuga Heights resident Joe Romano. "We're the object of international ridicule because of the way this has been handled."

Last year, Village leaders were given the final go-ahead from the state to shoot or sterilize most of the deer, but there was just one problem. The Village board sent out surveys, but not enough residents agreed to allow shooting within 500 feet of their properties.

"My estimate without doing hard numbers, about ten percent of the properties of the village were no properties on all deer management activities," Mayor Kate Supron said at a board meeting in November.

"It just happens that that roughly ten percent is dispersed throughout the community to such an extent that that's what's kept the plan from happening," said attorney Randy Marcus in the same meeting.

But after residents filed a Freedom of Information lawsuit, the village was ordered to turn over the actual results of the survey, which showed a very different number.

"What this court ordered document release has proven is that it was 75 percent of the properties in Cayuga Heights that were barred from doing shooting on or near the property. 75 percent, not

ten percent," said James LaVeck of CayugaDeer.org, a group opposed to the shooting.

"We are much more in solidarity on this issue than has been represented by our government," Romano said.

That 75 percent, LaVeck says, is made up of residents who either responded that they would not allow shooting on their property, or they didn't return the survey at all.

"My understanding at the time was that the law was there would be no shooting within 500 feet of anyone's home unless you expressly gave permission by returning the survey and saying it was okay to allow the shooting within 500 feet," said Cayuga Heights resident Karen Chimento. "So I, like a lot of my friends and neighbors, didn't even turn the survey in because there was no point. I was definitely not going to allow shooting within 500 feet of my home."

Though the plan was changed and 93 percent of the female deer were sterilized last winter, village officials are once again considering culling the deer.

"The idea that they would go ahead with reintroducing the idea of killing after we've just spent my money and a lot of other people's money on sterilization makes absolutely no sense to me," Chimento said. "Why would you sterilize deer and then shoot them?"

Mayor Supron did not respond to our requests for an interview, and attorney for the village John Stevens was not available.