



Defense Prepares for Fight in Chicago Carriage Horse Case

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A highly publicized Chicago carriage horse court case has now been continued a third time, to June 15. Defense attorney John Robeznieks is preparing data for city prosecutors on the charges facing J.C. Cutters Ltd. co-owner and manager Michele Goudie, horse owner Melissa Woicek, and carriage driver Frances DuPont. "If the prosecutors determine they cannot prove their case after reviewing the additional information, the matter may very well be dismissed," said Robeznieks, who anticipates a July trial date in the absence of a dismissal or plea. Chicago Animal Care and Control seized the horses Feb. 6 on allegations of improper care. Goudie and Woicek have asserted the horses were not mistreated, and that their owners' rights were violated due to unlawful seizure. Five of six seized Chicago carriage horses remain at Hooved Animal Humane Society (HAHS) under a six-week restraining order issued May 1. One horse was adopted from their facility in April.