

**Harris County Archives
Houston, Texas**

Finding Aid

**HARRIS COUNTY ATTORNEY RECORDS
WEIBEL LANDFILL CASE FILES
CR044
(1984-1993)**

Size: 3 cubic feet

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use: None

Acquisition: County Attorney Office

Accession Number: 2011.016

Processed by: Laura Mills, 2014

Citation: [Identification of Item], Weibel Case Files, Harris County Attorney Records, Harris County Archives, Houston, Texas.

Case Summary:

From 1984 to 1991 Andrew and Ruth Weibel operated an unpermitted landfill on Highland Shores Drive. During this time they violated the Solid Waste Disposal Act and the Texas Clean Air Act on numerous occasions. They also evaded the law by refusing to allow county and state investigators access to their property and failing to be present at hearings.

In August of 1987, Harris County filed a law suit against Andrew and Ruth Weibel for environmental and public safety violations, including unauthorized outdoor burning, failure to properly cover waste, and noncompliance with officials. The Weibels failed to be present for their trial. The court judgment called for the permanent injunction of the Weibels from their property. This included a civil penalty of over \$500,000 for the remediation of the environmental problems they caused.

The Weibels did not respond to this notice and in 1991 they were arrested and charged with contempt. In addition to the penalties from the injunction, they spent three months in jail and were charged a \$250,000 fine. Harris County took over the management of the Weibel site and turned it into a protected wetlands area.

Scope and Contents Note:

Legal documents, correspondence, notes, printed materials, maps, and photographs (1984-1993) document the investigation of the Weibel landfill, the ensuing litigation, and the restoration of the site to a wetlands area. Legal documents from 1984-1991 include several drafts of the original petition for the lawsuits against the Weibels, witness

affidavits, and judgments from both the 1987 and 1991 trials. Correspondence contains notices sent from the Harris County Attorney's Office to the Weibels, as well as interdepartmental communication. Printed materials include newspaper articles about the Weibel landfill, proposals for the clean-up effort, and materials from the Allwaste conference in 1992. There are several maps showing the layout of the Weibel property. 32 photographs and 16 35mm slides (1985-1993) document the Weibels' violations.

Archivist's Note:

This collection has been minimally processed, maintaining original order and titles of the folders and only separating photographs. Be sure to read the entire inventory.

Also see VHS tapes from Terrence O'Rourke Papers (MC48), numbers 257, 358, 597, and 651, documenting Andrew and Ruth Weibel's violations and noncompliance.

For related cases see the Allwaste finding aid.

Inventory

Title	Date	Location
Weibel – Real Property Information	1987, 03 – 1991, 04	1984-X-01
Temporary Injunction	1984, 03 – 1991, 04	1984-X-02
Post Judgment Discovery Research/Interrogations	1987, 02 – 1991, 03	1984-X-03
Weibel Notes & Working File	1984, 12 – 1991, 12	1984-X-04
[Affidavit]	1991, 03/13	1984-X-05
Weibel Correspondence	1985, 06 – 1987, 04	1984-X-06
[Case Preparation Forms & Correspondence] Found loose in box	1988, 01 – 1991, 01	1984-X-07
[Notes & Correspondence] Found loose in box	1984, 01 – 1988, 01	1984-X-08
Exhibits	1984, 12 – 1991, 03	1984-X-09
Weibel Affidavits	1990, 05 – 1991, 03	1984-X-10
Mr. & Mrs. Weibel (Letters from Attorney General's Office)	1990, 04/24	1984-X-11
Engineering Department	1984, 08 – 1985, 06	1984-X-12
HCPCB (Harris County Pollution Control Board) Affidavits 1984	1984, 04 – 1990, 12	1984-X-13
HCPCB (Harris County Pollution Control Board) Request for action 7/17/84	1984, 06 – 1985, 06	1984-X-14
Air Control Board Certification of No Permit	1984, 12/06	1984-X-15
Order & Authority to File Suit 8/7/84	1984, 07 – 1984, 12	1984-X-16
Weibel, Andrew: Open Burning and Illegal Dumping	1984, 07/17	1984-X-17
HCPCB (Harris County Pollution Control Board) Telephone Call Records	1986, 12 – 1990, 04	1984-X-18

Title	Date	Location
Weibel, Andrew Financial File	1991, 02/25	1984-X-19
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Weibel Flood Plain	1990, 06 – 1990, 12	1984-X-20
Permits	1987, 03 – 1991, 02	198-X-21
State of Texas/County of Harris vs Weibel, Andrew	1987, 08 – 1991, 06	1984-X-22
Weibel - Writ of Attachment	1991, 03/18	1984-X-23
[Correspondence, Texas Water Commission Records, Allwaste Conference Materials]	1986, 10 – 1993, 01	1985-X-01
Changes to Suspend Order 5 th Circuit	1992, 04 – 1993, 02	1985-X-02
[Correspondence] Found loose in box	1992, 12 – 1993, 06	1985-X-03
Weibel Development & Management Plan	1993, 04	1985-X-04
[Site Development/Management] Found loose in box	1992, 11 – 1993, 05	1985-X-05
NPRA (National Recreation and Parks Association) - Houston Nov. 11-13, 1991	1991, 11	1985-X-06
Weibel Contempt '91	1991, 03	1986-X-01
Weibel Exhibits	1987, 06 – 1987, 08	1986-X-02
Weibel - Writ of Execution	1987, 01 – 1991, 07	1986-X-03
[Legal Documents, Notes, Correspondence, Printed Materials]	1985, 01 – 1987, 10	1986-X-04
[Weibel Clean-Up: Notes, Correspondence, & Printed Materials] Found loose in box	1991, 01 – 1993, 02	1986-X-05
Witnesses	1991, 03	1986-X-06
Weibel- '87 Judgment	1987, 04 – 1991, 03	1986-X-07
Weibel – Service Affidavits	1986, 10 – 1991, 07	1986-X-08
Copy of Weibel Judgment & Permanent Injunction Execution	1987, 08 – 1990, 06	1986-X-09

Title	Date	Location
Weibel/Dollenstein Request for Admissions	1988, 01 – 1991, 04	1986-X-10
Weibel General Correspondence	1984, 12 – 1988, 03	1986-X-11
[Weibel Offence Records]	1987, 12 – 1988, 03	1986-X-12
HCPCD (Harris County Pollution Control Department) Violation Reports (Misc.)	1986, 04 – 1990, 04	1986-X-13
Todd [Pollution Control Investigations & Correspondence]	1984, 07 – 1986, 04	1986-X-14
Mr. & Mrs. Weibel	1991, 04	1986-X-15
[Allwaste Conference Documents]	1991, 10 – 1993, 02	1986-X-16