

guilty, he could be terminated, perhaps lose retirement and savings, even be prosecuted by the federal government.

The investigation went on for months. Curtis's laptop was taken. Forensic tests were run. But in December 2005, Curtis was fully cleared, and Raytheon said the investigation wouldn't be held against him, court documents say.

Curtis had a telecommuting agreement in place, a flexible work schedule, and excess vacation based on more than 30 years with the company. He wasn't working traditional business hours. But he was getting his work done, he says.

Curtis didn't suffer any long-term damage. He wasn't fired. He still could attend meetings and speak his mind. But that PCM - the property manager of his senior community - was actively *trying* to get him fired, or at least make sure he couldn't come to meetings to mouth off anymore, seems malicious, and chilling.

"They have no business going outside the community to try to damage somebody," Curtis says. "It was vicious and outrageous."

In the court paperwork, attorneys for PCM said Price's comments were not defamatory because they were either true, or her opinion. The court did not agree. And despite the settlement - which avoided a potentially embarrassing jury trial - LWV's boards took no public action against Price or PCM General Manager **Milt Johns**, who testified that he gave Price permission to contact Raytheon.

PCM declined to comment on the suit, or Curtis's ascension to the board, for this story.

#### WORKING TOGETHER

Now on the United board, Curtis is, technically speaking, one of PCM's bosses. He is trying to move constructively forward. He wants to work towards transparency in management and financial matters. He wants to help guide the board towards a more prosperous and secure future.

"We all enjoy where we live," Curtis says. "It's a beautiful community."

It just needs some good watchdogs, he says. And he wants to be a watchdog.

**Stay tuned!!!**

## Ex-officio Officers

**T**here is always confusion when questions of "ex-officio" officers are brought up to a Mutual Board. The following is an article taken from the GRF Bylaws (each corp. is different but this has been updated most recently and will probably be referred to by all of the Boards;

**GRF 6/22/2002 Article 9.6.5 Staff Vice President, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer:** *The Board of Directors may elect additional officers from the General Managers Staff, as is desirable and necessary in routine operation of this Corporation.*

Even though article 9.1 reads as follows;

**GRF 6/22/2002 Article 9.1 Officers:** *The officers shall be a President, a First Vice-president, a Second Vice-president, a Secretary, a financial officer / Treasurer, all of whom shall be Directors. This Corporation may have such other Vice-presidents, Assistant Secretaries, and Assistant Treasurers as may be provided in these Bylaws or as are elected by the Board of Directors, or both.*

You can see from these Bylaws, it is up to the discretion of the Board to elect the General Manager's Staff as "Ex-officio" Officers of the Boards.