

El Dorado County faces suit from pot club

By Peter Hecht, Sacramento Bee

The former operator and members of a Diamond Springs marijuana dispensary are suing El Dorado County to recover seized marijuana, medical records and financial documents taken in a Sheriff's Department raid last year.

The Pure Life Collective has been shuttered since the Nov. 17, 2014, raid, which resulted in the arrest of dispensary operator Kelly Chiusano. No charges have been filed.

The dispensary's lawsuit, filed by a prominent Bay Area lawyer specializing in medical marijuana, charges that the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department wrongly raided Pure Life, which had been granted a permit to operate by the county's Community Development Agency.

The lawsuit, filed last week by Sausalito lawyer Zenia Gilg and law partner Heather Burke, charges that the Sheriff's Department "wasted public resources" by having undercover officers with physicians' recommendations purchase medical marijuana at the dispensary and through its delivery service.

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