

DNI.com, Briefly Plaintiffs in mosque case to ask for trial

MURFREESBORO — Plaintiffs who contend the Rutherford County government failed to provide sufficient public notice about site plans for a mosque will ask Chancellor Robert Corlew at an 8 a.m. hearing Nov. 2 to schedule a trial.

The plaintiffs filed a lawsuit against the county September 2010 after the government's Regional Planning Commission approved the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro's site plans May 24, 2010.

Corlew so far has rejected the plaintiff's quest to stop construction of a new ICM of 52,960 square feet Veals Road. The chancellor ruled that Islam is a religion and that the ICM has a right to build a larger place of worship off Bradyville Pike southeast of Murfreesboro city limits.

The ICM recently broke ground Sept. 26 to build the first 12,000 square feet that will include a multipurpose room for worship and social events.

Plaintiffs contend the county's May 2, 2010, legal notice in The Murfreesboro Post announcing the Regional Planning Commission would be meeting May, 24, 2010, was not sufficient.

County attorneys note that public records laws only require description of agenda items pertaining to rezoning of land, which was not the case involving the ICM.