



CITY OF KENNER

News Release

E. "BEN" ZAHN III
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 8, 2020

KENNER MAYOR BEN ZAHN ENSURES GARBAGE COLLECTION PICKUP WILL CONTINUE DESPITE ORLEANS PARISH COURT ORDER

Kenner, LA. – Kenner Mayor Ben Zahn is resolute in his decision to continue garbage collection in his city despite a Thursday afternoon Temporary Restraining Order (TRO), filed by Ramelli Waste and designed to impede IV Waste from collecting the city's garbage, that Zahn called a "dangerous, callous and petulant legal stunt that should have been rejected."

A TRO was filed Thursday in Orleans Parish Civil District Court to prevent IV Waste from touching the Ramelli cans until a hearing on the matter. Zahn was told that Orleans Parish Civil District Court Judge Ethel Julian granted the TRO. Ramelli Waste owner Bob Ramelli complained that trash placed by Kenner residents in Ramelli 96-gallon waste cans was being collected by the city's new waste collection company IV Waste. Zahn called the legal maneuver by Ramelli "juvenile and mean-spirited." Said Zahn, "It is irresponsible to let garbage pile up in the streets of Kenner during this viral pandemic. It is shocking that a court in New Orleans, which is unaffected by its decision, would risk the health of the citizens of Kenner. I can hardly believe that any corporate leader would be willing to put public health at risk in the name of corporate revenge."

Zahn noted that Ramelli was twice rejected by Judge Ray Steib in the 24th Judicial District Court in Jefferson when seeking temporary restraining orders. "A respected judge in the parish where Kenner is seated listened carefully to arguments of all parties and rebuffed Mr. Ramelli's cries of foul. Our city attorney notified Mr. Ramelli to pick up his cans, but the cans remain on Kenner streets. It is unfair to the residents and businesses of Kenner to expect them to store the Ramelli Waste cans without allowing them to use them for debris or waste. Mr. Ramelli knows that, so this is his latest gimmick to stomp his foot for losing our business."

Zahn is planning a late afternoon release to explain how the City of Kenner will proceed to continue garbage collection in his city. Said Zahn, "We will make sure that all garbage is collected and quickly. We will not allow garbage to sit while an Orleans Parish court mulls over this legal shenanigans."

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