

CITIZEN PETITION

Submitted to the Phoenix City Council on 4/3/2019

Elizabeth Venable

1950 E Cortez St., Phoenix, AZ 85020

elziav@gmail.com

602-872-3465

The ruling, Martin v. Boise, from September 2018, was just reaffirmed by the courts. Based on the ruling (Martin v. Boise) it is appropriate that the city consider where and how the homeless may camp in accordance with the constitution. Please clarify this for the homeless. Under the ruling, the only way you can move someone by law enforcement when they are legally sleeping or camping is to offer them shelter. This is currently not occurring. Even under Phoenix CARES, you are only offering mental health and substance abuse treatment. This is not appropriate for many people who simply need shelter as a gateway to services. You are still trying to arrest or use diversion programs to address the issue. In addition, please instruct your officers to desist from seizing and destroying the property of homeless individuals. This is also unconstitutional. Please respect the basic civil rights of people experiencing homelessness in Phoenix. Please clarify the law, and desist enforcing trespassing law for legal sleeping and camping, as well as the destruction of personal property by police. We are asking for this to be done through municipal policy.