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**APPEALS COURT RULES TO TEAR DOWN A HOUSE OF WORSHIP BECAUSE IT
HAS SEPARATE MENS/WOMENS RESTROOMS ? !
AUSTIN GURUDWARA SAHIB Inc files appeal with Texas Supreme Court.**

Austin Gurudwara Sahib Inc (AGS) and ***Save Austin Gurudwara LLC*** continue to work through judicial channels to try and overturn a ruling by a Texas Appeals court in July 2010 asking for removal/destruction of the only Sikh Gurudwara located in Austin, Texas. Now, with the support of Sikh organizations, led by United Sikhs, AGS and Save Austin Gurudwara are challenging the appellate court's unjust ruling before the Texas Supreme Court.

AGS opened the first permanent Gurudwara (place of worship for Sikhs) in Austin Texas in 2003. The Gurudwara was located within a Manufactured Home on the multi-acre lot. In 2007, when they had sufficient resources, the organization decided to build a newer, more functional, structure to hold weekly services. At that point, they were sued by Leslie & John Bollier who lived about a half-mile away to stop any new construction. Construction was stopped while the case was heard in a Travis County (Austin) Court. The Court overwhelmingly ruled in favor of Austin Gurudwara Sahib to resume construction including citing the defendants for "inequitable conduct".

The Gurudwara construction resumed but the Bolliers filed an appeal to a Texas Appeals court. When the case was heard, the Gurudwara construction was already complete. The Appeals court overturned the lower court ruling and went as far as to call for destruction of the Gurudwara that had already been built. Its ruling hinges on the fact that the Gurudwara building is in violation of structural deed restrictions because it has internal signage that indicates separate mens/womens restrooms!

Save Austin Gurudwara LLC was formed to help overturn the Appeals court ruling. We joined forces with other Sikh and non-Sikh organizations who were also appalled at the over-reaching (and unjustified on facts) ruling by the Appeals Court. The case was appealed to the Texas Supreme Court in Nov 2010. The court asked the defendants to submit a brief in Feb 2011. The Texas Supreme Court will now review the briefs and decide when it wants to hear the case.

Save Austin Gurudwara LLC and AGS want to thank the many community organizations who rallied to support our cause. While there are too many to list individually, we do want to recognize the excellent work done by UNITED SIKHS, a U.N. affiliated non-partisan, non-profit international humanitarian aid, education/ healthcare, and legal advocacy organization and their Senior Staff Attorney Hansdeep Singh who have filed an Amicus Brief in defense of the Gurudwara. We truly appreciate United Sikhs' efforts and hope that their work inspires others to also file amicus briefs to save the Austin Gurudwara.

Save Austin Gurdwara LLC wants to thank all the individual donors as well as other Gurudwaras around the country that have rallied to support the small sangat (congregation) of Austin, Texas to retain their place of worship.

Please visit www.SaveGurudwara.com or our facebook page for donations & updates.