

New city list to curb solicitation is growing

By [Doug Page](#), Staff Writer

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ENGLEWOOD — Nearly a month ahead of schedule, the city is enrolling residents on its do-not-solicit list. Door-to-door solicitors are required to get a copy of the list of addresses on whom they should not call.

“Our IT man was able to get this up and running faster than expected,” City Manager Eric Smith said.

Residents have three options to enroll:

- go to the city’s Web site, www.inglewood.oh.us, and click on the link “Add me to the Do-Not-Solicit List” on the home page;
- fill out the registration information on the back of the city utility bill; and
- stop by the Government Center between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and register.

The city first created the list as part of a 2005 amendment to the solicitation ordinance. Within three months, 650 residents had enrolled. As of Friday — with no publicity — 30 addresses already were enrolled.

That same year, Ohio Citizen Action, a nonprofit environmental and political action group, challenged the constitutionality of the ordinance, and the city stopped promoting the list.

In February, a federal judge upheld critical portions of the ordinance, including a 6 p.m. curfew on solicitors. The judge, however, found problems with the do-not-solicit list because the ordinance had no mechanism to update the list as people moved. Earlier this month, the City Council amended the ordinance to bring it in line with the judge’s ruling.

As the city is enrolling residents on the list, the battle over the ordinance continues in federal court,

OCA has appealed U.S. District Judge Walter Rice’s ruling to the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati. That court has scheduled through the summer briefs of the argument from both sides. There is no indication when the appeals court might rule.

Attorneys from both sides have speculated the issue eventually might end up before the U.S. Supreme Court.

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