

Knox County hearing set for July 16

By Mike Steely
Senior Writer
steelym@knoxfocus.com

The COVID-19 pandemic saw the closure of courts in Tennessee. Some courts have opened with limited seating recently and the *Etters vs. Knox County* lawsuit, which has been in limbo for several months, finally appears on the Chancery Court Docket.

During the Knox County Pension Board meeting Tuesday the board's attorney, John Owings, said that July 16 at 9:30 a.m. is the new date and time. The hearing is to rule on a motion to dismiss filed by Knox County and the Pension

for a loved one from afar during pandemic



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He's finally back home and recovering but the difficulties and worries that his family faced while he was in the hospital during the pandemic is a heart-wrenching story that must be told.

The 85-year-old West Knoxville lay in Parkwest Medical Center several weeks ago awaiting surgery for his broken hip. Mostly deaf and confused, Franklin Davis Wills was alone and could have no visitors because of hospital policy due to the coronavirus pandemic.

One of his daughters, Missy Shorter, was panicked and concerned about her 77-year-old mother wanting to be with Wills during the ordeal. Missy and her husband, Mike, began a frustrating effort to see her father.

"We've been trying to get in to see him," she told *The Focus*. With the help and advice of Knox County Com-