

Homeless couple evicted from GV motel

Family's plight in hands of insurance company

By Scott Williams
Of The Examiner

GRAIN VALLEY — When a fire destroyed their new home and they were forced to live in a motel room for two months, Don McCloud and Georgia Mears thought nothing could be worse.

They were wrong.

The young couple and their three

children were evicted from the motel Thursday because their insurance company still has not given them enough money to pay the motel bill.

The owner of the Scottish Inn motel said he was forced to evict the family because they owe the motel nearly \$5,000.

Owner Jay Patel said he thought the motel bill would be paid by Columbia Insurance Group, but he said he has received no response to bills sent to the company.

Patel said he allowed McCloud,

Mears and their children — ages 6, 8 and 15 — to stay at the motel much longer than other unpaid customers would be accommodated.

"I didn't ask them to leave sooner because I didn't want to ruin their Christmas," he said. "But this is a business, and I cannot keep people here without money."

Neither McCloud, 30, nor Mears, 39, could be contacted after the eviction.

Although both work at the General Motors Corp. Fairfax plant, McCloud

said two weeks ago that his family was nearly out of money.

"At least at the motel, my kids have got towels to wash with and blankets to keep them warm," he said.

McCloud also said he did not blame Scottish Inn management for threatening eviction, but he did blame Columbia Insurance for not giving the family more money.

The house destroyed by fire Nov. 1

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