

## ZONING COMPLAINT

### City: Store Selling Sex Toys

#### Seductions Charged With Misdemeanor

##### Journal Staff Report

City zoning inspectors on Friday accused a Northeast Heights store of violating restrictions on the sale of sexually explicit material.

Pete Dinelli, Albuquerque's chief public safety officer, said the city filed a formal complaint in Metropolitan Court against Robert Costa, 37, and Seductions, the business operating at 2528 Juan Tabo NE, near Candelaria. The misdemeanor charge could result in fines or jail time.

In an interview, Dinelli said the store has dedicated more than 25 percent of its space to selling sex toys and other adult material, which is prohibited by the area's commercial zoning. Neighbors have complained about it repeatedly, partly because a middle school is nearby and children walk around the area, he said.

The display of sexual material can be seen through the storefront, Dinelli said.

"They're not even responding to any of our demands," he said. "The neighborhood is upset about it. Frankly, we've tried to bend over backwards" to get cooperation.

The city inspected the property in December and had asked the business to reduce the amount of adult material for sale, Dinelli said.

Costa has an unpublished telephone number and couldn't be reached for comment. A woman who answered the phone at Seductions said, "We're not at liberty to give you any information."



**PAT VASQUEZ-CUNNINGHAM/JOURNAL** The city filed a formal complaint against Seductions for allegedly dedicating more than 25 percent of its space to selling sex toys and other adult material.

Print