

King Forms Group For Arrested Men

Don King, editor of Q-Notes, has formed a support/information task force for gay men who have been arrested at parks and bookstores on charges of assault or and solicitation for crime against nature.

"I contend that the police are deliberately arresting not only people who break the law, but also people who have committed no crime but are too scared to pursue their case," he said. "We must stop that."

"First, we need information from people who have been arrested — enough information to intelligently advise defendants about their best course of action. And we've got to find the best lawyers."

"Second, we've got to get information from past cases so we can establish patterns, especially patterns in which the arresting officer probably knew the case would be thrown out if carried to district court."

"Third, we'd like to act as a support group for persons arrested. They should know they can turn to others and that it's not the end of their lives."

"And, fourth, we'd like to find a case in the future

that's suitable for a lawsuit — both a personal lawsuit and a class action suit — against the arresting officer, the vice squad and its commanding officer, the police department and Chief Killman, and the city council and city administration.

"We can't do it unless we start communicating with each other. Consumers groups are always popping up for one thing or another. This time, it's a consumers group of men arrested for these charges."

"We've found that the police and courts fail to tell arrested men everything they should know. For instance, when you're considered for pre-trial release, do they tell you that a friend or relative rather than an employer can certify that you are employed? Do they sometimes call an employer just to embarrass you?"

"What's the best thing to do if you feel you're innocent? Do they tell you that your arrest record can be wiped away if you're found not guilty or if your case is dismissed?"

"And what about arrests? What if you're charged

with indecent exposure? Do people know you can't legally be charged with that unless a person of the opposite sex is present? And does just asking someone to go home with you constitute solicitation? Legally no, but vice officers will make the charge anyway."

"I want anyone who has been through this to call me," King said, giving his home phone number, 332-3834. "I'm not easy to get hold of, but I encourage anyone to keep trying."

"I'm told that being arrested and put through all this is devastating. We can offer support to each other. We can advise about what to do and start developing plans to put a stop to this."

"If we can establish that a particular officer or the vice squad in general is making arrests that couldn't possibly stand up in court, we have the basis for legal proceedings against the city, the police force and certain officers for false arrest and whatever else applies. That may be the only way to stop this."

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TALENT NIGHT

Sunday, Sept. 13, with \$50 to the winner.

WEDNESDAYS

We're talking \$1.50 drink specials and \$1 schnapps. All night long!

THURSDAYS

Eat your hearts out, guys. This is Ladies Night, meaning they get in FREE. But everyone gets all the draft they want for a measly \$4.

A Hat Full Of Tricks All Month Long!

SEPT. 4 & 5

Martina Desiree and Jamle Lee

SEPT. 11 & 12

Dance Tracks Reunion

SEPT. 18 & 19

Stephanie Wells and Stephanie O'Bryan

SEPT. 25

Sasha Tate, Shea Lateece, Sammi Kay Daniels And Brittany Gwen

SEPT. 26

Sasha, Shea, Sammi Kay, Brittany, Kasey King and Gypsy Starr