

## Elected

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Spanish-language newspaper. He has been active in the fundraising campaigns of such officials as President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI, the first open lesbian elected to the US House), Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Sen. Edwards, Rep. Mel Watt (D-NC), and a host of local candidates. Reyes was also named by the Democratic National Committee to their site selection committee for the party's Convention 2000.

Reyes ran for county commissioner in Dis-

trict 5 last year, and received endorsement from the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, but pulled out of the race after his mother was diagnosed with cancer.

In addition to his political affiliations (which are numerous), Reyes is also active in the community. He is on the board of trustees of Charlotte Repertory Theatre; is a member and former board of director member of the Latin America Coalition; donates tax and accounting services to seniors; and was recognized by the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners for "improving the lives of the citizens of Mecklenburg County." ▼

## Strategies

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Police said McKinney and Henderson met Shepard at a bar, told him they were gay, lured him into a pickup truck, robbed him, then drove him to a remote area and beat him into a coma. Shepard was found tied to a fence about 18 hours after the attack and died five days later from 18 blows to the head.

The subject of letters allegedly written by McKinney and released by Henderson's attorney, Wyatt Skaggs, came up repeatedly. At one point, Custis told Voigt he had not yet seen one of the letters, prompting Rerucha to bolt from his seat and say that he had witnesses who could attest otherwise. Two jailhouse letters were apparently written by McKinney to Henderson and the wife of another inmate, implicating himself. The letters, Rerucha said, were included in a package of information sent

to McKinney's attorneys in March and he accused Custis of lying.

The two lawyers began sparring, but Judge Voigt stepped in and stopped the clash.

Custis said he was awaiting information regarding a handwriting analysis of the letters in question and the envelopes the letters were mailed in.

He said he was also awaiting a transcription of a detailed statement recently made by Henderson (after his sentencing) and of a statement made by McKinney's girlfriend, Kristen Price, just prior to Henderson's plea hearing.

Custis said he requested Henderson's records because they were "absolutely essential" to the defense. "He is the only other person who was out there with Mr. McKinney so he's [probably] going to be a material witness," he said.

Voigt, who said he would rule on the requests later, has scheduled three days of hearings beginning May 10. ▼

## Broadcast

Continued from page 1

"clarify" why "homosexual indoctrination of [first] graders is an acceptable topic to be funded by 'American Public Television' and Congress."

Also copied are Charlotte City Council member Tim Sellers (R-District 5) and Dr. D. James Kennedy of the the American Family Association, one of the anti-gay groups fighting the broadcast nationally.

In a letter of response, written the same day, Bouton states, "...Paul Neil, Vice Chairman of the WTVI Board...called me a few months ago asking about the status of this program. At the time our programming department had no knowledge of this program. I thought that strange because the information Paul had been given would lead one to believe this program was being fed as part of the PBS national schedule."

He says that "upon investigation" it was learned that neither The Corporation for Public Broadcasting nor PBS were involved in the production of *It's Elementary*, that it is being made available by the presenting affiliate station KQED in San Francisco and that it is na-

tionally distributed by an independent distributor of public television programs, American Program Service."

Lastly, Bouton confirms that the program will not be broadcast by the station: "WTVI has made no plans to place this independent production in our program schedule."

When contacted for more information, Bouton gave *Q-Notes* this terse response: "Our official position is in the letter. We have nothing more to say."

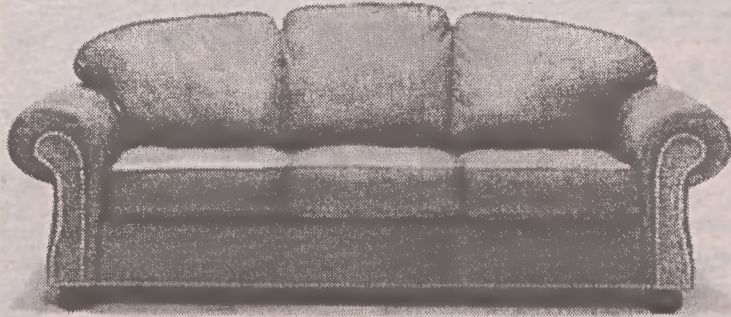
A national campaign has been underway for weeks to ensure that at least 100 public television stations across the US air *It's Elementary* during Pride month. An e-mail alert identifying the appropriate contact at each PBS station was widely circulated along with a call to lobby for the participation of each outlet.

The address for the point person at WTVI was given as adena\_whitman@wrvi.pbs.org. Individuals can e-mail this address or call (704) 372-2442 to express their feelings about the station's refusal to air such groundbreaking and inclusive programming as *It's Elementary*.

To contact Commissioner James, e-mail jameswf@co.mecklenburg.nc.us, call (704) 846-6527 or fax (704) 846-6538. ▼

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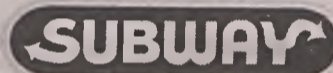


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