

Minor's Contracts

In North Carolina anyone who has not reached the age of 18 is a minor. A minor who is a party to a contract may elect not to perform his part of the contract. The contract is valid until the minor elects to void the contract, then it is void. The law allows for these voidable contracts to protect minors against their own improvidence. If the minor breaks the contract—thus making it void—he is not liable to the other party to the contract.

If a minor, after coming of age, decides to fulfill his obligations, then the contract is valid. This is called **ratification** and is an expression of the intent to perform a promise made while a minor.

Several states have passed statutes giving minors the capacity to enter into certain types of contracts with the same effect as adults. Research should be done in relevant states to find the appropriate law in that state.

In North Carolina, minors can enter contracts of

Gas Shortage Didn't Stop Festival Fans

By Joey Daniels
Special to the Chronicle

HAMPTON, Va. - Since gas was hard to come by (due to uncontrollable circumstances), friends gathered together, pooled their minds, monies and made the Hampton Kool Jazz Festival anyway. At least 38 buses with license tags from across the country helped to fill up the parking lot and the arena.

Inside the Hampton Coliseum were anxious fans ranging from young ones to old ones; waiting patiently,

enjoying every act and all the new goodies the festival has added for convenience purposes such as the large viewing screen and the new stages.

Local representatives and supporters brushed off their skepticism brought on by the gas shortage panic which in turn delayed tickets sales until the final moments. Nevertheless, Hampton's 10,700 seat Coliseum was sold out with "standing room only."

Highlight credits of the extravaganza are due to Ms. Ella Fitzgerald, Ashford & Simpson and the unexpected

Ramsey Lewis. All participants were superb but these artists portrayed the most crowd appeal and control.

The Kool Jazz Festival is a phenomenon of the '70s, once a lone concert which has turned into a nationwide series of spectacles lasting from May until August.

This same weekend, another Kool Jazz Festival is going on in Atlanta. Cincinnati and New Orleans are also on tap in coming weeks, leading up the gala weekend of August 11 when festivals will take place in New York, Washington, Detroit, Memphis, Chicago and Dallas.

Chronicle Letters

DEAR EDITOR:

One must question and search for ulterior motives when the U.S. judicial system has condoned the institution of such a barbaric code of justice as the death sentence.

When John Spenkelink, a transient hitchhiker, was chosen as the first sacrifice it was cause for serious thought. What an ironic situation. When death row consists of a majority black population, why was Spenkelink, a white man, executed first? Was it because his crime was such a hideous one or was this a master plan concocted by the powers of our "equal society?"

John Spenkelink was a white poor man who was victimized. He was the perfect sacrificial lamb to be led to slaughter. The execution of this man would appease the black population by showing us that "our" judicial system does not discriminate because of color. Spenkelink's death would not offend the upper echelon of white society who considered him a non-entity. John Spenkelink's murder was the beginning of the end.

What a small price to pay in order to delude the vast numbers of blacks and poor people who are dependent upon the judicial system of the U.S. for "justice." The execution of John Spenkelink will result in the sanctioned murder of the death rowers who consist mainly of blacks and poor people.

Constance Thornton Grant
Gilmer Avenue

you and the law

insurance with insurance companies, minors may own shares and make deposits in credit union, minors above the age of 15 may withdraw money by receipt of check by his own signature, minors 17 years old and older may sign interest-bearing loans if the interest is 6% or less, and minors of the age 12 or more can own shares (savings accounts) with building and loan or savings and loan associations.

These laws mean that for those instances, a minor cannot void the contract at his election. The minor is legally bound to the contract and is liable to the other party to the contract if the agreement is broken.

Evelyn Dove
Staff Associate
LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF NORTHWEST N.C., INC.



State Human Relations Director Henry McKay tells Patterson Avenue YMCA members about the importance of the family unit during 52nd annual banquet.

Sisters

women became abusive and loud and he called for assistance.

Sgt. J. J. Gentry testified that he arrived on the scene to assist Bullard and that Hawkins - shouted an obscenity at him. He said he advised her that if she repeated the obscenity he would place her under arrest. The officer said Hawkins repeated the obscenity and he placed her under arrest.

Gentry then stated that the other women assaulted him and that Carolyn House jumped on his back and scratched his face. He said she jumped on his back like a "monkey."

Hawkins testified that she did not shout any obscenities at Gentry and that he deliberately jumped on her toe and broke it. She said she was not wearing any shoes at the time.

Juanita House testified that she went into her house and called her attorney Herman Stevens. She said when she told the officer that she had called a lawyer and that they needed a search warrant, Officer Gentry became angry.

All of the women testified that Gentry used racial slurs and used unnecessary force to take them into custody. The women also testified that about a dozen police officers answered the call, kicked in the door and pulled them out.

Carolyn testified that she was in her bedroom calling her mother when an officer kicked in her door and handcuffed her. She said the officers refused to let her get her two year old son and less than a month old baby from the house. The children were left in the house alone after the women were arrested.

The lawyers for the women, Roy G. Hall and Roland Hayes, argued if the officers had gotten a warrant in the beginning the incident would have never happened.

The State argued that officers presence on the property was lawful and that the arrest was valid. The State said that the officers were gathering information and was not searching the property.

Incentive

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A request by Alderman John J. Cavanaugh to close the Reynolds Park swimming pool was not acted upon by the board. Alderman Ernestine Wilson, chairman of the finance committee, told the board that closing the swimming pool would not save the city \$37,000 as Cavanaugh predicted it would.

Wilson said that in 1980 Reynolds Park, Happy Hill and Kimberly Park swimming pools would be closed, and by closing them would save the \$37,000. An addendum by Alderman Jon

Devries was approved by the board, which would require an investigation into the public safety department to determine the effectiveness of the program. Devries and Alderman Vivian Burke requested that the study be made by the City Manager and the personnel staff and brought before the board within 90 days.

Devries also requested an investigation into the Community Development Department to determine if there are duplication of services by that department and the planning staff.

July 4th

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