



RNC 800 <rnc800@gmail.com>

RNC800: April 26, 2009

RNC 800 <rnc800@gmail.com>

Sun, Apr 26, 2009 at 7:28 PM

To: rnc08arrestees-announce@lists.riseup.net

Cc: rnc08arrestees-internal@lists.riseup.net

THE RNC800!

Newsletter of the Community RNC Arrestee Support Structure (CRASS)

Welcome to the eighteenth edition of the CRASS newsletter!
Check out the amazing array of information below. And remember...
WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

Next CRASS Meeting:
***** TBD pending other big events we're scheduling *****
Hosmer Library, Minneapolis

COURT SOLIDARITY KEEPS ON WINNING!!!

There have been an amazing number of wins since our last newsletter. Check 'em out!

RNC 8 terrorism charges dropped! Susan Gaertner, the Ramsey County Attorney, finally realized how absurd the terrorism charges were and dropped them. Now all that's left for the 8 are the remaining conspiracy charges. Here's some of what the Friends of the RNC 8 had to say about the news: "In the surest sign yet of the power of post-RNC court solidarity, Ramsey County Attorney Susan Gaertner has dropped two of four unfounded charges against the RNC 8. Caving to months and months of public pressure, Gaertner dropped one count of Conspiracy to Commit Riot in Furtherance of Terrorism, and one count of Conspiracy to Commit Criminal Damage to Property in Furtherance of Terrorism." Find out more at <http://rnc8.org>.

Final Rage Against the Machine charges dropped! Charges have been dropped for the last of our defendants picked up in the mass arrest following the Rage Against the Machine Concert. They were set to go to trial, but true to form, the prosecutor caved at the last minute.

St. Paul arrestees continue to have their charges dropped! One defendant who had been given more charges after she refused to accept a plea agreement recently received the news that all her charges were being dropped. And another defendant had his charges dropped; John Choi, the St. Paul City Attorney, told the defendant's lawyer that he didn't believe a jury could convict the defendant on the charges. We've also heard from a St. Paul city prosecutor that she intends to drop the charges on another defendant who has his arraignment scheduled for later on this week.

The state continues to lose the battle in the courts. Despite their rhetoric about charges being dropped not being an indication of the police abusing their power, our wins clearly show that the police had no cause to arrest people en masse. Even playing their own game, the state can barely do anything except attempt to intimidate

people into plea agreements. Despite their best efforts, court solidarity continues to help us fight back and win!

DEFEND THE RNC 8--NO PEACE FOR SUSAN GAERTNER!!!

Our comrades in the Friends of the RNC 8 are keeping up the pressure on Susan Gaertner! Dropping the terrorism charges against the 8 was the smart move on Gaertner's part, but her attempts to criminalize dissent will not be overlooked simply because she does one decent thing. Help keep the pressure on her! Come out to these events to learn more about the RNC 8, how their case affects us all, and how you can help defend them and our abilities to organize.

Defend the RNC 8! The Struggle for Justice After the RNC

Wednesday, April 29 - 7pm

Coffman Student Union Room 324

University of Minnesota

300 Washington Ave. SE, Minneapolis

The RNC 8 are a group of Twin Cities residents, nearly all in their 20s, who were initially charged with conspiracy to riot in furtherance of terrorism under the Minnesota version of the Patriot Act. Although recently the terrorism charges were dropped, they still each face 5 years in prison for organizing peaceful direct action against the Republican National Convention last September. Come hear them tell their story, and find out how and why to get involved in their defense campaign. Speakers include Gay Bicking, mother of Monica Bicking of the RNC 8 and the RNC 8, including University of Minnesota student Max Specktor.

Hellraiser Outside Susan Gaertner's Fundraiser

Thursday, April 30, 5-7pm

801 Washington Ave., Minneapolis , Suite 302 (home of David Potter and Darwin Lookingbill)

Come make some noise at Gaertner's next fundraiser. And look forward to a special announcement from the RNC 8!

Rush-hour Picket at Susan Gaertner's Campaign Office

Tuesday, May 5, 4:30-6pm

1821 University Ave. W., St. Paul, (corner of University and Fairview), Suite 116

As Gaertner struggles to raise money for her floundering campaign for the DFL governor endorsement, she's also continuing another type of political campaign ... one that could land community organizers in prison. Please join us on Tuesday, May 5, from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. to picket Susan's campaign office during the height of rush-hour visibility. We can't afford to let the pressure up now!

UPCOMING COURT DATES--DON'T MISS 'EM!!!

Even with all the recent wins, people are still fighting their way through the courts. Come on out and support them! All hearings are at the Ramsey County Courthouse, 15 W. Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul. For more information, email RNCcourtwatch@gmail.com.

Tuesday, April 28th, 9 AM: Bruce Nestor, a lawyer with the Minnesota NLG, will try to convince Judge Wilson that mistakes were made during the trial of Sean McCoy and that the medic should get a new trial. McCoy was recently convicted of public assembly without a permit and given a \$50 fine.

Wednesday, May 6: Cameron Kennedy is having a pre-trial for his felony charges.

Tuesday, May 14, 9am: Mujahid Suliman is having a pre-trial hearing.

Wednesday, May 15: Another felony defendant is having a pre-trial.

Week of June 1: Dave Mahoney and Jesse Forrey are on trial call!

CRASS WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Civil Litigation (Sue the Bastards!): We're still collecting intake forms to get people connected to the work being done to sue those bastards! You can find the form at <http://www.mcaftermath.org/resources/civil-litigation-forms/>. For more information, contact us at suethebastards@riseup.net.

Court Solidarity/Media/Outreach/Pressure (Omnibus): Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 6 @ 8pm, Coldsnap office. Email our listserv for Court Solidarity/Media/Outreach/Pressure (rccourtsolidarity@googlegroups.com) for more information.

Courtwatch: We need you in the courts! Email us at RNCcourtwatch@gmail.com to get involved. We're doing our work online for the most part, so email us to get involved!

Felony Support: For more info about Felony Support, check out our little space on the web at <http://www.mcaftermath.org/arrestees/felony-info-and-support>.

Fundraising: We're working on scheduling a benefit show and could use some help finding a venue. If you have any suggestions or want to help, let us know! Come to our meeting on Wednesday, April 29 at 6:30pm at Mouse's apartment. Email mc08fundraising@gmail.com if you want to hang out with us.

Hospitality: Helping arrestees survive their stay in the Twin Cities while fighting court charges. Offer housing or find some for yourself at www.nornc.org/stay. Coming into town to fight your charges? Need help paying for your travel? Apply for funding through the Travel Fund at <http://www.mcaftermath.org>. So far, we've reimbursed more than \$5,000 of travel expenses to and from the Twin Cities for people fighting their charges. We'd love to help you too! E-mail mc08hospitality@riseup.net for more info.

The Spokescouncil: The spokescouncil is made up of the bottomliners from each of the working groups, and is also open to anyone who wants to be involved. We plan the agenda for the meetings, share information between the working groups, and formulate proposals to bring to the meetings.

The Zine Project: Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 29, 9pm at the Blue Nile Restaurant in Minneapolis. We are still looking for people who are interested in writing, editing, interviewing, archiving, illustrating and all kinds of other rad projects that will bring this publication to life. Email us at crasszine@riseup.net or check out <http://www.mcaftermath.org/get-involved/crass-zine-project> for more info. Also check out our snazzy Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=66014266468>. You don't have to live in Minneapolis to be part of this project -- email us to get involved!

OTHER GROUPS AND THINGS

Coldsnap: Don't forget that the jail support hotline number--651.356.8635--is always open for your jail support needs. If you have general questions, please call during normal daylight hours.

Dave Mahoney's Posse: Dave Mahoney, 23, was temporarily in the US and due to return to his home in England before the new year. He was arrested by the FBI during the Republican National Convention (RNC) in September 2008, and has been charged with 3 counts of aiding and abetting 2nd degree assault and 3 counts of terrorist threats, for an incident that has the loosest connections imaginable to a so called assault. Dave has a

pre-trial hearing scheduled for April 24th (at the Ramsey County courthouse) and TRIAL HAS BEEN SET FOR JUNE 1ST. He still has a posse, so check 'em out and show some support: <http://www.helpdavemahoney.blogspot.com/>

Support Dustin: Dustin Matchett-Morales's felony sentencing was on Thursday, February 5. Judge Flynn gave him 60 days in the Ramsey County jail, 5 years of probation, a mandatory DNA sample, a requirement for full-time work or school after release, and restitution for the broken bank windows (the final amount is still to be determined). With credit for good behavior, he was released from jail and did not serve the full 60 days!!! We're so happy that he is free and once again part of our community. For more information about Dustin, visit <http://supportdustin.wordpress.com> or email supportdustin@riseup.net.

Support Jesse: This support website is dedicated to aiding Jesse Forrey fight his charges and the State's oppression stemming from the Republican National Convention of 2008. Jesse is a good friend and a valuable contributing member of multiple communities and is currently confined in the Twin Cities of Minnesota, facing a felony charge with a five year maximum sentence. Jesse is on the trial call for June 1. <http://supportjessejames.wordpress.com/>

Help the Milwaukee Three: The MK3 (Christina Vana, Dave Mahoney, and Karen Meissner) set up a blog due to the similarity of their cases, but also because of their solid friendship. They hope that, like the RNC 8 and other friends and arrestees, their solidarity with one another can be an inspiration over the stories of police infiltration, informants and cooperation stemming from the RNC. The MK3 share affinity on many levels and enjoy working within their communities towards a life free of all forms of domination. For more information, check out <http://helpmkethree.blogspot.com>.

RNC 8: The RNC 8--Luce Guillen-Givins, Max Specktor, Nathanael Secor, Eryn Trimmer, Monica Bicking, Erik Oseland, Robert Czernik and Garrett Fitzgerald--are still facing four felony charges (two with terrorism enhancements). To get up-to-date information, check out their website at <http://RNC8.org> and sign up for their announcement listserv.

Free the Texas Two: During the Republican National Convention in Minnesota last September, law enforcement conspired to repress people and free speech through brutality in the streets and entrapment and trumped up charges in court. Like many activists before them, the Texas2 fell victim to an FBI informant and provocateur. David McKay and Bradley Crowder of Austin have been held in a federal holding facility in Minnesota since September. David has been released into his father's custody and is back in Texas until his re-trial begins while Bradley is still in custody awaiting his sentencing. For more information, visit <http://www.freethetexas2.com>

RANDOM ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have local RNC-related events going on in your community, email us and we will include them in this section of our newsletter.

Pretty Please: *This is our oh-so-clever section for volunteer requests and general begging.*

Please give us your money at <http://www.rncaftermath.org>

Please set up benefit shows or other rad events in your hometown.

Please volunteer to work in the office at coldsnapoffice@gmail.com.

Please give us free office supplies (especially printer paper).

Please fight your charges.

How to Contact Us

<http://www.rncaftermath.org>

RNC800 newsletter- RNC800@gmail.com

Send checks, courtwatch forms, and inspirational messages to CRASS c/o Coldsnap- P.O. Box 50514,

Minneapolis, MN 55405
Coldsnap jail support hotline: 651.356.8635
CRASS working groups: Contact info is in their blurbs.

Yay! You made it all the way to the bottom of our fabulous newsletter. Thanks and way to go! Send us feedback and suggestions. We're here for you.
