



RNC 800 <rnc800@gmail.com>

RNC800: September 30, 2009

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Wed, Sep 30, 2009 at 10:30 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 twenty-fourth edition of the CRASS newsletter!
Check out the amazing array of information below. And remember...
WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

THURSDAY, OCT. 8: RNC 8 COURT DATE & RALLY

8:15am: Rally at Ramsey County Courthouse

9:00am: Scheduling/motion hearing, room 1040, Ramsey County Courthouse

Originally slated for August and then canceled at the last minute, the RNC 8's scheduling and motion hearing has been rescheduled for Thursday, October 8 at 9am in room 1040 of the Ramsey County Courthouse in St. Paul.

Once again - barring further delays - all of the RNC 8 and their attorneys will be in attendance. Please join them!

The RNC 8 Defense Committee will sponsor a **rally outside the courthouse** at 15 West Kellogg Boulevard from 8:15-9am on October 8, before everyone heads upstairs to pack the courtroom. **To carpool from Minneapolis, meet at Walker Church (3104 16th Ave S.) at 7:30 sharp.** Otherwise, the courthouse is near several bus routes from Minneapolis, including the 16, 21, 50 and 94.

At the hearing itself, the 8's motion to be tried together rather than separately will likely be addressed. Other motions may be raised as well, and future dates will be set. Judge Warner may or may not rule on the motions immediately.

It's been over a year since the RNC, and our community has proven that court solidarity works. Show yours! Help remind Judge Warner, Ramsey County Attorney and DFL Governor candidate Susan Gaertner, and the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office that the RNC 8 are not criminals and that prosecuting activists is a disgrace! Join us on the morning of Thursday, October 8. Remember that nothing that could be construed as a weapon - such as scissors or tools - are allowed in the courthouse and that all bags may be searched, so check them before you leave. It's now been seven months since the last hearing - bring your friends and let's show how much support for the RNC 8 has grown.

TUESDAY, NOV. 10: SENTENCING FOR KAREN & CHRISTINA

**1:30 pm in front of Judge Warner
Ramsey County Courthouse
15 West Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul**

On Tuesday, September 1, 2009, Christina Vana and Karen Meissner pled guilty to felony assault in the 2nd degree, for their part in the massive demonstrations during the 2008 RNC in St. Paul, Minnesota. They received a plea deal, with the State agreeing to grant them a Stay of Imposition (meaning the felony charge will be dropped to a misdemeanor after successful completion of probation), a maximum of 90 days of jail time, and the possibility of doing Sentence to Serve as a jail alternative. They also face up to 7 years of probation. This was a departure from the sentencing guidelines, which would normally call for prison time.

Please show up and make court a slightly more festive endeavor!

SUPPORTING JESSE JAMES

In September, Jesse James was sentenced to 4 months for "damage to property" during the 2008 Republican National Convention in Minneapolis. We expect that he will be released on November 30, 2009. To find out some ways to support Jesse, check out his [How You Can Help page](#).

You can also write him letters! His mailing address while in jail is:

*Jesse James Forrey
RC Correctional Facility
297 Century Avenue South
Maplewood, MN 55119*

"RESIST! AN RNC AFTERMATH DOCUMENTARY" RELEASED

Check out what our friends in Chicago did!

One year after the 2008 Republican National Convention, the Chicago Independent Media Center takes a look at the last year of RNC aftermath work. This documentary shares helpful advice with any activists organizing under state repression. Includes interviews with legal workers, members of the RNC8 and arrestees, as well as updates on our incarcerated friends.

"Resist! An RNC Aftermath Documentary"
By Chicago Indymedia
Released September 21st, 2009
Runtime: 1hr 12min

<http://www.archive.org/details/RESISTRNCAftermathDocumentary>

CIVIL LITIGATION FROM RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE ARRESTS

Minneapolis lawyer Jordan Kushner has filed a lawsuit in Hennepin County for someone arrested around the time of the Rage Against the Machine concert on Wednesday, September 3, 2008. If you were arrested on this day in Minneapolis and are also interested in filing suit, please talk with Jordan immediately at:

612.288.0545
kushn002@umn.edu

DAY 4 CIVIL LITIGATION UPDATES

On September 13, the Civil Litigation Working Group had a great meeting about civil litigation from September 4, 2008 with members of the Anti-War Committee and other people who were arrested on the last day of the RNC. We started talking about ways to organize ourselves to get rolling on all the work that needs to be done to get suits filed for Day 4. But we need your help!

If you were arrested on Day 4, please email Day4.Civil@gmail.com or call 651.230.6513.

We've also scheduled a follow-up meeting for Sunday, Oct. 25, place and time TBD. Save the date now!

THE G-20 AND THE RNC: CONNECTING THE DOTS

Several people who have been involved in CRASS went to Pittsburgh for the G-20 last week. Not surprisingly, they saw the cops and National Guard do a lot of things that we saw here in the Twin Cities last year. They also saw some new things, such as the LRAD (high-intensity sound device that is supposed to control crowds without inflicting harm...riiiight). Check out some great reporting and analysis from our friends at TC Indymedia:

<http://tc.indymedia.org/>

And check out the latest from the rad indymedia journalists in Pittsburgh:

<http://indypgh.org/g20/#>

CRASS WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Civil Litigation: Civil suits are in the works! So far, lawyers have stepped up to represent people who were arrested at the mass arrest incidents on Shepard Road on Sept. 1, the Rage Against the Machine concert on Sept. 3, and the anti-war march on Sept 4. Email us at RNCcivillit@riseup.net to learn how to get involved. We're still collecting intake forms to get people connected to the work being done to file suit. You can find the form at <http://www.rncaftermath.org/resources/civil-litigation-forms/>.

Court Solidarity/Media/Outreach/Pressure (Omnibus): We meet every other Wednesday at the Second Moon Coffee Shop in Minneapolis during the CRASS working meeting time. Email our listserv (mcccourtsolidarity@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.rncaftermath.org/arrestees/felony-info-and-support>.

Fundraising: If you would like to get involved, let us know! 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.mcftermath.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: We meet every other Wednesday at the Blue Nile Restaurant in Minneapolis. Our current focus is releasing a short form of our zine for the 1-year anniversary of the RNC. Email us at crasszine@riseup.net or check out <http://www.mcftermath.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: Coldsnap is looking for people to get involved and help figure out where our work takes us from here. You should get involved! Email coldsnap@riseup.net to connect with us.

Dave Mahoney's Posse: Dave Mahoney was temporarily in the US and due to return to his home in England before the new year (2009). He was arrested by the FBI during the Republican National Convention in September 2008 and in the end was charged with 5 counts of aiding and abetting 2nd degree assault and 5 counts of terrorist threats, 10 felonies in total. Trapped in Minneapolis, Dave faced expensive legal costs and decades in prison. Dave, who remains determined and active within his community, ended up pleading guilty to a single count of 2nd degree assault. He was released on Sept. 2. He still has a posse, so check 'em out and show some support: <http://www.helpdavemahoney.blogspot.com/> And his mom is amazing: <http://tc.indymedia.org/2009/may/open-letter-susan-gaertner-ramsay-county-attorney>

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: Jesse James Forrey is a friend, a brother, a musician and artist, writer and student, teacher and dog lover. Jesse, 27, was arrested at the 2008 RNC protests in the Twin Cities last September. He was forced to remain in Minneapolis for nearly a year while awaiting trial. In August 2009, Jesse was convicted of criminal damage to property in the first degree, though he maintains his innocence. He is from California and courageously waits to return to his home and family. He was sentenced on September 17 and needs your support! <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 Spektor, Nathanael Secor, Eryn Trimmer, Monica Bicking, Erik Oseland, Robert Czernik and Garrett Fitzgerald--are facing two felony charges each. On April 9, Susan

Gaertner's office dropped the two terrorism enhancements due to political pressure, but two counts of conspiracy still remain. 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 RNC, 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. For more information, visit <http://www.freethetexas2.com>

HOW TO CONTACT US

<http://www.rncaftermath.org>

RNC800 newsletter- RNC800@gmail.com

Send checks, courtwatch forms, civil litigation forms, and inspirational messages to CRASS c/o Coldsnap- P.O. Box 50514, Minneapolis, MN 55405

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.
