



RNC 800 <rnc800@gmail.com>

RNC800: October 21, 2009

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Wed, Oct 21, 2009 at 5:12 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-fifth edition of the CRASS newsletter!
Check out the amazing array of information below. And remember...
WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

SUNDAY, OCT. 25: DAY 4 CIVIL LITIGATION MEETING

Were you one of the hundreds of folks arrested on Sept. 4th during the RNC last year? If so, come to our next civil litigation organizing meeting:

Sunday, Oct. 25, 5:30pm
Mayday Books, 301 Cedar Ave S, Mpls

Several lawsuits have already been filed from incidents that occurred during the RNC, including a large one from Sept. 1, 2008 that will hopefully become a class action. Now we're working on figuring out which suits to file from the arrests on Sept. 4th, such as the mass arrest on Marion Bridge.

And we need your help! If you were arrested that day or negatively affected by events that occurred that day, join us at our organizing meeting!

For more information, email Day4.Civil@gmail.com.

MONDAY, OCT. 26: BRAD CROWDER'S STATE TRIAL BEGINS

Brad Crowder is one of the Texas 2. Along with David McKay, he was charged with possessing Molotov cocktails during the RNC. Brad accepted a plea agreement in Federal court and was sentenced to two years in prison back in May. Now, he is going to trial on three state-level felony charges. He needs your support! Come help us pack the courts!

Monday, Oct. 26, 9:00am
Ramsey County Courthouse
15 West Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul

Important: At recent RNC-related hearings and sentencings, plainclothes cops have gotten to court early and attempted to pack the seats in the courtroom so that supporters couldn't enter. Of course, the bailiffs assisted them in this and the judges either didn't notice or didn't care. Don't let their childish acts stop us from standing

together in solidarity! **Come to court...and get there early!**

TUESDAY, OCT. 27: RNC 8 CHILI FEED

Come enjoy a delicious **FREE MEAL** prepared by the RNC 8 and friends!

This month, a chili feed featuring 8-bean conspiracy chili - so good it's criminal. We may not be able to warm Bob Fletcher's heart, but this chili will at least warm yours!

Come see some friends, get some [RNC 8 goodies](#), and enjoy good food. As always, vegan and vegetarian options will be available.

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 6-7:30pm
Walker Church, 3104 16th Ave S, Mpls

TUESDAY, NOV. 10: SENTENCING FOR KAREN & CHRISTINA

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!

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

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

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 (mccourtsolidarity@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.rncaftermath.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.rncaftermath.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 Specktor, 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.
