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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

jail, people, houston, jailers, arrest, talk, policy, officer, person, dee, transgendered, transgenders, gay, happened, give, hours, put, city, transgender, facility

## SPEAKERS

Sarah DePalma, Jimmy Carper, Dee McKellar, Ray Hill

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**J** Jimmy Carper 00:07

The following program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised. Oh yes, you've tuned into After Hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of After Hours is ready to bring you news, interviews and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. Here at After Hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself, taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of a job or frame of mind. That's okay. We're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of After Hours.

**S** Sarah DePalma 02:16

Good evening Welcome to After Hours. Yes, you do have to correct-.

**J** Jimmy Carper 02:22

I'm Jimmy Carper. And with me tonight is Sarah DePalma. And what was why are we starting off with Elvis Presley doing Jailhouse Rock-.

**S** Sarah DePalma 02:33

Because we're gonna tell people tonight how to keep their butts out of jail. Actually, this is a show that I when I first started on the air, this was one of the first topics that we that I thought about doing and never got around to it's something always something else. Always.

**J** Jimmy Carper 02:49

Well, yeah. And and it's something it's probably a unique experience for a transsexual person in jail. There's lots of special problems.

S

Sarah DePalma 03:01

Yeah, just the mere thought the mere threat of my going to jail caused me to attempt suicide I can imagine. So yeah, this is a subject that's really important to me. Uh huh. But this is also there's there's kind of some history behind this Dee McKellar is here and she's gonna, she'll talk about Dee we'll talk about the fact that they know a jailbird. That's her Dee is now a jailbird. We'll talk about that. Whoa. And let's and we expect radio here we have possibly done well, we'll find we'll find out and we expect radio to be here, haha. And if anybody knows stuff about jail, jail in prisons, and a break as-.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:43

He does the prison program, heard here on KPFT, every Friday night from nine till 11.

S

Sarah DePalma 03:50

And he also was instrumental in helping to write the policy that is now in effect in Houston PD with the way homeless, gay people and transgenders are handled in jail. So these these stories are interesting, but she was ended up going to a fairly new facility. Yeah. And the way that she got arrested is not the way that I hear most of the people got arrested. Ah, and so I'd like to hear Ray talk about it from the other point of view. Okay. And also, I bought a bunch of material tonight. In over the last few months, I've been talking to people and asking them what do you actually know about your rights? Oh, not not not their political rights. But what do you know about your standing in the law?

J

Jimmy Carper 04:35

Actually, I probably should know more than I do. Uh, you know, I, what, I I don't really know anything. It's all hearsay. It's what people have told me my rights are, I guess.

S

Sarah DePalma 04:47

Well, tonight I brought a ton of information we'll talk about we'll talk about what your what the rights of transgenders are in divorce cases. We'll talk about what the right to transgenders are in jail situations. We'll talk about what writes are in employment. And we've got a lot of good information to talk about tonight with ENDA, lots of good things happening within to hey, it's about time. Yeah, it really is. We'll talk about your rights if you're a crossdresser. What is the ordinance? What is the law in the city of Houston? We're going to talk about the restroom issue. Once again, I've gotten numerous phone calls from people who have run afoul of the law on restrooms. Yeah.

**J** Jimmy Carper 05:24  
Was straighten that out long ago? What's the deal here?

**S** Sarah DePalma 05:28  
Well, in this case, I wouldn't have a hard time yelling at the police because the police didn't arrest these people. Ah, we're going to talk about what constitutes proper behavior boys and girls. And let me tell you being in the restroom and ripping the wigs off of each other thing. It's funny is not proper behavior. No, I don't think so. No. So we're going to talk about that tonight. And we've just got a whole bunch of information about what's in the law. What does it actually say? It's amazing to me people that I have known who are now in the third or fourth year of transition. I'll ask them well, what do you know about your rights? If you went to jail? Nothing. The term? Well, that's not that's not the answer.

**J** Jimmy Carper 06:10  
I don't know my rights as a gay man.

**S** Sarah DePalma 06:12  
Well, we, so when ratio is up, we're going to talk about that kind of stuff, because that's really important. Also, I brought with me tonight, my testimony that I sent to Congress about the hate crimes reporting statistics. Okay. And I'm not going to read it, but I am going to go through some of what I had included in there. The just real briefly, the hate crimes Reporting Act, is going to be passed without transgenders being included. But it is not the fault of the HRC or anyone else. This was a done deal. And we'll talk about that. Okay. I'm not upset with anybody, because it was nothing anybody could have done about it. So anyway, so as is typically the case, I came with about nine hours. For a three hour show.

**J** Jimmy Carper 06:56  
Yeah, I've got a few things for the queer community. And if we can, I'm hoping that we can squeeze in a couple of movie reviews that Scott's done from Scott Lewis.

**S** Sarah DePalma 07:07  
So as is often the case, we use 80. This is the fastest three hours in radio and we really do. If you don't like to be bored, stick around. I do want to say this though. The topics that we're going to be talking about tonight, although they're aimed at transgenders, these are topics that really would apply to almost anybody. Yeah, if you if you're a gay person, if you're if you're a straight person, for that matter, probably.

**J** Jimmy Carper 07:32

J Jimmy Carper 07:32

Yeah. Well will be amazed that what's legal and what isn't.

S Sarah DePalma 07:36

Yeah. How do you behave? You just stop by traffic?

J Jimmy Carper 07:38

Yes. You know, what would it be other than scared and shaking in your boots?

S Sarah DePalma 07:42

Yeah, what would a cop wants you to do? I mean, doesn't have to draw gonna, you know, yeah.

J Jimmy Carper 07:47

You're in the car. That's the person with the gun. So yeah, yeah, guess where all the power is.

S Sarah DePalma 07:52

Although I had a pretty scary experience coming in here tonight. I got to off of the off of interstate 59. And pulled up right here at Westheimer is I don't know what the grandpa is. In just as I pulled here at the red light, some guy came out of the dark and came at my car door. Whoa, I'm guessing it was a homeless person. And I decided retina light or not, I was gonna get the hell out of there. I don't know what the story was. But in any case, that's the deal. And so Mr. Police person, I'm glad you were not there in this case, because I ran the red light and did it with a smile.

J Jimmy Carper 08:28

Thinking this, you know, Pete, the way people act in traffic is changing. I have I've noticed that. People lots of times, treat red lights and stop signs. Yes, rather than light. They'll stop for the red light. Look both ways. If nothing is coming, go. And I'm thinking what's wrong here? Lauren, my old fashioned or am I missing the boat?

S Sarah DePalma 08:57

No, actually, it's funny when Laurie moved here from Florida. She said she actually called the police department wanted to know if you had to stop at red light because she saw so many people who didn't.

J Jimmy Carper 09:06  
Oh, so it isn't just me.

S Sarah DePalma 09:08  
No, no. She wanted to know if maybe in Texas that needed a red light meant you stop and you win. So no, you're not the one. It first I thought she was kind of silly about that until I started watching discovered she was right.

J Jimmy Carper 09:21  
Yes, she was right. Yes. I've been noticing that more and more where we live in in Sharpstown.

S Sarah DePalma 09:27  
There's, there's an intersection that I have to come to every day. And when the light turns green. I never go. I'll sit there do 1001 1002 probably smart and in 1003 Somebody will come screaming through that red light. Amazing. And I just kind of sit there and think I don't care. They're blowing their horn at me. That's why I didn't go we all know that Houston red lightning has put it to the floor. Yeah. What can we say? Oh, well, so I do we have some music queued up here. We do. We do.

J Jimmy Carper 09:59  
It's some something new by a group called Timbuk three now I don't know the sexuality of this group however, I know that they have been included on some gay compilations and things not that they're gay. But this is a great song. I heard it first on another show here at KPFT. And I thought wow, I need to play this on after hours because this is applicable to everyone. It's called legalize our love Oh yeah, legalize our love by Timbuk three and you're hearing it on after hours career radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. I'm Jimmy Carper. And with me tonight is Sarah Depop. Actually, Sarah dipalma. And with her tonight is Jimmy Carper. That's more like Sarah show.

S Sarah DePalma 10:53  
It doesn't matter. Does not matter. Hey, and speaking, Speaking of the devil Ray, he'll just walk through the door to microphone studio. Hey, let's we'll get ready to see. Okay, well, we're getting ready situated. Let's start. We'll start with Dee McKellar.

J Jimmy Carper 11:10  
Yeah, what is this deal with Dee and Ray Hill?

S

Sarah DePalma 11:13

And yeah, let's start at the beginning. First of all Dee. Introduce yourself, please. Nice. Introduce yourself. Let people know who you are. Okay.

D

Dee McKellar 11:21

I'm Dee McKellar. I guess I'm one of the more out activists in Houston. I work as the secretary of the International Conference on Transgender Law and employment policy. And well, I have a fairly interesting life. Well, a week and a half ago, it got a lot more interesting. What happened? Well, I was sitting at home in the office, same same place. And I looked out the window and a couple of blue and whites had pulled up outside. And police officers were fanning out around the house. And I thought this is interesting what's going on. Pretty soon comes through the very loud four knocks on the door. Nobody knocks as loud as cops.

R

Ray Hill 12:14

French John door.

D

Dee McKellar 12:22

Anyway, I opened the front door and there was an officer there holding a piece of paper and he said Dee. And I said yo and he said, I've got a warrant for your arrest here. We're going to take you to jail.

S

Sarah DePalma 12:36

Now, I would not I would not tell anybody. Why? Because they're still being litigated.

D

Dee McKellar 12:40

Well, no, that's, that was my very next next point. Okay. I asked what the charge was, they told me the charge. I still don't know the details of what I'm supposed to have done. What I've been accused of I'll find out Tuesday. So But But But tonight is not to talk about that tonight is to talk about the mechanics of the arrest and the time I spent in jail. Under the new thanks to Ray Hill policy in the in the city jail. And what I learned-.

S

Sarah DePalma 13:19

Okay, now before we go any further, let's get Ray on and Ray, why don't we talk about what the policy is what it's what's supposed to happen?

J Jimmy Carper 13:26  
Well, this is that 180 degree.

R Ray Hill 13:30  
180 degree mic, your bark at it and it'll respond. A couple of years ago, I got a call from a friend. I think he's a friend. He always treated my friend captain Berger of the Houston Police Department and he had been assigned a new assignment and that's come up with a policy of jail induction. What is that in Houston city jail how you get into Houston jail. There had been several cases, the federal courts had made several rulings concerning Houston city jail. But there was no written policy manual that somebody could refer to transgendered issues will not be found under transgender Desi and T. They will be found under C as in cross dressers because we felt that though that language Nikbakht not be the preferred of transgendered persons. It certainly was the most likely place where a cop would look for it.

S Sarah DePalma 14:36  
It's actually more inclusive, because it guarantees that the drag queens and people will get included into so I never had any problem with the term.

R Ray Hill 14:44  
The first thing we had we had to deal with is what do cops think about when they see a transgender phenomenon? Right? And where in the manual do we put this? Yeah. And so it's actually part of their training and all that.

J Jimmy Carper 14:59  
And we don't mean-. Need to Talk about your day?

S Sarah DePalma 15:01  
And the third person here actually helps do the training here. Yeah. Yeah.

R Ray Hill 15:08  
But the policy was instituted without a hitch. And the policy comes from the transgendered law and employment conferences that we've been holding on for some time, which raise a moderate red prison of the prison and jail aspect, right. And so we as a committee got together and we decided this policies are going to be in pretty much there is no similar policy at Harris County Jail.

S

Sarah DePalma 15:39

If you get picked up in Harris County, well.

R

Ray Hill 15:42

Most people don't get picked up in Harris County, because Houston eats up most of her Sure. Most of the people that are going to get picked up here are going to get picked up by city police, or some other small city police. I mean, there's Bel Air possibility, which is frightening. And ya know, some of the other Baytown possibility which is scaring but most people here get picked up at Houston city police and you go to a jail where there is a policy if there is a problem. If you feel that, that you've been mistreated, I guess, I guess, cuz this will be started talking about

S

Sarah DePalma 16:17

Yeah. Yeah, not Dee let's, let's talk about what happened to you. And then we'll see the policy.

D

Dee McKellar 16:24

Okay, right off the bat. This is not a horror story. All right. I am not complaining. Not now really good for some little things that I am going to be talking to the department about. But basically, I was not offended by anything that happened to these officers. No, you? Yes. And that was one of the big factors. First off, I for the last year and a half. I've been working as a legal assistant, doing mostly criminal law. I know how the system works from that end. And I've received a lot of collect calls from the jail. I've talked to a lot of clients. I've gone over with with my boss, what what happens on the court side, so I'm comfortable. I'm not I'm not scared by the system. I mentioned I teach the transgender sensitivity classes at the police academy. Each Cadet class gets to listen to me for about half an hour and a for I usually get about half the questions in the gay, lesbian, transgender. With a nice Parker Yeah, I do that with an ace and Lane Lewis, frequently and other people. We usually have four people.

R

Ray Hill 17:49

I used to go every once in a while, but I set them off.

D

Dee McKellar 17:57

Anyway, I'm comfortable around police officers. And then with my work through the law conference, I have a very good idea of what to expect. Okay.

S

Sarah DePalma 18:11

So now the officers have come in and they have served you with the warrant. Right?

- D** Dee McKellar 18:14  
Well, now now, there is one caveat to all this. And that is like I heard in a song a couple of weeks ago, life is an infomercial, an actual results may vary.
- R** Ray Hill 18:29  
The advantage of being somewhat prepared because you knew this man.
- D** Dee McKellar 18:36  
Right. The other another big advantage is that I am totally out. I'm not ashamed of who I am. I'm very confident about who I am. And that, that helped me put up a lot. I wasn't worried about my job. I wasn't worried about what happens if somebody finds out.
- S** Sarah DePalma 18:56  
So the two things I get from phone calls all the time or will it cost me my job?
- R** Ray Hill 19:01  
And when when is the media going to get here?
- S** Sarah DePalma 19:05  
Right expect channel 13 to be there waiting for them?
- D** Dee McKellar 19:08  
And how can I get them here quicker.
- R** Ray Hill 19:11  
And days in my case, we expect them and they don't come in everybody else's they expect them and they don't want them to.
- D** Dee McKellar 19:19  
Anyway, it was basically a friendly activity. The officers came in they checked the house to make sure there was nobody else there. They checked for weapons. And then the officer in

charge asked. Well, he said I've got a personal question for you. Well, I knew what the question was. I was I was wondering, how is he going to phrase it? Did I know he didn't take my class because he's a little more senior than that. And he said, Have you completed your sex change?

**S** Sarah DePalma 20:00  
Oh, very that's very nice.

**D** Dee McKellar 20:02  
I thought I thought that was pretty neat.

**J** Jimmy Carper 20:05  
Yeah, so some insight.

**D** Dee McKellar 20:06  
Yes, I'm impressed. And and so I said, No. Which means I know and you know, now that you're going to take me to a men's facility.

**S** Sarah DePalma 20:20  
Okay, now, right, let's stop there. Explain why D was taken the men's facility, why not afford female facility? Because I've had this discussion with somebody the other day, they said, but but these female and I said yes, but-

**R** Ray Hill 20:31  
Well, the thing of the thing about it is, is number one, there's a great deal more room and a male facility, there's a female because they do a lot more male business and they do female business. Sure. And the object of putting d into that facility is to give Dee an opportunity to be reasonably segregated from areas where they might be hostile.

**D** Dee McKellar 20:55  
Well, I see it in a different light, every correctional institution that I've ever heard of refuses to mix people with complimentary genitals. Yeah. I've got male genitalia, I'm gonna go to a men's facility, and of story.

**S** Sarah DePalma 21:15

Okay, now, that's where I want to the first point that I want to make I've had talked to several people, and they said, Well, that would make me crazy. Well, you need to know that if you have not completed your surgery, and if you're arrested for any reason, they're going to take you to the jail, according to your genitals. Absolutely. I don't like that rule, but I understand it. And you need to understand it too, because I've had people call me say, well, that's awful. But But I don't know what choice to have.

R

Ray Hill 21:42

There are exceptions are there, there are exceptions, but they're not likely to encounter them in Houston or Harris County. There is an area in San Francisco County Jail. And there is an area in Los Angeles County Jail. That is neither male nor female, generally gender neutral. But that has to do with architecture and construction.

D

Dee McKellar 22:13

Anyway, what I wanted to do is listed a number of I have points here, things you need to know so that you can survive this potentially frightening experience. Number one, is don't argue your case with the arresting officer.

S

Sarah DePalma 22:35

Ray is sitting here shaking his head. Yeah, absolutely.

D

Dee McKellar 22:39

The man had a had a had a warrant for my arrest. The warrant came as a result of a grand jury indictment. The the officers job is to serve the world and take me to jail.

R

Ray Hill 22:56

Well, the thing about it is is most cases that is not true. In most people's lives, and arrest happens something like lightning strikes. Yeah. And it happens at a street corner and it happens in a shopping mall or something of that nature. But there is nothing you can do. That's right interfere with the officers decision to take you to jail. As matter of fact trying to talk yourself out of it has several downsides from the position of your future legal defense attorney. Keep your mouth shut say nothing because whatever you say will be twisted and will be crammed down your legal throat at the appropriate time. So shut up. If the officer is going to arrest you. Say Yes, sir. Yes, ma'am. No, sir. No, ma'am. To two valid questions. And if you think a question is not valid to I think I'll reserve entering that till I talk to my attorney.

S

Sarah DePalma 23:53

Okay. Now, audience you got that right.

R

Ray Hill 23:55

If an officer if don't, don't put up a struggle, don't put up a fight. Don't put up an argument about the trip to jail because that in itself is nothing more than a process where you do all that arguing is in court.

S

Sarah DePalma 24:07

The most common way that the phone calls that I get most commonly what happens is they get there at a traffic stop. The officer Ron wants and warrants and discovers there's a warrant. You're trying that one, right. And now they're on their way to jail. That's the single most common way that I get it. The second one is they're coming home from the bars and Saturday night, Sunday morning and they get pulled over for DWI, or public intoxication. And I don't care if you're intoxicated. I'm going to take you in they don't care who you are.

D

Dee McKellar 24:34

So yeah, the time to argue your case. Right is in court. Yeah. Okay, second point. Well, the second point I wrote down here is the one we already discussed. You are going to a unit that matches your genitalia. Number three, the Houston city jail policy provides and they show you a big sign on the wall. They showed it to me twice. And they say I am required to call your attention to this sign. I don't remember the precise words. But it says basically, homosexuals who fear for their personal safety, may request segregation from the general population.

R

Ray Hill 25:23

Homosexual people who are perceived to be homosexual and cross gender, people, or-

S

Sarah DePalma 25:29

Do you know what's going to happen? Okay? And that's something I thought about after you and I taught, there are going to be some heterosexual crossdressers out there who get picked up, for whatever reason. And they're gonna see that son, they're going to be dumb about this. And they're gonna say, Well, I'm not gay.

R

Ray Hill 25:44

This is not the time to quit.

S

Sarah DePalma 25:46

Oh, precisely. My point. Shut up and take the protection. Yeah, I had somebody tell me that the

other day well, but I'm not gay. That doesn't apply to me. Shut up. Tell them.

**R** Ray Hill 25:57

The rationale here is not to determine who's gay and who's not gay. The rationale is to determine who feels they are at risk for abuse by other inmates. The issue and and so if, if they should do a better job of making that clear to people, but they're doing the best acid, as they pointed out, they're amazingly sophisticated considering who they are. Okay, that's one way of putting it. But that's true.

**D** Dee McKellar 26:31

Okay, the next one of the next things that's going to happen is they're going to take away from you all your property, they're going to put it in plastic bags, they're going to seal it up, they're going to give you a written inventory. There is a record of what you brought in with you. They will give you an the inventory sheet to sign. Read that thing. Make sure that they've got everything on there. If there's something you're you turned in that isn't on there, don't don't retype it.

**S** Sarah DePalma 27:05

And you're sitting there laughing. I gather there's I was arrested,

**R** Ray Hill 27:07

I was arrested with several 10s of 1000s of dollars on my person, Whoa, boy. And that created a near panic. Here's this guy, and Levi's t shirt and tennis shoes was \$130,000 cash, but it wasn't my money. But it was on me at the time I get arrested. And so I said when you understand that I expect you to pay interest. Okay.

**D** Dee McKellar 27:38

Now, one thing that could really set off a cross dresser is there's a safety check. They take away from you any clothing items that might be used as a weapon. Oh, do we need a station break?

**S** Sarah DePalma 27:59

No, no, no.

**D** Dee McKellar 28:02

Now the typical crossdresser is going to be told we need to take your bra and your pantyhose.

S Sarah DePalma 28:13

I'm sorry, that took my bra. I would feel crazy. would not have known to expect that. Absolutely. This is one reason we're doing this show. I would not know what to expect that because that's a big part of being feminist. I would have gone crazy, but it really would.

D Dee McKellar 28:27

Have now one reason I did not is I was wearing sneakers and they asked for my shoe laces. Also, when they asked for the shoe laces it clicked,

S Sarah DePalma 28:37

Ee're gonna go over the rest of the agenda.

D Dee McKellar 28:40

Now they're also going to take belts, they're going to take steel toed shoes, heavy shoes, all kinds of things.

S Sarah DePalma 28:46

All of that would have made sense to me right up until the point that they say we also need your bra. And I would have said, you know, it's not I can't say that in the year. What what is that?

D Dee McKellar 28:55

That can be used as an instrument of strangulation? Sure. As can pantyhose.

S Sarah DePalma 29:01

Okay, they're they're afraid of suicides in the suicides and murder murders. Yeah. Okay, interesting. See, I would never have known why they were doing it. So I'm glad.

D Dee McKellar 29:12

Right and one of the things I'm going to ask the department about is when you have a transgendered entrant, please take 10 seconds to explain why you're taking the bra and the patty.

**S** Sarah DePalma 29:28

Yeah because I think most people would react like I did. Like I will. Yeah, that's fine.

**R** Ray Hill 29:31

Well, there's also a sanity check about that time too. You get to see a medical person.

**D** Dee McKellar 29:36

Yeah, if you need it.

**R** Ray Hill 29:39

It will you're offered opportunity. And a medical person is a Health Department employee that's not a Houston Police Department employment to city health department employ and not only recognize a lot of friendly faces and list spin and other kinds of friendly things coming from over there. But it's somebody to talk to in the process.

**J** Jimmy Carper 29:59

And what what do you mean the health?

**R** Ray Hill 30:01

Well, you're going to be asked, Are you on any medication? Oh, okay problems. Are you going to any prophylactic medication? Yeah, AZT, age no that and so that person is built in. And I would suggest if anything up to this point, if you have any questions that are bothering you, when you get to the safety, check the health check, talk to that person and ask them because they're intimately familiar with the routine. They know what's going on, and it gives you a non blue uniform to inquire.

**S** Sarah DePalma 30:34

Okay, now, that brings out a couple of questions. First of all, what happens to people that are on hormones, for example, I take hormones twice a day.

**R** Ray Hill 30:40

Well, if you take hormones twice a day, if you have medication, if you have somebody that can bring the medication, because the chances are they're not going to have that medication there. But if you are on a prescribed prophylactic medication routine, you can talk to that person and

but if you are on a prescribed prophylactic medication routine, you can talk to that person and they can facilitate that.

S

Sarah DePalma 30:58

Okay, so yeah, so you'll, you'll continue to get the first question.

R

Ray Hill 31:02

First question they're going to ask you, is someone working to get you out if someone is working to get you out, which I'm sure was true in these cases that this vat will be a lower priority than if you're going to be with them for a while. Remember, Houston city jail by the Collins case? is only a 24 hour holding facility. When it arrives you either get out you go to the P farm or you go to county jail.

S

Sarah DePalma 31:31

Oh, okay, I see. That's interesting, because I wasn't I didn't know that.

R

Ray Hill 31:36

It's a processing center. Okay. Well, no, there are I've been there for up to seven days. Now and but that was all illegal and I got money.

S

Sarah DePalma 31:48

Okay, now in this case, she didn't have the situation. But let's let's let's say that the person is there a difference in the way they get handled for example, if my therapist has given me has given me a letter which I carry, which is you know, almost transsexual and being treated by the clinic and all this kind of stuff, are you treated differently if you do have a letter or if you don't/

R

Ray Hill 32:08

Not not interested in city jail, it doesn't. And if you spring that on Bel Air or Rome, Hedwig village, they're gonna scratch Denver of all over their shoulder doesn't mean a lot. But but in Houston city jail, if you say you're trans or even if you're, if you happen to be a transgendered person to that day is working in the lawn. And you've got on a t shirt, and as believers and slip on sneakers, is a gender neutral. All right? If you say I'm a transgender person, everything is talked about clicks because I've got a policy look it up in the book. I got a cop say if you can look it up in the book, it doesn't exist well cop, you know. And it looked at that book and the important thing is for listeners to remember is you look at under book under see for cross dressers.

S

Sarah DePalma 32:59

Okay, so it doesn't make a difference then if you've had your what your your driver's license legally changed, and it says female, none of that stuff matters right? Now, if you're going to jail, none of that's important. Okay, now that okay, I asked that because I had several people ask me that and I didn't know. No. Okay. Okay.

D

Dee McKellar 33:14

Okay, another point. There's not much privacy in jail. If you can't use the toilet while other people are watching, you're gonna get pretty uncomfortable.

S

Sarah DePalma 33:27

Absolutely. never, I never would have thought of that.

R

Ray Hill 33:31

Those of us who've been to prison for long periods of time, that's no problem. You know how you get over it, I could, I could, I could have taken care of whatever body functions I need to take care of in the middle of West Ham or art festival in the middle of Westheimer. That doesn't bother me at all. It used to bother me but whatever embarrassed kidneys or other things that need to move. gotten over that a long time ago.

S

Sarah DePalma 33:56

But if you put if you're like, like most of the transgender people that I know and you really think of yourself as-

R

Ray Hill 34:02

-if you're in the drug deal you're in the drug take sooner or later everybody will pass out.

S

Sarah DePalma 34:09

But do you understand what I'm talking about? I mean, you know, if you really think of yourself as female, whether you were in this male facility or not, that's a big deal. So it's important to know.

R

Ray Hill 34:19

Well, what if you will like segregation? You may be put in a single zone there may be only one other person in there. Okay.

D Dee McKellar 34:28  
Anyway, where I went, which is the southeast facility out on my car road.

R Ray Hill 34:34  
Nice-.

S Sarah DePalma 34:39  
His name was in the third cell phones, right?

R Ray Hill 34:41  
No, no, no. When I when I was there, Jim Jones and Mr. Hill, would you like to wait in my office for arrangement? I said, No, I'm under arrest and I'm entitled to a sale, preferably one with a telephone so they gave me a whole wing. Caliban, two of which I frequently used at the same time. because-.

D Dee McKellar 35:02  
The lights are always on. There aren't any windows. Wow, there aren't any clocks. But it is that condition. You don't need a clock. Because if they want you to be somewhere, they'll tell you, they'll come get you. So you don't have to worry.

S Sarah DePalma 35:19  
If you didn't had a great attitude about this, I would have been freaking out, I'm sorry.

J Jimmy Carper 35:23  
Windows lights on 24 hours a day and no clocks.

D Dee McKellar 35:27  
Their time does not exist in that jail

R Ray Hill 35:30  
Or exist in great quantities. So there's no sense in measuring it. True.

D Dee McKellar 35:39

It is amazing how time crawls when you're not having fun.

R Ray Hill 35:50

When I was in that I was getting all this red carpet dream because they were really, you know, I'm the guy that Sue's so last time I went to jail, they gave me all this young jailers over there. And this is before the last city legend is that I'm Jew Don Boney's brother.

S Sarah DePalma 36:07

Now that has a much different meaning now than it did.

D Dee McKellar 36:16

Okay, there was one other area that graded a bit. If you're not prepared for it, and you're emotionally keyed up,

R Ray Hill 36:26

-and you're going to be emotional.

D Dee McKellar 36:29

It could really bother somebody. And that is that the jailers as a form of courtesy to prisoners address everybody as Mr. And sir. Oh boy, no boy, oh, boy. I have not answered to those terms in five years, whatever happened to if I'm wearing a dress, it's it's I was not wearing a dress. Oh, I was when I was arrested. But the officer said you might want to change clothes before we go.

R Ray Hill 36:59

That's what happened to this bright orange.

S Sarah DePalma 37:02

Ah, that's one of the things about DS arrest and different was paying because he was arrested at home. And she was given an opportunity to change into some other clothes. I say most of the arrests that I've heard of they're arrested in their car most often. So they're their cars and

they're in full drag.

**R** Ray Hill 37:19

Usually before they throw you in a holding tank. They'll give you an opportunity to change into a job uniform.

**S** Sarah DePalma 37:25

-orange jumpsuit, I'm not going to put-.

**R** Ray Hill 37:27

All of my strippers come out of the topless clubs with, shall I say a minimum amount of attire. And before they are thrown into tanks with women they give them even on the women's side they give them jailhouse coveralls.

**S** Sarah DePalma 37:43

So, you know, I had these visions of somebody sitting in a tank and in drag, so I'm glad you told me that used to happen.

**R** Ray Hill 37:49

I remember when that happened.

**D** Dee McKellar 37:50

Okay, but in my case, I was wearing a t shirt, stretch pants and sneakers and they-.

**R** Ray Hill 37:56

Let you stay in your street closed. And then you know, city jail usually doesn't listen to some reason.

**D** Dee McKellar 38:01

But they still refer to you as Mr. Because that's what they're trained to do. That's their habit.

**R** Ray Hill 38:06

Those signs on that wings. They missed her to everybody and those assigned to the other ones. They missed everybody. There may be some robbers, transgendered women at the end of the hall, but-

**S** Sarah DePalma 38:17

It might be for your own safety, if they refer to you as Mr. Ah, well, you know, you don't think they're not-

**J** Jimmy Carper 38:23

Complicated enough to sort of sound-

**D** Dee McKellar 38:27

-no beyond beyond that I did, I would not want to be addressed as Ms. Or ma'am. Because the jailer was at his desk at one end of the hall and he would yell. And now if he says Ms. McKellar that's caused calling unnecessary attention.

**R** Ray Hill 38:48

What I was desperate. I was just, yeah.

**D** Dee McKellar 38:51

That would have been totally inappropriate. I had a chance later in the evening to talk to the jailer in a quiet polite way. And I said, you know, if you could have dropped the Mr. And sir and just called me D or McKellar, it would have been a little easier. And he understood that.

**R** Ray Hill 39:12

He caught that. Now I hear we couldn't break his habit.

**S** Sarah DePalma 39:17

But but but he got it out in the manual. It's right. It's not an unwritten policy. Now, you're transgender people all over the city freaking out, first of all, they're going to be stripped to their female stuff, then they're going to go into a mail facility, and then they're going to be called cert. Well, I mean, I mean, if you want to cause a transgendered person to transfer to a suicide to jail, or to start ripping their hair out, that's how you do it.

D Dee McKellar 39:42

But none of this. None of this is aimed at being demeaning my grading or de feminizing.

S Sarah DePalma 39:50

I understand that but But you and I both know, and I can think of several individuals right now, who would absolutely lose their mind. I mean, you know, you're three quarters of the way through your transit Shouldn't for example, and suddenly somebody's going to start addressing you as sir. And they're getting and you know, you've may have by now your breasts had developed, you're you're thinking about getting ready for surgery. I mean, you talk about a psychological kick in the teeth, this is it.

D Dee McKellar 40:15

But but the final point I need to make here is that the jailers are in charge, they are going to enforce their will and their rules. They're like the Borg on Star Trek. Resistance is futile. You will be assimilated. You're not going to win. So sit back and enjoy it. Well, I think-.

J Jimmy Carper 40:40

Careful, careful.

R Ray Hill 40:43

Joy is not the best word as frequently as I go. I don't necessarily enjoy it. No, I write for going to jail is \$50 a minute.

D Dee McKellar 40:54

But but the thing is, you have to rise above their level. Treat it as an educational experience that you are observing. You're smarter than they are. Whether you are or not, you think you are. Watch what they do. Learn from it. Watch what they do with other inmates learn from that and