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Thu, Dec 22, 2022 3:51PM 29:47

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

called, jail, arrested, transgender person, piece, talk, fairview, happen, lorie, boudreux, place, houston, told, sir, case, bobby mcferrin, point, transgendered, bar, dee

SPEAKERS

Sarah DePalma, Jimmy Carper, Dee McKellar, Ray Hill

 Sarah DePalma 00:01

And then to get Dee McKellar in here and to talk about. And I thought the discussion the all around discussion was as good as any program, I'd heard anywhere. And I had gotten a lot of feedback from people who told me that they went down and pay their tickets. Yeah. Because they didn't realize just how serious it could be. And in this first section we've got, I'm looking at my little notes here Dee and Ray are talking about what arrest procedures are, and what to expect if you should get arrested. And I think this is a piece of information, just about everybody ought to have. So this is Dee and and Dee McKellar and Ray Hill talking.

 Dee McKellar 00:44

Anyway, what I wanted to do is listed a number of 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

 Sarah DePalma 01:06

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

 Dee McKellar 01:10

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

 Ray Hill 01:28

Well, the thing about it is, in 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 turns out that keep your mouth shut, say nothing because whatever you say will be twisted and will be crammed on 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 valid questions. And if you think a question is not valid, that I think I'll reserve answering that till I talk to.

 Sarah DePalma 02:25

Okay, so now audience, you got that right. If an officer is-.

 Ray Hill 02:29

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 in court.

 Sarah DePalma 02:39

The most common way that the phone calls that I get most commonly what happens is they get there at a traffic stop. The opposite run wants and warrants and discovers is a warrant. You turn that one right. And now they're on your 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. It I don't care if you're intoxicated, they going to take you in they don't care who you when.

 Dee McKellar 03:09

Yeah, that's the time to argue. In court. Yeah. Okay, thank you, boy. 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 time. I don't remember the precise words. But he says basically, homosexuals who fear for their personal safety, may request segregation from the general population in our D

 Ray Hill 03:57

Homosexual people who are perceived to be homosexual and crossing.

 Dee McKellar 04:00

Dayayeo you know what's going to happen? Okay, and that's something I thought about after you and I talk, there are going to be some heterosexual cross dressers out there who get picked up for whatever reason, and they're gonna see that son, they're gonna be dumb about

this. And they're gonna say, Well, I'm not gay.

R

Ray Hill 04:19

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

D

Dee McKellar 05:07

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 gonna 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 them. If there's something you've turned in that isn't on there replace it. And you're sitting there laughing I-.

S

Sarah DePalma 05:42

Gather there still-.

D

Dee McKellar 05:45

Was several 10s of 1000s of dollars in my person, Whoa, boy. And that created the near pen. Guy and Levi's t shirt and tennis shoes was \$130,000 cash my when my money, but it was on me at the time to get arrested. And so I said, when you understand that I begged you to pay interest. Okay.

R

Ray Hill 06:15

Now, one thing that could really set off across the 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 doing?

D

Dee McKellar 06:36

No, no, no.

R

Ray Hill 06:40

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

S Sarah DePalma 06:51

I'm sorry, this is my bra. I would go crazy. I wouldn't I would not have known to expect that.

R Ray Hill 06:56

Absolutely. This is one reason we're doing this show.

D Dee McKellar 06:59

Yeah, I would not know what to expect that because that's a big part of being feminine. I would have gone crazy. I really wouldn't know. One reason I did not is always wearing sneakers, the man asked for my shoe laces also, when they asked for the shoe laces it clicked.

R Ray Hill 07:15

And they're gonna go over the rest of the agenda. Now they're also going-.

D Dee McKellar 07:19

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

S Sarah DePalma 07:25

That would have made sense to me right up until the point that they say we also need your bras. And I would have said, you know, I can't say that I'm here what I would have said-.

D Dee McKellar 07:33

well, but that can be used as an instrument of strangulation. So as campaigners, okay, they're they're afraid of suicides and suicides and murdered.

S Sarah DePalma 07:46

Okay, interesting. The I would never have known why they were doing it. So-.

R Ray Hill 07:52

One of the things I'm going to ask the department about is when you have a transgendered entrance please take 10 seconds to explain whv you're taking the bra in the party. Yeah

D Dee McKellar 08:07

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

R Ray Hill 08:10

There's also a sanity check about that time, too. You did see a medical person.

D Dee McKellar 08:16

You, if you if you need it,

R Ray Hill 08:19

It was your office offered. And medical person is a Health Department employee. It's not a Houston Police Department employment to City Health Department employees. And not only recognize a lot of friendly faces and list and other kinds of things coming from over there. But it's somebody to talk to in the process.

J Jimmy Carper 08:39

And what a what do you mean a health?

R Ray Hill 08:41

Well, we're going to be asked, Are you on any medication? Oh, I'll be having problems. Are you wanting to prophylactic medicare? Yeah, at that age and know 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 help chat, talk to that person and ask them because they're intimately familiar with routine. They know what's going on and it gives you a non blue uniform to inquire.

D Dee McKellar 09:15

Okay, now that brings a couple of questions. First of all, what happens to people on hormones? For example, I take hormones twice a day. What if

R Ray Hill 09:21

You take hormones twice a day, if you have medication, if you have somebody that can do the medication, because the chances are they're not going to have that medication name. It if

medication, because the chances are they're not going to have that medication name. If you're on a prescribed prophylactic medication routine, you can talk to that person and they can facilitate them.

D Dee McKellar 09:39

Okay, so yeah, so that you'll, you'll continue to get the-.

R Ray Hill 09:43

First question they're going to ask you is someone working to get you out? If someone was working to get your advert? I'm sure it was clear in his case. That that would be a lower priority than if you're going to be working full time. Remember Houston city jail by the Cullen's case is only a 24 hour holding facility. I didn't realize you could get out and go to the P farm or you go.

S Sarah DePalma 10:14

Okay, that's interesting. I wasn't I didn't know that. It's a process and well, no, there

D Dee McKellar 10:22

Are I've been there for up to seven days. Yeah, and that was all really good when I got married. Okay, now, in this case, she didn't have the situation. But let's, let's, let's say the person is there a difference in the way they can handle for example, if my therapist who 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 10:51

Not in Houston city jail, it doesn't spring that on Bellaire around Hedwig village they're gonna scratch dandruff all over their shoulders. Doesn't mean a lot. But in Houston city jail, if you say your trans- even if you're if you happen to be a transgender person who that day is working on and you got on a t shirt and revise and slip on sneakers, is that gender neutral. It used to have a transgender person everything be it talks about cliques, because we got a policy look it up in the book. Because you can look it up in the book it doesn't exist we'll call the important thing is laziness remembers you look at the book of receipt for customers.

D Dee McKellar 11:43

Okay, so it doesn't make a difference than if you've had your what your your driver's license legally changed in test email. None of that stuff matters right now if

R Ray Hill 11:50

If you're going to jail none of that matters.

D Dee McKellar 11:59

Okay, there was one other areas that waited a bit. If you're not prepared for it, and you're emotionally keyed up, and you're going to be emotional today, it can really bother somebody. And that is that the jailers as a form of courtesy to prisoners address everybody, as mr. and sir..

S Sarah DePalma 12:26

Oh, boy, oh, boy, oh boy,

R Ray Hill 12:29

I have I have not answered to those terms. In five years, whatever happened to if I'm wearing a dress, if I was not wearing a dress, I was when I was arrested that the officer said you might want to change clothes before we go. That's what happened to this bright orange.

D Dee McKellar 12:47

That's one of the things about these are different, because he was arrested at home. And she was given an opportunity to change into some other clothes. Most of the arrests that I've heard of they're arrested in their car most often. So there's nothing for drag.

R Ray Hill 13:03

Usually, they throw you in a holding tank, or give you an opportunity to change into a job in-.

D Dee McKellar 13:09

Orange jump so they're not going to allow my slippers-. Come out of the topless club with, shall I say a minimum amount of attire. And before they are thrown entertains the women they give them even on the women's side that gives them jobs cover.

13:28

See I had these visions of somebody sitting in a tank in rags. Sometimes you told me that

S Sarah DePalma 13:33



Sarah DePalma 13:55

What used to happen, I remembered.



Dee McKellar 13:36

But in my case, I was wearing a t shirt, stretch pants and sneakers and they let you stay in your street clothes in one city jail usually doesn't work for some reason. But they still refer to you as Mr. Because that's what they're trained to do that those habits. Those on that wings, they measure to everybody and those assigned to the other house. They moved everybody. There may be some brothers, transgendered women available in the home.



Sarah DePalma 14:02

It might be for your own safety as they refer to you as Mr.



Dee McKellar 14:06

Well, no, you don't think they're not complicated enough to sort of-. You know beyond beyond that I did, I would not want to be addressed as Ms. McKellar 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



Sarah DePalma 14:34

To what I was doing it always just-.



Dee McKellar 14:37

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. He caught that. Yeah. I hear we couldn't break this habit. But but he got that in the manual. That'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 of their female stuff, then they're going to go into male facility, and then they're going to be called sir. Well, I mean, I mean, if you want to cause a transgender person to transfer to suicide in jail, or to start ripping their hair out, that's how you do it. But none of them none of this is aimed at being demeaning. Why are you waiting? Or do seminars?



Sarah DePalma 15:37

I understand that, but but you and I both know, and I can think of several individuals right now, who had absolutely the mind. I mean, you know, your three quarters the way through your transition, for example, and suddenly, somebody's gonna start addressing you as sir. And

they're and you know, you may have by now your breath, if you're, if you're thinking about getting ready for surgery.

D Dee McKellar 15:59

I mean, you talk about a psychological kick in the teeth, this is it. 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 they will they like the board then start, resistance is futile, you will be assimilated.

S Sarah DePalma 16:23

Resistance is futile, you will be assimilated. Okay.

J Jimmy Carper 16:31

That was some show.

S Sarah DePalma 16:32

That's a very interesting piece. And as I was telling Jim, I've donated this, this tape to TATS. And I've had some very interesting feedback with him about the show since we did it. And I've had numerous people, I asked if they could get copies of it. And I don't know, I don't have the money to be doing that or the time. So I thought I'd just go ahead and put back on the air. And if they want copies, they can tape it. Good. But there were some interesting stories. They came out of that one of them. One of the people asked was telling me that they had been arrested in I want to say it was Arizona, I think it was in Arizona. And they didn't get treated anything like what Ray suggested. Oh, and I said, well, but remember, Ray said that if you know she because she had the letter and everything, and they just ignored it. Just remember Ray said that if you're outside of the Houston city limits, things are different things are different. Yeah. And she said, Well, she found that just totally different. So again, if you're a transgendered person, and you're riding around out there right now, and you've got a ticket in your car, that's not-. Hey, boys, and girls, you better go pay that, okay? Because otherwise, you're on your way to jail. And we just thought we would point out to you, that's not a good idea. I have another piece here that I want to play. And this is also Dee and Ray talking about about police and police actions. And then we're gonna go to a piece that has been very, very requested. I've had numerous people ask me about this Star Trek sequence. Yes. And I had actually had it on tape, but Jimmy had it on a better, better quality piece. So we're gonna play this this little cut with Dee and with Dee in and Ray talking about, about the police and about jails. And then we're gonna go to this piece on Star Trek. Before we do though, Sherry called in. And she told us that the Bobby McFerrin piece is from his CD, which is called for our children. A Pediatric AIDS fundraiser. Ah, so, there you have it, for our children, a pediatric Pediatric AIDS fundraiser with Bobby McFerrin on it. So, now, we know where to go find now, you know, because here I was, I thought it was a Bobby McFerrin CD.

J Jimmy Carper 18:57

..... 10:00

You're not gonna find it in Bobby McFerrin spot it's probably in the compilation. Yeah, yeah.

S

Sarah DePalma 19:03

So if you're one of those people and call me said Where can I get well, now you hit him down the yellow brick road and find it okay, enough of that foolishness. Let's go back to Dee and radio.

J

Jimmy Carper 19:17

okay

S

Sarah DePalma 19:26

Believe it or not, that is Mary Travers there. I just love the words in that song. Isn't that yeah, carry on for all it is good within you. Don't you let it in? Carry on sweet survive. And you know, some of the things that we've talked about tonight that just seemed like the right song.

J

Jimmy Carper 19:45

Isn't that a song for this show?

S

Sarah DePalma 19:47

It really is. You know, it's this is a fascinating album. I've talked about this before. It's called lifelines by Peter, Paul and Mary. This is this is from a television special they did for PBS It has been nominated for multiple Emmys. And I read the other day where it's almost sure things CD is also going to be nominated for several names. Yeah. And then I don't know if you're into folk music or not. But the list of people that are on here reads like a who's who I'm looking at people like Tom Pat at Tom Paxton. And John Sebastian, and the list goes on. Wow. So anyway, I don't usually Hawk CDs or albums. But this is what I would really recommend is chock full of good stuff.

J

Jimmy Carper 20:34

Well, speaking of shameless plugs-.

S

Sarah DePalma 20:36

Go for your Warner Brothers and pay me to do that. So my address is no, no, just kidding.

J Jimmy Carper 20:43

For those of you who like your music, a little bit more on the punk side, Chainsaw Kittens is going to be is going to be playing at the urban art bar on November 12. And why? You know, it's like why would After Hours be promoting a punk band named Chainsaw Kittens? You might ask?

S Sarah DePalma 21:10

Yeah, what I'd love to know too. What's-.

J Jimmy Carper 21:13

The lead singer and guy who writes a lot of the material Tyson Lee is a big old fag.

S Sarah DePalma 21:20

We saw a name a poster for a group called the Dropkick Chihuahuas.

J Jimmy Carper 21:25

Oh, yeah.

S Sarah DePalma 21:26

And I haven't laughed that group ever. I love what kind of music they play. But the name of that group is just wonderful. Yeah, picture-.

J Jimmy Carper 21:33

Well, it's loud punk stuff. Something else? I mentioned this last week about three times. But I hear queer punk folks complain that they don't have a bar to go to I hear lesbian saying how come you know there's there's no bar for us. And all kinds of disenfranchised, shall we say groups? Well, your problem has been solved. Lovecraft is here. Lovecraft lovecraft. It's a small tavern type of bar located on Fargo, between Whitney and Morgan, which is where the heck is that? That's okay, Fairview, between Fargo is one block, north of Fairview and runs parallel to it. And it's kind of like between Barnby's and Lacey J, what kind of bars is going to be whatever you want. It's a bar looking for a crowd.

S Sarah DePalma 22:49

Okay. And then what most bars do?

J Jimmy Carper 22:52

Well, you know, it's a new bar. It's kind of a tavern a bar. It's got a couple of pool tables, it's got cement floor and, and, you know, whatever kind of crab wants to hang out is perfectly welcome.

S Sarah DePalma 23:06

You know, it's a funny thing about a Lorie and I have been looking for a place to go, Well, we're both in our, well, I'm not afraid to tell my age. I'm 44. Lorie, I will not tell her later on the air, she'll kill me. But we've been looking for a place to go where some middle age people can just go in dance and have a couple of drinks. And and just basically be left alone. And we're you know, we're past the age where industrial rock is exactly our thing. You know, I we're not exactly CW people. And you know, it's darn hard. We haven't found the tough. It's like, once you get above 40. They figure well, you don't go anymore. And so go away.

J Jimmy Carper 23:46

Well, yeah, Kirk was on the show last week. And he was saying, you know, where can you go if you want to, like, talk to somebody and maybe slow dance.

S Sarah DePalma 23:54

That would be nice would love it.

J Jimmy Carper 23:56

About the only place we could think of is the Briarpatch, which is mostly a man's and mostly gay male. Yeah. Yeah. You know, so.

S Sarah DePalma 24:06

Yeah. I know. I don't know what the I would think the place you know, like, like I just described who do very well, because it would be the only one in the city. Yeah, I know. Anyway, I didn't mean to shoot, you know, shoot that shoot holes. Now. I was just mentioning it.

J Jimmy Carper 24:21

Now, let's say one more shameless plug is for Boudreux. Which is a place where Q Patrol has been taking its coffee breaks here lately. It's located at Crocker at Fairview that's like across Fairview from the Ripcord. Oh, okay. It's a converted house and it's a cafe slash restaurant. And get this folks. The cook is from Belgium. Well, hello, can I tell you what the food is like? I mean to die for and incredibly cheap. What's the name of this place, Boudreux.

 Sarah DePalma 25:03

I'm gonna check that out.

 Jimmy Carper 25:05

Boudreaux droves incredibly cheap. I mean entree with salad for six bucks.

 Sarah DePalma 25:11

Wow.

 Jimmy Carper 25:13

Good stuff good stuff.

 Sarah DePalma 25:15

That's some place that I'm going to have to definitely check out.

 Jimmy Carper 25:17

And they've been really nice to Q patrol. So well cool, you know, it's an up and coming restaurant and it's kind of tougher gay restaurant to get started. So-.

 Sarah DePalma 25:29

There's something that noticed the thing that Lorie and I have been looking for, is it. We like to go out in Sunday mornings in have a brunch somewhere. Oh, yeah. And yeah, having a patio. And there used to be a place that would have a terrific Sunday morning brunch, and they had lots of fruit and things. And they have since gone under. And we've been looking for a place like that for a long time. And if you don't have any place, you know, give us a call.

 Jimmy Carper 25:56

Well, let's see. I can I can recommend. Two piece.

 Sarah DePalma 26:02

Two piece really?

J Jimmy Carper 26:03

It's it's not like a buffet or anything. But they've they've got great egg dishes or fruit plate.

S Sarah DePalma 26:11

No, that and they do strictly coffee.

J Jimmy Carper 26:13

No. And they do have a patio? No, in fact, they have some of the best. I mean, if you like omelets, I'll really Oh, man, I'll think some of the best omlettes in town. And you know, and whatever you want in it go for it. Yeah, it's great. Great. Good.

S Sarah DePalma 26:35

We have a few minutes left here. And I have, I had one more thing that I did. I wanted to say before we headed out. There has been another transgendered hate crime in Houston. And I have spoken to one of the victims involved. And I want to encourage that person who call me in any of the others to whom that may happen in the future. Please, please, please put it in writing. We need it in writing. We need it in writing. If we can get these in writing, we can take these to the police. We can track them, we can find out exactly what's being done about it. Unless we have a complaint, though, is just hot air. And it makes no sense for you to be sitting home with bruises on you and nothing being done. So I really, really want to encourage you whether you're gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, whatever the case may be. If you are the victim of a hate crime, for heaven's sakes, report it. Yes. I also want to follow up on something in the last show, we had a guest from Montrose Counseling Center who they had won a grant to work with victims of hate crimes. They are Gary, Gary. Well, I'm pleased to report that at least one of these victims has gone to the counseling center and has reported very, very good things back about the Montrose counseling in their knowledge about transgendered issues. Hey, great. So I you know, sometimes we have people on the show, we never know whether it's a follow up or not. I just wanted to make it known that there aren't that there is some place that you can go and be able to get this done. And we are starting to head out here. This is the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles with a song called diversity and it seems like a good way to go out. If I got the CD, right. I think you-.

J Jimmy Carper 28:39

Just put it on softly. You've been listening to After Hours queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station are we also would invite you to listen to lesbian and gay voices heard every Thursday night right here on KPFT at 8pm to 10pm. Now coming up at one minute after the hour, we'll be monitor news and after that will be it will not be the return of the

sons of musical chairs to taking the night off. It's going to be three hours of queer music with good old DJ fag. We happen to be sitting next to me. That's right. That's right. We're just gonna play a bunch of music that I don't get to play normally.

S

Sarah DePalma 29:30

That's right. Remember our motto? When decorum becomes repression? The only dignity free people have is to speak out. Good night y'all.