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Man Charged with Human Trafficking Violations Allegedly Forced Teen to Work in Canadian Adult Club

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**1 Man Charged
w/ Human
Trafficking**

There was no contest in court last week when it came to denying bail to a young man charged with human trafficking.

York Regional Police cuffed Marlo Williams, 24, vice officers last week when they accused him of forcing a young woman to strip at a Mississauga club without pay.

**2 ACE Members
Pledge
Contributions
for ASCAP Fee
Court**

Defense lawyer Peter Thorning didn't fight the Crown's request to keep Williams locked up, but said his client will "contest these charges."

**3 Vegas Club
Faces
"Employee"
Lawsuit**

"This isn't going to be a slow guilty plea," Thorning said outside the courtroom, adding that the case "largely rests on uncorroborated and weak evidence."

4 Adult News

Evidence shared in court yesterday was placed under a publication ban.

5 Continued

Investigators say they found a 19-year-old Alberta native last month that told them her so-called boyfriend had enslaved her.

6 Continued

The woman arrived in the Toronto area in August before she was introduced to the young man, police said. She moved into his Mississauga condo, where police allege she was forced to stay between shifts as a dancer at a local strip club.

7 Continued

**8 Industry
Providers**

After dancing, she was forced to hand over all of her earnings, investigators say. Her first attempt to escape ended with her beaten and choked, police allege. Her next attempt, they say, was successful.

Nova Scotia court records show Williams already has convictions for assault causing bodily harm from one case and mischief, failing to stop at the scene of an accident and failing or refusing to supply a breath sample from another. Williams is believed to be an associate of North Preston's Finest, a Halifax-based gang notorious for its ruthless pimping culture.

Williams' case marks the first human trafficking charges for York Regional Police and, like other cases in the GTA, highlights the lack of resources dedicated to helping victims of trafficking in Ontario. When the alleged victim was released from hospital, without the resources to give her what she needed, investigators put her in a hotel for a night, then handed her over to Canada Fights Human Trafficking (CFHT), a Brantford-based, non-governmental organization that established its own network of services to help victims through private donations, human trafficking survivor and CFHT worker Timea Nagy said yesterday.

Among Williams' other charges in this case are kidnapping, forcible confinement, assault, choking and theft.



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ACE National Leaders Pledge Commitments to Battle Unfair ASCAP Licensing Fees

You got into the business of adult entertainment in part, to realize your version of American opportunity and success. Well, please forgive the people living paycheck to paycheck as they chuckle while watching you battle the ever-increasing cost of doing business.

ASCAP saw fit this year to reclassify gentlemen's clubs under a new adult entertainment category that can potentially raise your music licensing fees by a substantial amount per establishment.

After numerous calls from incensed club owners to ACE National regarding complaints over the new licensing structure, we called ASCAP in an effort to get some answers. Most of our inquiries to ASCAP went ignored.

During our ACE National Board meeting in August the subject was discussed at length in a private meeting. The following individuals volunteered their own money to go to fee court in NY in an effort to negotiate fair fees with ASCAP for the entire industry:

| CONTRIBUTING PARTY | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| VCG Holding | \$20,000 |
| Ricks International, Inc | \$20,000 |
| Jerry Westlund, Fantasy Castle Inc. | \$10,000 |
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| David Fairchild, The Men's Club Chain | \$10,000 |
| Spearmint Rhino Worldwide | \$20,000 |
| David Slim Baucom, MAL Ent. | \$20,000 |

The battle will likely be costly and long so in the event you too might like to help, please send voluntary donations in any amount to: ACE National c/o Ms. Tammy Russell, 1315 N. Sand Hills Blvd. Aberdeen, NC 28315. Thank you to those who contributed and asked to remain anonymous.



VEGAS CLUB HIT WITH CLASS ACTION SUIT CLAIMING DANCERS ARE EMPLOYEES

Sapphire Gentlemen's Club in Las Vegas was served with a class-action lawsuit claiming that the dancers that entertain in their club are not independent contractors but employees entitled to regular wages and overtime. The suit follows a Nevada Supreme Court ruling last year allowing a similar class-action lawsuit against another adult club to proceed under state law claims. If the lawsuit becomes certified as class action, it could represent 5000+ dancers that have worked at the club over the last two years. Sapphire bills itself as the 'Largest Gentlemen's Club in the world' at 70,000 square feet and claims to have 400 dancers in the club every evening. Independent contractor contracts are allegedly standard practice in the adult club industry and the lawsuit claims Sapphire has so many rules governing the dancers' working conditions that they don't qualify as independent contractors.

ADULT ENTERTAINMENT NEWS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Attention State Chapter Leaders: the Kinsey Institute at Indiana University in Bloomington has acquired The Freedom From Religion Foundation's "black collar crime blotter" files dating back to 1985. This archive of negative secondary effects associated with religious associations, filled 14 large shipping boxes and, contains clippings, organized by state, that detail criminal and civil cases involving clergy or religious groups. FFRF estimates that as many as 4,000 clergy were covered in the national, regional and local print media from the last decade. The Kinsey Institute will catalog the collection into a bibliographic utility database, OCLC, used by libraries and scholars worldwide. Bill Dunn (2009). "Kinsey Adds Black Collar Files to Library, *Freethought Today*, 26(8):15.

California: Jesus Loves Strippers, Christian Outreach:

http://www.nodo50.org/Laura_Agustin/jesus-and-outreach-with-strippers



Florida: A popular Boynton Beach adult club Platinum Showgirls was shut down late last Friday night after a raid and a four month long investigation. The raid included members of the SWAT team, who entered with their guns drawn. “This establishment has generated numerous complaints not only from the residential neighborhoods nearby, but from citizens throughout the city,” Chief G. Matthew Immler said. “Tonight’s operation is the culmination of that investigation and the reduction of untoward illegal activity that adversely affects the safety of our citizens and the image of our city.” According to the Boynton Beach Police Department, more than 50 felony and misdemeanor charges have been filed against 30 employees, including the club owner for racketeering, trafficking in oxycodone, sale of cocaine, deriving support from proceeds of prostitution and felony public nuisance, among other crimes. The club managers are charged with racketeering, felony public nuisance, deriving support from the proceeds of prostitution and allowing employees to engage in prohibited acts. WPBF News also reported that Platinum Showgirls violated county ordinances by allowing many of its dancers to perform lap dances, work without ID cards and drink underage with customers. In June, undercover officers began going into the club attempting to buy drugs. Within days, authorities said they were buying hundreds of dollars worth of cocaine and prescription painkillers from dancers. Detectives have identified one woman as the "madam" after she negotiated the prices for girls and private rooms with undercover officers. The state will now file an injunction to keep the club's doors closed and the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco is working to revoke its liquor license.

Massachusetts: Two dancers say they’ve been stripped of their employee rights. So they’ve filed suit against a MA adult club, claiming it illegally classified them as independent contractors to avoid paying them any wages, overtime and benefits. The ladies maintain their nude bumping and gyrating qualifies them as because they’re the star attractions of this particular gentleman’s club. They work for tips only and say they deserve at least the state’s full \$8 hourly minimum wage because the club takes back a portion of their tips in fees. They must pay the club a \$50 to \$150 fee per shift to dance and an additional fee if they don’t participate in a scheduled dance, court documents state. The lawsuit, filed in Salem Superior Court, maintains the club is violating the state’s independent contractor law, which classifies workers as “employees” if they perform the



primary work of a business and if their work is substantially controlled by the business. The dancers claim that most aspects of their jobs are club controlled, including work schedules, wardrobe and music, according to court documents. “People are paying a cover charge . . . and inflated prices for drinks, and it’s all because of these dancers who don’t receive any wages or protections,” attorney Todd Cochran said. “The Golden Banana has been saving money on taxes, workmen’s comp, unemployment and Social Security by not paying the dancers a penny.” About 70 dancers could join the suit if it gets class-action status, according to Cochran. The lawsuit mirrors two others filed by Cochran on behalf of strippers at Ten’s Show Club in Salisbury last month and King Arthur’s Lounge in Chelsea in 2007.

Ohio: NEXT BACE MEETING: The date has been changed to Wednesday November 11th at 3:00 PM. at the Extended Stay Motel in Columbus, Ohio (Exit 121, the Polaris Exit, off of I-71)

The October BACE meeting was a very successful one. Michael Murray, went over the ins and outs of Rule 52. Plenty of information about Rule 52 and how it may pertain to your particular business and business model was also passed out at this meeting. This information was available to anyone attending BACE meetings.

As always, we still need to focus on raising money to pay our obligations. Mr. Jim Everett brought several great ideas. We would like everybody to do the same at the next meeting.

Also, to conserve money and encourage membership, as of January, only BACE members will receive the monthly newsletter. Dues for 2010 should be sent to BACE treasurer, Donna Bowling, and are due by January 1st. Under the current economic situation, we understand that this can be a hardship. We are willing to work with you to find a productive solution.

In the interest of privacy, the full newsletter will no longer be available on the BACE website. To receive a newsletter, please feel free to contact any of the officers listed on the site www.baceohio.com or attend the next BACE meeting.

Over the past few months, we have made great strides in gaining new members and raising money. Many financial pledges have been fulfilled, and we have gained six new active members... BACE IS BACK AND DOING GREAT!

To All OHIO STATE ACE MEMBERS: We will hold a meeting at 2pm Nov. 4, 2009 at the Executive Den (downtown), 727 Boliva, Cleveland, Ohio. The location is right next to the Cleveland Indians Ball Park off of East 9th St. West off East 9th. We should have the results from the status conference with the Federal Judge on Rule 52 and information resulting from



negotiations with the Ohio State Attorney Generals office relating to enforcement. Michael Murray. In addition, there seems to have been a decision rendered by the Ohio State Supreme Court with regard to the " no smoking law". We will have those findings at the meeting. For more information log on: www.ohiostateace.org

Washington D.C.: Republican Senate Sex Scandals Point Back to Secretive Conservative Christian "Family" By Bill Berkowitz, Religion Dispatches:

<http://www.alternet.org/story/143151/>

Mississippi: Regulating adult clubs is an issue getting attention in Stone County. County supervisors held a public hearing Monday morning on an adult entertainment ordinance. You don't normally associate such adult businesses with Stone County. In this case, regulating strip clubs is purely a proactive move. Only one citizen spoke at the public hearing and he's the pastor of the supervisor who proposed the regulations." And looking out not only for what's going on in the county today, but also looking toward the future and being proactive on what we want Stone County to be for our children and grandchildren in years to come. And I just want to thank you for doing what you're doing," John Bullen told the board. Supervisors recognize the importance of family and faith in their small town community. They said the vast majority of residents favor the new law." Everybody's been just totally supportive of it," District 1 Supervisor Clark Byrd said. "Just very positive, very supportive of us. Glad that we were doing this and that we're trying to protect the community and our way of life up here."

New Jersey: There will be an emergency meeting of the NJACA on November 17, 2009, 12:30pm @ Chris Michael's Steak House 40 Oakwood Ave. Woodbridge, NJ 07095 Phone: 732-634-5355. Attorneys- **Brad Shafer, Danny Aaronson, and John Williams**, will be attending to address several vital legal issues, which are negatively affecting our industry. If you are an adult nightclub owner in New Jersey (Juice, GO-GO or BYOB) it is critical that you attend. The NJACA has brought the nation's top First Amendment, Employment and Liquor attorneys to answer your questions and address the concerns that all adult entertainment now faces in New

Jersey. Click on <http://www.stopthepoletax.com> to get all the information about the November 17th meeting, and other issues that affect adult entertainment in New Jersey, and around the country. Please register in advance on-line, as space is very limited for this meeting. Please tell a friend in business to attend. Thank you.

TEXAS: The Respondent's Supreme Court Brief for the Merits of the Texas Adult Club Fee Case is available for viewing. Please contact ACE National Executive Director, Angelina Spencer for an email copy of the brief: aspencer@empowermentpr.com

The **TEA Meeting** for November has been cancelled and will be rescheduled for January!

ACE Welcomes a New Discount Provider:

Pure Risk Solutions is an insurance agency that was formed with a goal of offering a different option for club owners. We felt it was time to get back to the basics by focusing on Client Service. Qualities like hard work, integrity, responsiveness, and an ever-growing knowledge base are the foundation of our service culture. With that strong foundation, we seek to help increase the resiliency of our clients and their futures. We look forward to our increased involvement with ACE National, ACE State Chapters, and their members. We will work hard to provide you the right insurance program at the best pricing possible. Thanks for the opportunity of being a partner in your industry.

Sincerely,

John M. Jacquat, CLCS
President

Pure Risk Solutions

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Pamela.mcconnell@agilysys.com

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