

Sentinel

11/25/82

Authorities stage 'party,' accuse eight of prostitution, pandering

SANTA CRUZ — Following a two-week investigation into prostitution and pandering activities, authorities in San Jose and Santa Cruz made eight arrests Tuesday night.

The majority of arrests were made at a large San Jose hotel and included that of suspected kingpin Fontaine Webster Russ, 53, who lists his address as 620 Bonita Drive, Aptos.

According to San Jose police vice squad officer Andy Galea, the home offers a massage service that fronts as a prostitution service.

Assistant District Attorney Roy Hubert said the Santa Cruz authorities were called about two weeks ago by a man saying he'd been given a business card for "Century 22," a "distinctive service agency."

The number listed on the business card was the same as that which ran in local newspaper ads for out-call masseuses.

Hubert said the district attorney's office began investigating the case. In order to protect the local undercover agents, Hubert decided to call in San Jose police to handle the contacts.

About a week ago, San Jose officer Galea called the Aptos phone number to arrange a "party" for a computer company. He said he was quoted prices on the phone, and that two women agreed before the meeting to prostitution.

"They also indicated they provided other services," said Galea, such as belly dancing, bisexual shows and other things. "They were pretty loose."

Galea said a price was agreed upon. The men were to pay each of five girls \$100 an hour for a minimum of three hours, said the agent.

A meeting was arranged for Tuesday night, involving some 10 officers from San Jose.

At the same time, local authorities obtained a search warrant for the home in Aptos, which they served while

the "party" was taking place in San Jose.

Assistant D.A. Hubert said one woman was arrested in Aptos, and numerous pieces of evidence were confiscated, including records of clients and some drugs believed to be amphetamines.

Taken into custody on a charge of possessing a controlled substance and soliciting an act of prostitution was Eliza Barker, 24, who gave an address of 516 Harriett Ave., Aptos.

According to an investigator in the district attorney's office, Barker quoted him prices for sexual acts when he called before the search warrant was served.

In San Jose, the officers made seven additional arrests, including taking Russ into custody on a warrant charging him with pandering, and new charges of pandering and aiding and abetting prostitution.

Bail on one warrant was set at \$10,000, but Galea said he expected it to be raised.

Galea said Russ acted as an escort for the girls. He took the cash and was the initial spokesman.

Also taken into custody on multiple counts of soliciting for prostitution were: Anne Hanly, 24, 2545 Howe Ave., Santa Cruz; Kelly Jo Hamm, 31, of the St. George Hotel, 1520 Pacific Ave.; Gabrieli Priebe, 33, Santa Cruz; Kathryn Marie Wright, 27, 620 Bonita Ave.; and Laura Sanderson, 25, 620 Bonita Ave.

Another man who escorted the women to the "party" was taken into custody on suspicion of aiding an act of prostitution. He was identified as Ken Richard Potter, 28, Soquel Drive, Aptos, said Galea.

Hubert said he is seeking more arrest warrants in connection with the case.

"The district attorney's office will enforce the laws and be investigating the case further," he added.

Assisting in the surveillance of the Aptos home were deputies with the Santa Cruz County sheriff's office.