

US PROStitutes Collective Legal Action for Women

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Deputy City Attorney
Hjime Tada
1390 Market St., 7th floor
San Francisco
CA 94102

June 1, 1998

Dear Deputy Attorney Tada,

We are contacting you regarding Schneider vs. City and County of San Francisco; Federal District Court Case No. C-97- 2203-MMC. Ms. Schneider has filed a federal civil rights complaint because her constitutional rights were violated by City and County employees, and she is suing for damages for her injuries.

We are outraged at the abusive and discriminatory treatment Ms. Schneider suffered at the hands of the the SF Police and Sheriffs Departments. Their only motive in forcing her to be strip-searched was to humiliate her and they verbally harassed her throughout the whole ordeal. Their actions were clearly unlawful and go against California state law and SF Police Codes. Such actions should not be tolerated by the City.

The US PROStitutes Collective is very concerned about violence against women and young people, and has been organizing for the City to prioritize their safety and protection. We ask what is being done when, as in the case of Ms. Schneider, it is the police who commit violence against women in jail, abusing their position of power and the vulnerability of the women in their care. Such abuse of authority has serious implications for all women and indeed everyone who depends on the police for protection.

It is urgent that Ms. Schneider's complaint be dealt with speedily and that she be compensated for the violence and abuse she has suffered. Otherwise, the City will be condoning such violence.

We urge you to resolve this suit immediately so that Ms. Schneider receive the justice she deserves.

Sincerely,

Rachel West

Rachel West
US PROStitutes Collective

Lori Nairne

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Legal Action for Women