



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 29, 2006

CONTACT: Anna Carpenter
Public Relations Coordinator
P: 877-0133 ext. 225 C: 810-6904

Family Court Judge Arrested for Domestic Battery: Domestic Violence Does Not Discriminate

Judge Steven E. Jones was arrested on June 20th on domestic battery charges for allegedly hitting his girlfriend. As a Family Court Judge, his job is to hear domestic violence cases—now he has been charged with that same crime. A hearing in the case will be held Friday, June 30th.

Judge Jones' arrest points to the fact that domestic violence does not discriminate on the basis of profession, socioeconomic status, race or religion—anyone can be a victim or a perpetrator, regardless of their standing in the community. Domestic violence is a pattern of violent and coercive behavior used by one partner in a relationship to control another and it is a crime. “We hope that justice will be served for the alleged victim in this case, as we do in any other domestic violence case,” said Safe Nest Associate Director, Kathleen Brooks.

Brooks stated, “No victim should suffer in silence and perpetrators need to know that they can seek help to end their violent behavior.” She continued, “any victim who needs help may reach out to Safe Nest for shelter, counseling and legal advocacy and any perpetrator may seek counseling through the agency. The bottom line is that preventing violence requires that our community come together to end this deadly problem.”

Safe Nest recently launched a ground-breaking campaign called *Coaching Boys Into Men* that seeks to prevent domestic violence before it begins. The campaign invites men throughout the valley to take a leadership role in preventing violence against women and children. The campaign includes television and radio public service announcements and educational resources for parents, coaches, teachers and community leaders. “We encourage men in our community to take the pledge and hope that any man who has a problem with abusive behavior would seek help,” said Brooks. Men can sign the pledge at www.safenest.org.

2915 W. Charleston, Suite 12
Las Vegas, NV 89102
Phone: 877-0133 Fax: 877-0127
www.safenest.org

Established in 1977, Safe Nest is Clark County's largest and most comprehensive agency devoted solely to domestic violence issues. Services include shelters in confidential locations, a 24-hour crisis hotline, counseling, victim advocacy, prevention and community education. For help and information, call the crisis hotline at 646-4981.

###

2915 W. Charleston, Suite 12
Las Vegas, NV 89102
Phone: 877-0133 Fax: 877-0127
www.safenest.org