Massage parlor propositioned deputies, authorities contend

[2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,1 Edition]

The San Diego Union - Tribune - San Diego, Calif.

Author: LIESE KLEIN Date: Jul 28, 1994

Start Page: B.10 Section: LOCAL Text Word Count: 277

Document Text

Editions vary | Head varies

SAN MARCOS -- When the masseuse asked him if he "wanted to get laid," the undercover deputy walked outside the massage parlor in his lava-lava, or Samoan native costume. That was the signal to other deputies to move in and arrest employees of the Golden Body Salon on suspicion of prostitution, officials said.

This and other details of the Sheriff's Department raid on an alleged house of prostitution came out yesterday in an unusual hearing at San Marcos City Hall.

City code-enforcement officers closed down the Golden Body Salon on Nordahl Road last month, the city's first bust of an alleged brothel in recent memory.

Undercover deputies were solicited for sex acts on three separate occasions, and surveillance found that the so-called beauty salon served only men, authorities said. Phoung Thi Kim Dinh, 45, of Santa Ana, was arrested on suspicion of prostitution during the raid.

But Michael Crowley, the attorney for Golden Body license holder Danielle Iglesias, argued yesterday that his client had sold the business last year, and had no knowledge of prostitution activities at the salon. Crowley asked a city hearing officer to reinstate Iglesias' license to operate the salon.

A decision on the revoked license will be made by the end of the week, Director of Development Services Charlie Schaffer said.

Seized in the raid was a card file with 938 entries on it, 933 of those referring to male customers. On the cards were written names, addresses, billing information and details about sexual performance and preferences, deputies said. The card file is being held as evidence pending the criminal proceeding scheduled for next month.

Credit: Staff Writer

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Abstract (Document Summary)

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