

# The NUDE & NATURAL NEWSLETTER

THE NATURIST SOCIETY

NATURIST ACTION COMMITTEE • NATURIST EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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## NAC's 2007 Legislative Primer and Outlook

A look at numbers, trends, friends, foes .. and more

by **Bob Morton**  
Chairman & Executive Director  
Naturist Action Committee

It's still summertime, but lawmakers are already making plans for the state legislative sessions that will begin shortly after the first of the year. This is when the Naturist Action Committee begins getting ready, too. During 2007, legislatures will be meeting *in all fifty states*, and several states have already begun the process of drafting bills to be considered in the upcoming sessions.

For a complete listing of the dates on which each state will convene and adjourn its 2007 session, consult the chart on page 4 of this *Newsletter*. The chart also gives a state-by-state estimate of the total numbers of legislative bills that are expected to be introduced this next year.

The sheer quantity of legislation can be daunting. By the end of 2006, for example, the Naturist Action Committee will have identified and tracked close to 1,000 state legislative bills that have the potential for affecting naturists. Numbers will be similar in 2007.

### PEOPLE

In meeting such a challenge, people make up the most valuable asset an activist organization can have. NAC is quite fortunate in this regard. With nine dedicated board members, more than seventy Area Representatives, and an impressively growing number of generous supporters, NAC continues to build on its reputation as the most effective naturist activist organization in North America.

see *NAC's 2007* on page 3



**WASHINGTON 2004.** House Bill 2645. NAC and friends at the State Capitol in Olympia.



**WISCONSIN 2003.** House Bill 574. NAC Executive Director Bob Morton testifies at a legislative hearing.



**OHIO 2002.** House Bill 469. Naturists and nudists stand on the statehouse steps after testimony coordinated by NAC Area Rep Bob Neinast.



**NEVADA 2005.** Senate Bill 247. NACAR Richard Clauser testifies.



**WISCONSIN 2003.** House Bill 574. NAC Area Rep Claudette Richards.



**KANSAS 2000.** House Bill 2726. NAC Area Rep Dave Bitters.



**TEXAS 2003.** House Bill 50. NAC Area Rep Robert Morton addresses a legislative committee during a hearing to consider the bill.



Prints of Henry Yuen's *Northwest Jazz Festival 1998* are among the items available in limited quantity as part of this special NAC fundraising event.

## A Very Special NAC Fundraiser

For a limited time only, the Naturist Action Committee is offering a special thank-you to donors who make contributions of \$100 or more to NAC.

By special arrangement with renowned water color artist Henry Yuen, NAC is saying thank you to its donors. You're not only supporting North America's premier naturist activist organization, you'll be acquiring top quality naturist art at the same time. During this special NAC fundraiser, each donation of \$100 or more will be rewarded with a limited edition Henry Yuen print as a token of our thanks!

For more information, visit the Web site of the Naturist Action Committee: [www.naturistaction.org](http://www.naturistaction.org)

NAC thanks you for choosing to make a difference!

## NAC Thanks Castaways Travel and SuperClubs!

The Naturist Action Committee has announced the successful conclusion to another season of support from the generous folks at *SuperClubs* and *Castaways Travel*, who once again combined to donate the very special grand prize awards for drawings benefiting NAC.

NAC conducted drawings for a 4-day vacation for two at Grand Lido Braco at Gatherings and Festivals throughout the 2006 season. Grand Lido Braco is a premium resort in Jamaica. A large portion of the resort is set aside for clothing-optional use. The prizes are run-of-the-resort accommodations that include all expenses except airfare.

The Naturist Action Committee gratefully acknowledges the continuing support of Castaways Travel and SuperClubs.



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## NAC's 2007 Legislative Primer and Outlook (continued from page 1)

### TECHNOLOGY

Increasingly, technology is playing an important role in the Naturist Action Committee's legislative efforts. NAC uses a commercial bill parsing and tracking service to identify and keep tabs on state and federal legislation. Sophisticated post-processing software written by NAC Area Rep Robert Morton and his wife, Kristi, eliminates phasing errors that are inherent in the commercial product, and makes it easier for human activists to use.

NAC also uses another custom software application to identify and track bills in states that are of acute interest. The Naturist Online Transfer, Inspection and Classification Engine (NOTICE) was developed for NAC by Mark Schroeder. It subjects legislation to scrutiny that goes beyond the capability of commercially available services.

Without this crucial technology, the task of sorting and tracking legislation would be simply overwhelming. Every state legislative bill is evaluated. Only a few will require action. But because it's seldom the case that legislation "comes out of nowhere," NAC maintains a close watch on problem bills from the time they're introduced.

### PARTY POLITICS

At one time it was possible to predict that anti-nudity legislation would come from one side of the political aisle, and our help would be found on the other side. That's no longer true. Anti-nudity bills introduced by Democrats in the past two years have been just about equal in number to those sponsored by Republicans.

Party politics often present complex challenges beyond introduction and sponsorship. Since chairs of legislative committees are typically drawn from the majority party, it's most productive for naturist activists to establish working relationships with lawmakers of various political persuasions.

### SPECIFIC LAWMAKERS

Certain individual lawmakers have established reputations for attempting to slip naturist-unfriendly language into their legislation. They do so even when (or especially when!) the bulk or title of the bill is totally unrelated. NAC knows who these lawmakers are. We monitor every bill they touch.

### LOBBYISTS

Professional legislative lobbyists can make the difference in the success or failure naturist activists have on a certain issue. NAC has recognized that fact for years. In recent sessions, NAC has retained lobbyists in Wisconsin, Washington, Kentucky and elsewhere.

On occasion, the Naturist Action Committee splits the expense of a lobbyist with other organizations. Presently, NAC operates a lobbyist in Ohio with the financial partnership of the American Association for Nude Recreation and its regional affiliate, AANR-Midwest.

### OPPORTUNITIES

In some states, NAC has been able to suggest revisions to legislation that actually results in improved laws for naturists. Ohio House Bill 50 in the 2005-2006 session is an example. NAC is aggressively on the lookout for such opportunities.

### TRENDS

Sex Offender Legislation. The frenzy to punish sex offenders more severely continues. The interests of naturists are frequently affected by this legislation, and attempts are often made to add mere nudity to the list of sex offenses requiring registration.

Sexually-Oriented Businesses. Because of U.S. Supreme Court rulings, legislation focusing on sexually-oriented business often includes reworking of a state's indecent exposure or public indecency law. Legislative measures often have an impact on naturists who enjoy nude recreation on public land. But nudist parks and resorts find themselves affected, too, through definitions like that of "sexual encounter center," which typically describes any commercial place where "two or more people engage in an activity while nude or semi-nude."

Children. Nudity in the presence of a child - sometimes even one's own child, and in one's own home - has become a target for lawmakers. Family-friendly naturism is at obvious risk from such legislation.

Escalating and Ratcheting Penalties. Lawmakers can be expected to continue the trend of attempting to increase penalties for offenses like public nudity.

Definitions. Simply by expanding definitions of what constitutes a sex crime or what makes a place "public," lawmakers can have a tremendous effect on naturists. NAC watches carefully for changes to existing definitions.

### STATES

It's always tricky to try to guess the directions lawmakers will take. NAC has learned to expect the unexpected. Nevertheless, we offer some places to look in 2007. Remember that these are predictions, and not invitations to develop blind spots on topics that aren't mentioned.

**Alabama** — Expect troubling legislation that focuses on sex offenders but has spill-over.

**Alaska** — Escalation of penalties and changes to definitions could be a problem for naturists

**Arizona** — Land use issues present a source of concern.

**Arkansas** — Expect attempts to add to the list of employment unavailable to those with certain convictions.

**California** — Large quantity of legislation requires careful monitoring. Look for possible increased penalties, unintended consequences of proposed new laws.

**2007 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS**

2007 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS												PREFILED BILLS	BILLS CARRY OVER FROM 2006	2007 SESSION		BILLS POTENTIALLY AFFECTING NATURISTS IN 2006 ?	TOTAL PROJECTED BILLS 2007
JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC			START	END		
												<b>Alabama</b>		03/06	06/18	YES	1800
												<b>Alaska</b>		01/16	05/22	YES	500
												<b>Arizona</b>		01/08	05/25	YES	1300
												<b>Arkansas</b>		01/08	03/09	NO	700
												<b>California</b>		01/03	09/12	YES	3000
												<b>Colorado</b>		01/10	05/09	NO	850
												<b>Connecticut</b>		01/03	06/06	YES	1650
												<b>Delaware</b>		01/09	06/30	YES	700
												<b>Florida</b>		03/06	05/04	NO	2750
												<b>Georgia</b>		01/08	03/18	NO	2000
												<b>Hawaii</b>		01/17	04/11	YES	3200
												<b>Idaho</b>		01/08	04/06	NO	900
												<b>Illinois</b>		01/10	05/20	YES	3500
												<b>Indiana</b>		01/09	04/29	YES	1100
												<b>Iowa</b>		01/08	04/18	NO	2000
												<b>Kansas</b>		01/08	05/25	YES	1000
												<b>Kentucky</b>		01/02	03/30	YES	1700
												<b>Louisiana</b>		04/30	06/28	NO	1500
												<b>Maine</b>		12/06/06	06/20	YES	450
												<b>Maryland</b>		01/10	04/09	YES	2600
												<b>Massachusetts</b>		01/03	11/21	YES	1350
												<b>Michigan</b>		01/10	12/31	YES	2700
												<b>Minnesota</b>		01/03	05/23	NO	2800
												<b>Mississippi</b>		01/02	04/02	YES	3000
												<b>Missouri</b>		01/03	05/30	YES	1700
												<b>Montana</b>		01/03	05/11	NO	400
												<b>Nebraska</b>		01/03	05/11	NO	700
												<b>Nevada</b>		02/05	06/05	NO	450
												<b>New Hampshire</b>		01/03	09/01	YES	900
												<b>New Jersey</b>	●	01/09	01/08/08	YES	5000
												<b>New Mexico</b>		01/16	03/17	NO	1350
												<b>New York</b>		01/03	01/02/08	YES	4150
												<b>North Carolina</b>		01/27	07/29	YES	1000
												<b>North Dakota</b>		01/03	04/26	NO	500
												<b>Ohio</b>		01/02	12/31	YES	3000
												<b>Oklahoma</b>		02/05	05/25	YES	2200
												<b>Oregon</b>		01/08	06/29	NO	1100
												<b>Pennsylvania</b>		01/02	11/30	YES	2200
												<b>Rhode Island</b>		01/02	05/19	NO	3500
												<b>South Carolina</b>		01/09	06/07	YES	1500
												<b>South Dakota</b>		01/09	03/26	YES	650
												<b>Tennessee</b>		01/16	05/13	YES	4000
												<b>Texas</b>		01/09	05/28	NO	5000
												<b>Utah</b>		01/15	03/01	YES	800
												<b>Vermont</b>		01/03	05/18	NO	500
												<b>Virginia</b>	●	01/10	02/08	YES	3100
												<b>Washington</b>		01/08	04/20	NO	1800
												<b>West Virginia</b>		02/14	04/15	YES	2100
												<b>Wisconsin</b>		01/03	12/31	YES	800
												<b>Wyoming</b>		01/09	03/02	NO	300

## NAC's 2007 Legislative Primer and Outlook (continued from page 3)

**Colorado** — Local issues may overshadow state legislation.

**Connecticut** — Few problems anticipated at the state level. Local issues may need attention.

**Delaware** — Attempts at extension of statutes of limitations to accommodate “recovered memory” may require monitoring.

**Florida** — Proposed local ordinances may be more of a problem than state legislation.

**Georgia** — Sex offender and child pornography bills could have unintended consequences.

**Hawaii** — Transfers of state parks to counties could be a real headache.

**Idaho** — New state laws may move more of the fight to the local and municipal level.

**Illinois** — Sex offender registration will occupy much legislative attention. Naturists will have to monitor the details and the definitions.

**Indiana** — Sex offenders and escalation of penalties.

**Iowa** — Sexually-oriented business legislation may include definitions affecting naturists.

**Kansas** — Never a dull session in Kansas. Look for attempts at escalating penalties, harshly reworded definitions.

**Kentucky** — Expect further attempts to introduce new public indecency laws.

**Louisiana** — Lawmakers have been busy addressing the losses due to Katrina and Rita. If hurricanes stay away in 2006, look for a return to foolish legislation in 2007.

**Maine** — Mercifully uneventful.

**Maryland** — Must be watched carefully for strange legislation suggested by myopic exemption seekers.

**Massachusetts** — Few problems anticipated.

**Michigan** — Definitions aimed at regulating sexually-oriented businesses may prove troublesome to naturists.

**Minnesota** — Sex offender legislation may be a problem, if definitions aren't carefully crafted.

**Mississippi** — Scary legislation can be expected.

**Missouri** — Backlash to Party Cove may create some tough public lands issues for naturists.

**Montana** — You probably believe the law couldn't be more severe. Dallas Erickson believes otherwise.

**Nebraska** — Expect another effort to give counties ordinance-making power, something they currently lack.

**Nevada** — The state's still looking for cash. Expect a return of revenue bills with definitions that affect naturists.

**New Hampshire** — Few problems anticipated.

**New Jersey** — Meets all year. Enormous volume of legislation. Look for attempts to increase the list of professions unavailable to those with certain convictions.

**New Mexico** — Adjustments to sex offender definitions may cause problems.

**New York** — More well behaved than you'd imagine.

**North Carolina** — Recent changes have been made to the state's indecent exposure law. Lawmakers may be looking at other things for a while.

**North Dakota** — Look for attempts at harsher penalties.

**Ohio** — A bellwether for other states. Expect new legislation concerning sexually-oriented businesses, public indecency and the definition of what makes a “public place.”

**Oklahoma** — Unfortunately, lawmakers will have little trouble matching last year's bizarre bills.

**Oregon** — Sexually-oriented business legislation likely. Unintended consequences possible.

**Pennsylvania** — More sex offender and sexually-oriented business laws than you'd imagine.

**Rhode Island** — Few problems anticipated.

**South Carolina** — Legislation with adverse effects for naturists will be no surprise in bills addressing sex offenders.

**South Dakota** — You might think all the damage that can be done has already been inflicted. You'd be wrong.

**Tennessee** — Anti-nudity legislation in Tennessee appears to be cyclic. If the cycle holds true, this is the year.

**Texas** — Volatile legislature leads to unpredictable results. Expect more than the usual number of problem bills.

**Utah** — Short session. Won't be sweet.

**Vermont** — Far more sensible than most states.

**Virginia** — Lawmakers are not through with us yet.

**Washington** — Expect a renewed effort to count municipal indecent exposure convictions anywhere in the world toward felony status in Washington.

**West Virginia** — Expect bills that fail to recognize existing exemptions.

**Wisconsin** — Legislative action depends on outcome of key elections in November '06. Could be big trouble here.

**Wyoming** — Look for escalation of penalties for simple nudity in public.

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### MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Additional information and links are available on the Web site of the Naturist Action Committee.

[www.naturistaction.org](http://www.naturistaction.org)

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# *Proactive Naturist Activism!*

As an important part of its mission to advance and protect the rights and interests of naturists, the Naturist Action Committee (NAC) works proactively with local activists to expand clothing-optional opportunities. One of NAC's present projects is Magnuson Park in Seattle, Washington.

## **MAGNUSON PARK**

Seattle's Warren G. Magnuson Park sits along the western shore of Lake Washington on Sand Point, and is part of an immense 350-acre area filled with open fields, shoreline, boating access, and empty warehouses. The U.S. Navy operated a base on the site for years, but when the base was decommissioned in 1990, the property was transferred to the City, which is considering what to do with the hundreds of acres of prime open space.

## **A HISTORY OF NUDE USE**

A small portion of what is now Magnuson Park enjoyed quiet nude use since at least the mid-70s until the mid-80s to the east of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration facility, which is northeast and adjacent to the park. The unofficial nude beach area was reportedly used quietly by Navy and NOAA personnel, as well as by the general public.

A few years ago, the City of Seattle established a fenced off-leash area for dog owners to run their pets where skinny-dippers and sunbathers had previously enjoyed the shoreline. NAC has no reason to believe that the creation of this now popular off-leash area had anything to do with the reported nude use of the site. Currently, the beach immediately to the south of the off-leash area and north of the park's main swimming beach has sporadic and cautious nude use.

Daniel Johnson, co-director of the Seattle-based Body Freedom Collaborative (BFC) verified historical nude use at the original site with informal interviews of beach users and a Seattle Parks & Recreation official in July 2006.

## **PRESENT STATUS**

The area where people now sometimes enjoy sunbathing and skinny-dipping, however, is largely overgrown with non-

native blackberries and other invasive shrubs. Johnson and NAC board member Mark Storey toured the site in August 2006 and agreed that two different 100-yard stretches of shoreline might easily, and without much expense, be turned into an officially sanctioned clothing-optional beach. Hoping to capitalize on the good will established by this year's series of four NAC Discovery Park Beach Cleanups, Storey and Johnson are exploring ways to create new opportunities for skinny-dippers at Magnuson Park.

## **PICNIC IN THE PARK: SEPTEMBER 2, 2006**

A crucial step will be to develop a user group willing to go public in support of nude use of appropriate city park lands. To that end, on Saturday, September 2, 2006, from 11:00-3:00, NAC and BFC are hosting a BBQ/Potluck at Magnuson Park. The goal is to establish a new user group: the Magnuson Beach Bares.

The Naturist Action Committee will provide hamburgers and veggie-burgers for those wishing to publicly support continued nude use of this semi-isolated shoreline. If you live in the area and wish to see naturist opportunities advanced, bring a potluck contribution, something to drink, and a flexibility to enjoy what skinny-dipping opportunities may arise. The main goal of the event is to bring together people in Seattle who are ready to commit themselves to the long, hard, and public task of gaining a clothing-optional beach in their town.

The picnic will be along the shore of Lake Washington, north of the main textile swimming beach at Magnuson Park and south of the off-leash dog area, just a few yards east and off the paved Lake Shore Promenade.

Magnuson Beach Bares and NAC need to know how many people are coming in order to know how much food to bring. If you wish to help move this project forward, RSVP by contacting Mark Storey or Daniel Johnson with an e-mail to [aquaman@seattlebeaches.org](mailto:aquaman@seattlebeaches.org).

## **MORE LOCAL INFORMATION?**

For more information on Magnuson Beach Bares and directions to the park, see:

[http://naked.wikia.com/wiki/Magnuson\\_Beach\\_Bares](http://naked.wikia.com/wiki/Magnuson_Beach_Bares)



## ***NAC puts your donation to work making things happen for naturists***

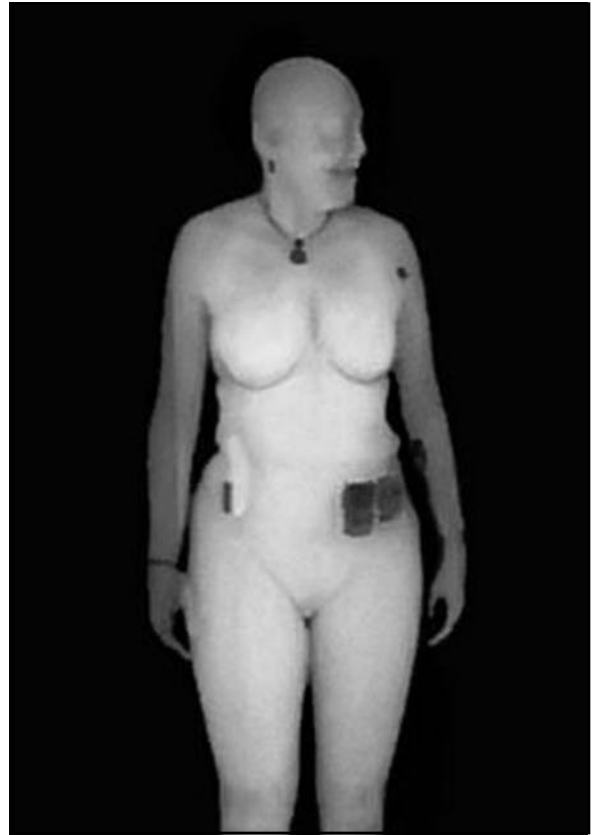
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## Virtually Nude in Airports

The person in the picture at the center of this page is Susan Hallowell, an official of the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA). That's also Ms. Hallowell in the picture to the right. In both pictures, she's wearing the same skirt, blouse, jacket and undergarments. But the operator of a Rapiscan Secure 1000 airport security scanner sees her as she appears on the right - without the layers of fabric. Packets of simulated explosives and a handgun were hidden under her clothing for the demonstration, but were clearly visible on the screening station monitor.

The demonstration was made in 2002, as the backscatter x-ray scanning devices were being tested at the airport in Orlando, Florida. They were "the future of air travel security," the object of speculation, apprehension and jokes.

The future has arrived. Amid the interspersed alarm and relief last month over the foiling of claimed terrorist plots to blow up numerous commercial aircraft traveling between the UK and the US came other news. The Rapiscan Secure 1000 is already in operation at London's Heathrow airport.

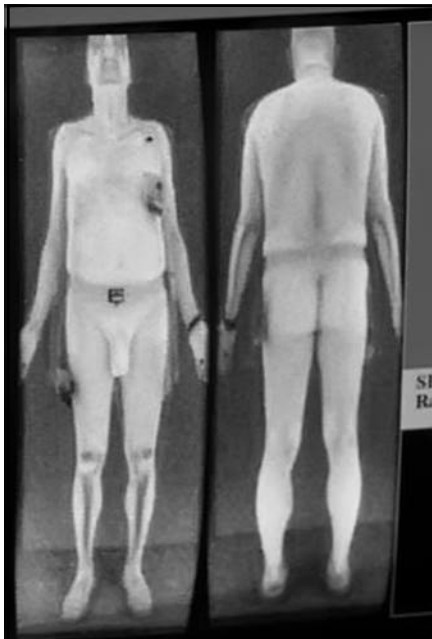


Reaction to the technology remains mixed. According to the manufacturer, 19 out of 20 airport users prefer the low dose x-rays to being patted down physically. Proponents claim the radiation is about the same as residents of Denver receive walking down the sidewalks of that high-altitude city.

Security officials claim that screening is only done by operators who are the same gender as the x-rayed passengers and that the person examining the screen is never allowed to make visual contact with the person whose garments have been penetrated electronically. Opponents have labeled those details as meaningless.

Predictably, the specter of child abuse is being raised by some who oppose the technology. A group calling itself Action on Rights for Children (ARCH) claims that the security scheme victimizes children by allowing others to see them naked.

But there are also significant general outcries over the obvious erosions of personal privacy. When scanners are made more sensitive to expose liquids hidden on the body, they will undoubtedly be able to expose the body itself in greater detail. Will such virtual nudity increase body acceptance? Or will travelers learn to associate nudity with an intrusiveness driven by a reaction to terror?



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***The educational and informational resource for naturists***



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## NAC Roundup

Quick topics from the active files of the Naturist Action Committee  
more info: [www.naturistaction.org](http://www.naturistaction.org)

### School Teacher Forced to Resign Over Online Topfree Photos

AUSTIN, Texas — Threatened with termination by the local school board for being an “improper role model” because topfree pictures of her had appeared online, high school art teacher Tamara Hoover has resigned and accepted a relatively small cash settlement of \$14,850.

The 29-year old Hoover was popular among students, and her teaching contract had just been renewed for three years. However, a workplace dispute with a fellow teacher over a piece of shared equipment escalated to a situation in which Hoover’s antagonist guided students to the topfree pictures, and then complained to school administrators about the students’ viewing of the images online.

The Austin Independent School District responded by invoking the morals clause in Hoover’s contract. She was escorted from the high school campus on May 19 and placed on paid administrative leave.

The Naturist Action Committee contacted Hoover’s attorney and learned the teacher intended to ignore other defenses and concentrate exclusively on her First Amendment right to express herself.

But with the battle set to begin, Tamara Hoover suddenly announced her resignation in August, saying she intended to pursue a graduate degree and become a college instructor.

### Alabama says Nude is Lewd, but Indecent Exposure is Far Worse

FORT PAYNE, Alabama — The recent arrest of Gerald Kelly points out an anomaly in Alabama state law. Kelly was one of two men who chose to protest the war in Iraq by walking along U.S. Highway 11, dressed only in cowboy hats and boots.

Kelly, who was also carrying an American flag, was arrested during the incident on July 30 and was charged with public lewdness, a Class C misdemeanor. The other man was never found or identified.

The laws of some states make no distinction between simple nudity and exposure with sexual intent. Alabama does differentiate, and there, “public lewdness” is the lesser offense. “Indecent exposure” is a Class A misdemeanor that requires registration as a sex offender.

Gerald Kelly remains free on \$1,500 bond.

**Visit  
NAC's  
blog**

[www.naturistaction.org/blog](http://www.naturistaction.org/blog)

### Kansas Libertarians Sue County After Blockade of Political Rally at Lake Edun

TOPEKA, Kansas — As anticipated, officials of the Libertarian Party of Kansas (LPKS) have filed a lawsuit against Shawnee County over a July incident in which sheriff’s deputies blocked access to Lake Edun, the intended site of a Libertarian fundraiser and rally. [See *Newsletter*, July 2006.]

Lake Edun, a naturist retreat outside the city limits of Topeka, is affiliated with The Naturist Society. As part of an ongoing zoning dispute, District Judge Terry Bullock issued an injunction in 2005, banning “recreational and commercial activities” at the property.

Rob Hodgkinson, state chairman of the Libertarian Party, was among those who were denied access to Lake Edun in July. Hodgkinson has pointed out that a political rally is neither a recreational nor a commercial activity.

In its lawsuit, the LPKS says it “selected the specific site in question in order to make a political statement regarding the free use of property.” “A secondary purpose of the gathering was to raise funds for the LPKS’ political activities.”

Of the blockade that prevented the Libertarians from pursuing their political purpose, Shawnee County Counselor Rich Eckert says, “Don’t let them tell you they didn’t see that coming.”

“Of course they saw it coming,” observed Naturist Action Committee executive director Bob Morton. “They simply refused to step aside for the sort of official bullying Counselor Eckert promotes.”

NAC has been working closely with the owners of the Lake Edun property.

**THE NEWSLETTER editor: Bob Morton**

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