

Gaming Enforcement Chief Accused of Sex Assault Try

According to a Las Vegas Sun report, Billy Suggs, Enforcement Division Chief of the State Gaming Control Board became one of the 13 agents who prompted an internal investigation on complaints of alleged widespread harassment against a female agent.

Personnel Director George Murphy said, "we are interviewing everybody who might have some knowledge of any allegations." He said Billy Suggs may be asked to take a polygraph test.

The most serious allegation, according to one source, is against Suggs, who is accused of trying to sexually assault Linda Lansdon, a 35-year-old enforcement division agent in the Reno office.

The investigation was prompted by a complaint that Lansdon filed on Aug. 31 with the Nevada Equal Rights Commission. Lansdon, a Control Board agent since 1979, declined to discuss her charges other than to say they were "very serious." However, her Sparks attorney, James Stone, confirmed they involved alleged sexual harassment, overall harassment, sex discrimination and failure to promote.

"We are talking about day in and day out harassment," Stone said. "It started the day she walked into the Reno office. There is a substantial case here in my opinion."

Stone said Lansdon has kept a diary of the alleged harassment, which began in 1981 when she was transferred from the Las Vegas



Billy Suggs

office. He said the problem of verbal abuse and job-related discrimination has been compounded since Lansdon became the only woman agent in Reno in September 1983, when agent Virginia Long quit. The board hired a second woman for the Reno office last month.

Suggs, who has been enforcement chief for nearly half of his 10 years with the board, was on vacation Monday and could not be reached for comment.

Bail hiked for Shannon

Sexual assault acts continue to plague former professional boxer Willie Lee Shannon.

Shannon "is very charming and attractive to women one minute, but the next he turns violent verbally and physically," Deputy District Attorney Bobbie O'Neale said Thursday.

O'Neale had just convinced District Judge Donald Mosley to raise Shannon's bail on an Oct. 19, 1983, sexual assault charge involving a 29-year-old woman

Deputy Chief Ron Kopeko, who heads the Reno office and was charged with sexual harassment, also could not be reached. Control Board Chairman James Avance referred all inquiries about the complaint to Murphy.

Control Board records show that of the 34 agents and chiefs in Las Vegas, five are women. There are now two women among the 21 agents in Reno. The Elko office has three male agents.

The enforcement division investigates and arrests casino cheaters, hears jackpot disputes, maintains an accurate count of gaming devices in the state and oversees a lab that tests new machines.

from \$35,000 to \$100,000. He is scheduled to stand trial on that charge Dec. 3.

Shannon, 32, of 1316 Hewitt St., has been in jail for the past two weeks after he was picked up on an arrest warrant from an Aug. 29 incident.



SHANNON THE CANNON

He allegedly ripped a gold chain from the neck of one of his girlfriends, O'Neal said. He was charged with battery with intent to commit a crime, robbery and possession of stolen property.

Bail on those charges was set at \$140,000.

LV man in good condition after receiving new heart

The owner of a Las Vegas escort service was reported in "very good" condition Sunday after receiving a heart transplant from actor Jon-Erik Hexum.

"He's alert and responding very, very well," a spokesman for Pacific Presbyterian Hospital in San Francisco said. "He's very stable and in very good condition."

Friends and family of Michael O'Neil Washington, 36, owner of Swinging Suzy's, 2949 Industrial Road, an-

nounced Saturday that Washington was given the actor's heart in a successful operation Friday afternoon.

The hospital spokesman would neither confirm nor deny Washington received the heart, saying the patient had requested anonymity.

Hexum, the star of CBS-TV's "Cover Up," died six days after he accidentally shot himself in the right temple with a blank cartridge from a .44 Magnum on the show's set.

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Public Service Commission will hear two Nevada Power Company rate applications November 15, 1984 in Las Vegas

Two separate Nevada Power Company rate applications will be heard before the Public Service Commission starting at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, November 15, 1984 at 2501 E. Sahara Avenue.

The first application deals with a request to recover costs for developing a Resource Plan, mandated by the 1983 Nevada Legislature. The actual increase amounts to .016 cents per kilowatt hour and represents an average monthly increase on a residential customer's bill of 18 cents. In preparing the Resource Plan the company spent \$471,753.

On the same date the Company will also present its request for a deferred energy adjustment increase of \$13,150,546. This amount represents expenses for fuel and purchased power not collected in rates during the March 1/August 31, 1984 period. The Company also seeks to decrease its base tariff energy rate. If this application is approved, the average residential customer's monthly bill would increase 9.6 per cent or \$5.61 for six months beginning December 1, 1984.

The Public Service Commission hearings on November 15, 1984 are open to the public.

NEVADA POWER COMPANY

