

Sleeping Ban Vigil and Peace Camp

Where? On the Steps of the County Courthouse

When? Night-after-Night 8 PM to 8:30 AM until the Ban is lifted

Why? To provide a Safe place to sleep and restore Homeless Rights

- Santa Cruz is a City where the government has declared war on poor and homeless people.
- City Council authorizes police to harass them for sitting down, begging, or for sleeping at night.
- Council intends to pass a new law July 13th intensifying the punishment for sleeping. It will make sleep itself a misdemeanor crime punishable by up to a year in jail and \$1000 fine if there are three other infraction tickets outstanding.

Contact City Council at 420-5020 to stop this bad law.

- Available emergency shelter space for homeless people available is limited to 8% of the homeless population. There is no walk-in Shelter Space available.
- In this atmosphere of oppression and criminality, local attorney and candidate for Congress, Ed Frey is defending homeless defendant, **Robert "Blindbear" Facer**. Facer was convicted of two sleeping ban tickets on nights when there was no shelter available. Facer's appeal was delayed by the courts until September with all sleeping outside illegal in the meantime.

Contact Ed Frey at 479-8911 to support legal challenges to the Ban.

"Homeless people can't wait until September to sleep. We need to act now. Peoples' very lives are at stake." --Ed Frey

The Peace Camp will be held nightly 8PM-8AM until the City of Santa Cruz suspends the Sleeping Ban or creates sufficient safe and legal shelter for those who are in need.

- Participants are asked not to bring alcohol or drugs.
- Peaceful protest and vigil at night in front of the County Building is a legal activity.
- Sleeping outside is not legal. . Those who choose to fall asleep may be cited or arrested.
- Those who are there to witness but not sleep nor covered up with blankets are legal and, presumably, constitutionally protected.
- Come and spend time at the Peace Camp even if you can't stay the night.

Alternate contacts: **Homeless United for Friendship and Freedom (HUFF)** at 831 423-HUFF or e-mail Becky Johnson at becky_johnson222@hotmail.com

Regular news updates at www.indybay.org/santacruz.

To join the HUFF e-mail list, send an e-mail to rmorse3@hotmail.com

Food, blanket, and clothing donations are welcome.