

June 14, 2011 Xavier Ortiz Arraignment

Yesterday was the arraignment on the assault charge against Xavier Ortiz in Magistrate Court and it was a farce. The courtroom was filled with the Ortiz family and the Wade family. Charlie and I were alone and subject to many evil looks and nasty stares which we ignored. We were also trapped inside the building as we did not care to tempt fate by walking through this hostile group outside this court building without witnesses. After approximately one half hour, the crowd broke up and when the last two vehicles containing the Wades pulled away, we walked over to my car.

Mr. Ortiz, equipped with an oxygen kit and clutching his heart tried to turn the arraignment into the actual trial claiming that he needed to get the case over with as he could not stand the harassment from "his" (pointing at Charlie) group who are distressing him with his bad heart. When Judge Naranjo asked who harassing him, Ortiz gestured to Charlie and said, "Him, I think his name is Charlie Wagner." He rambled on describing the harassment of phone calls and trying to make him sign papers from Charlie which was very odd as we didn't even know his name until the police officer at the District Courthouse told us who he was.

The Judge whose patience was beyond belief told him to file a complaint if he was being harassed and explained time and time again that arraignment and trial were two separate things. This was the classic example of the assaulter claiming to be the victim. It would have been more effective if Ortiz had not kept turning his back to the Judge to make evil faces at Charlie. The constant switch from poor little whiner to not so big bad wolf was fascinating. How someone who is a stranger to us could hate us so much is a puzzlement. The feeling in that courtroom was tangible and horrid.

The trial will be scheduled for about a month from the arraignment and we will make sure to have backup for witness and protection.

Charlene Wagner

(Photo)



Xavier Ortiz buttonholes reporter outside court house after charges of assault
(Audio of the conversation on <http://www.informedcynic.com/2011-press-release.html>)