

# local news

## OCA watch

Oregon Citizens Alliance targets Just Out advertiser, and Al Mobley rejoins as vice chairman

by Inga Sorensen

The highly conservative and extremist Oregon Citizens Alliance has targeted at least one *Just Out* advertiser in its latest attack on the state's lesbian and gay citizenry. The OCA—which is leading an effort to amend the Oregon Constitution to declare homosexuality perverse and abnormal—has launched a harassment campaign against Stan Wiley Realtors and its agent Millynn James, who has advertised in *Just Out* for nearly a year.

According to James, OCA officials have telephoned both her and her branch manager to complain that a "family-oriented" business such as Stan Wiley is advertising in a "publication designed for homosexuals." James says the OCA's Multnomah County director, Bill Casey, has been the primary perpetrator of these calls. "I told him that both I and Stan Wiley are against all forms of discrimination in housing, and that we serve all types of families," she says. "He didn't seem to like my response and hung up."

Casey then contacted Nadine Santos, James' branch manager. "He said things like he felt that Stan Wiley had better morals than that," Santos explains. "I told him not only did I approve Millynn's ad, but that my experiences with gays have been absolutely wonderful." Santos adds that her entire office has since discussed placing a full page ad in *Just Out*. "This really angered all of us so much. I think it's actually positive because it's making people who typically wouldn't get involved, be involved."

The OCA has threatened to take its complaint to the company's president, but both James and Santos say they expect to have their employer's full backing. The OCA, meanwhile, has declined

comment to *Just Out* on this or any other topic. Angered by our recent listing of businesses that advertise with an OCA publication, spokesman Scott Lively says his organization will no longer grant interviews to *Just Out*. It appears that many OCA advertisers have received letters and phone calls of protest. At least one advertiser, Allstate Insurance in the Hollywood district, has canceled its advertising.

The OCA claims it has nothing to do with an anti-gay flier that was recently circulated around the city. The flier says "Free Jeffrey Dahmer...(all he did was kill homosexuals)." Dahmer is the Milwaukee man accused of killing and dismembering 17 men. It describes Dahmer as "Our Hero" and includes the OCA's name, address and telephone number. OCA officials deny any link to the flier, and blame it on Queer Nation. Members of Queer Nation say they had nothing to do with the flier. The OCA, meanwhile, describes the flier as an example of dirty politics—a tactic, it says, it doesn't subscribe to.

That's ironic—especially coming from a group that equates lesbian and gay relationships to having sex with animals, corpses and children.

Al Mobley has rejoined the OCA as its vice-chairman. Mobley, you may recall, yanked a victory from the Republicans during the last gubernatorial election by splitting the GOP vote and essentially handing the victory to Barbara Roberts. Mobley left the organization but has since returned. As OCA observers have forewarned, Mobley says his group seeks to broaden its base of support in the upcoming months, thus making efforts of the lesbian and gay community to forge strong coalitions all that much more important.

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