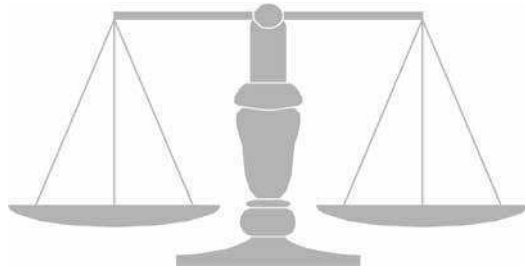


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# Prescription Trafficking Busted

## 20 defendants charged with opiate distribution



Julie Ann Demille



A federal grand jury in Portland has indicted a licensed Oregon nurse practitioner and her office manager along with 18 co-conspirators for unlawfully disbursing oxycodone and hydrocodone out of a southeast Portland wellness center.

Julie Ann Demille, 58, and Osasuyi Kenneth Idumwonyi, 55, are at the forefront of the case for

conspiring to provide the co-conspirator defendants with prescription opiates at the price of \$200 per visit at their Fusion Wellness Clinic, 2442 S.E. 101st Ave.

Demille has also been charged with two counts of falsifying statements to the Drug Enforcement Administration, which worked with the Oregon State Board of Nursing on the 15 month long investigation.

The co-conspirators involved in the case range in ages from 30-63 and are accused of helping Demille and Idumwonyi distribute the drugs to at least 400 customers while the Fusion Wellness Clinic was still open for business.

If found guilty, each defendant could face a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, authorities said.

# Holding Ground

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

net is simply insufficient to catch these people. They will be dispersed into surrounding neigh-

borhoods - even more estranged from social services."

While the mayor seeks to keep the evacuation benevolent and symbiotic between the housed and the houseless, some of the campers feel quite the opposite effect is in place.

Tyrone, a minority camper that occupies a section on the Springwater just underneath where the I-205 meets Southeast 92nd, expressed a mild inequality in treatment during these first stages of the removal process.

"They got favoritism out here," Tyrone told the Portland Observer, sharing pictures on his shattered phone screen of parts of his camp that had been stepped on and ripped apart by city code enforcement officials who didn't do that to other camps.

Word of the eviction extension blew through the encampment shortly after it was announced last week, but a combination of rumors and previous behavior by the city still leave Tyrone and other campers uneasy.

"Thirty days is still just 30 days," Tyrone said. "I hear they're going to have military forces out here to do it."

Another camper named Damien expressed more worry over plans to accommodate some homeless individuals to a nearby vacant property, the so-called Kalbrenner site off Southeast 105th Avenue and Reedway. Advocates for the homeless say the property has environmental and human health risks due to contaminated soil.

Damien also shows frustration

with some of the camps on the Springwater Corridor that are not kept clean. As garbage and waste collects, the bad image the campers are receiving grows.

"People just need to keep their camps clean and there wouldn't be a problem," Damien said.

He also mentions how the corridor offers more in terms of nooks and crannies for campers to set up and have more privacy, which is to him something the 5-acre Kalbrenner property lacks.

Both men admitted that theft and altercations are fluidic occurrences throughout the encampment and haven't been alleviated with the recent tensions.

"I knew this girl whose boy would beat her every day and I tried helping her but she kept running back to him. I can't stand that," Tyrone added, also bringing up a shooting and a fire that happened along the trail.

"I guarantee if my kids were still out here that shooting and that fire wouldn't have happened," Tyrone said.

He asserted that his children were taken from him during a social service provider walk-through at the beginning of the mayor's sweep process. He's unsure of where his children are currently located.

Hales said a major cleanup in one month will balance our need to treat people humanely, with the "need to restore the Springwater to a public asset."

For Tyrone, at least, the city's restorative attempts may be fruitless efforts.

"Peoples' still not gonna leave," Tyrone says. "We're gonna hold our ground."

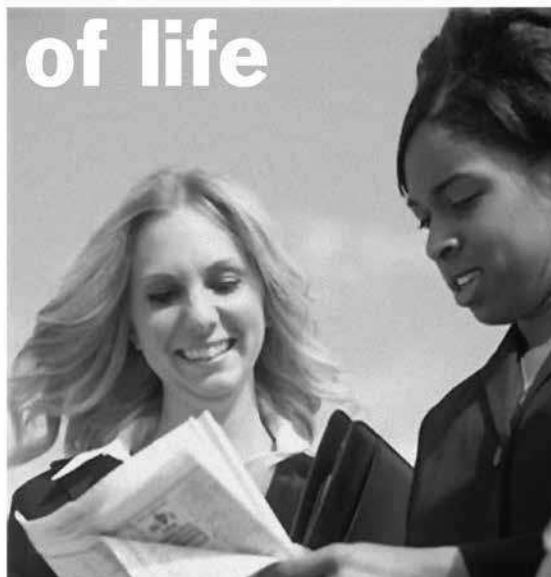
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