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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

March 16, 1973

3-22-73

Councilman Leon Williams
City Council Offices
City Administration Building
Second and "C" Street
San Diego, California, 92101

Councilman Williams

I am writing to complain about the illegal arrest of my son, David Gary Todd (19), by the San Diego Police Department.

On March 15, 1973, at approximately 10:15 p.m. four San Diego Police Officers, in uniform, came to David's apartment which is located on my property in the rear of my residence and accused him of having committed a robbery on February 15, 1973. David who had no knowledge of any robbery agreed to accompany the officers to the Police Station to clear the matter up. Once at the Police Station, the officers photographed David and took his fingerprints; without an explanation, the officers took David back to his apartment and confiscated his portable television stating that it was taken in a robbery on February 15, 1973. David, knowing that he had purchased the television almost a year ago, asked the officers if they would check with his mother who was inside the main house just a few feet away. This request was denied. The officers handcuffed David and took him and his television back to the police station. David was subsequently taken to the San Diego County Jail where he remained until approximately 3:00 p.m. the next day. David was released from jail without an interview or charges.

My complaint is this:

1. How can a person be arrested without a warrant and without cause? The officers had no warrant and there was no evidence to connect David with a crime.
2. How can officers come to a person's home and take his property?
3. Why didn't the officers let David contact his mother who was just inside the house? The matter regarding the television could have been cleared up.
4. Is this a common practice of the San Diego Police Department to arrest at will without evidence?
5. How can this arrest be expunged from David's record?
6. If a police officer wanted to talk to David, why didn't he come out during the daytime and treat him like a man? It is embarrasing, shocking and dehumanizing to be arrested out of your home during the late hours of the night and placed in jail for a

crime of which you have no knowledge whatsoever.

7. Lastly, I would like to know how can further incidents of this nature be prevented?

Sincerely,

Amos Todd

Amos Todd

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