

Strip clubs cited for violations

Police say Cadillac Alley provided improper entertainment by allowing dancers to perform while alcohol was being consumed at the facility.

By JASON FAGONE
Collegian Staff Writer

Two area strip clubs are in trouble with the law, but owner Carl Easterling said he is not worried.

Police recently filed summary charges against Cadillac Alley, 445 Railroad Ave., and Cadillac Carl's Cabaret in Milroy. Easterling is the president of Hard Rack Cadillac Inc., the corporation that owns Cadillac Alley. He is also the president and owner of Cadillac Carl's.

According to the State College Police Department, Easterling and Timothy Justice, a manager at Cadillac Alley, allowed female dancers to perform totally nude on three separate occasions while alcohol was being served. Under the state law, "prohibition of certain types of entertainment on bottle club premises," bottle clubs cannot allow alcohol to be consumed while dancers perform "lewd, immoral or improper entertainment," defined in part as total nudity.

Patrons cannot be charged under the bottle club law.

Philipsburg state police have filed charges against operators and employees at Cadillac Carl's for

similar violations of the bottle club regulations. Easterling said he has not yet received any citations for crime code infractions at Cadillac Carl's.

"I am in complete belief that whatever may be pending on my clubs will be resolved in a favorable manner," Easterling said.

He denied being present at Cadillac Alley on the nights in question, and said he is not completely sure the dancers were totally nude.

"To the best of my knowledge, we were in compliance with the law," Easterling said. "It's my belief we were not acting as a bottle club deserving of any violations. The police department's position is that it is a bottle club conducting business illegally, and that has yet to be proven."

The Crimes Code of Pennsylvania defines a bottle club as an establishment in which alcohol is either provided to patrons by employees or brought into the establishment by the patrons.

"In layman's terms, that would be a BYOB club," said Sgt. Dana Leonard of the State College Police Department. "That would cover your own bottles, and stuff that is provided by the owner or one of his agents."

Cadillac Alley is dry for now, Justice said.

"Whatever they say we're doing wrong, we're going to comply with them," Justice said. "Right now we're not going to give the beer away for free anymore. The girls



Collegian Photo/Kurt Redeker

Police recently filed charges against the strip club Cadillac Alley, seen here. The club, located at 445 Railroad Ave., is charged with violating bottle club regulations.

will still dance in here, but there's no alcohol on the premises whatsoever."

Easterling confirmed that adjustments have been made to the way in which the club operates.

"At this point, there's g-strings, pasties and no alcohol, which is what we had been doing for a long, long time," he said.

As he tones down the Alley's activities, Easterling is fighting the summary offense. He plead not guilty to the charge, which carries

a maximum fine of \$300 and a 90-day jail term. District Justice Carmine Prestia will conduct the hearing, scheduled for Sept. 19 at the District Court building, 224 S. Fraser St.

Although he respects the State College Police Department, Easterling said, he believes strongly in freedom of expression.

"Legislating morality is always going to be a touchy situation," he said. "I believe in common sense, not censorship."

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