

## Fundraiser Set For Sheriff Facing Felony Charges



Ricky Headley



FRANKLIN, Tenn. - Supporters of Williamson County Sheriff Ricky Headley have organized a benefit concert featuring different country music stars.

It takes place Saturday in Franklin.

It was organized to help the sheriff

who faces felony charges.

"Several people had called me, said he's done so much for the city, we need to do something for him," said Bobby Bennett, a Headley supporter.

Last January, an undercover drug sting sent Headley to jail.

Police said he illegally got prescription painkillers from a Nashville pharmacy. Headley faces more than 30 criminal counts in two counties.

"If I didn't have people to help me in a time of crisis, I don't know where I'd be today," Headley said in court.

Stonewall Jackson, Jimmy C. Newman and Jim Ed Brown are scheduled to perform at the event. Tickets are \$40 each and the money goes toward Headley's defense fund.

Critics such as Pat Steele question the efficacy of such an event.

"It seems to me that it would be common sense that it's wrong," Steele said. "Absolutely insane," said John Ian. "Why in the world would we help someone or bail somebody out when they broke the law? They should be reprimanded for breaking the law."

"It's something wrong about this," Steele said.

While the idea of the fundraiser is enough to leave naysayers speechless, supporters such as Bennett said everyone deserves a second chance. "To those critics I just say we're all humans," he said. "We make mistakes."

Country legend George Jones is scheduled to attend that fundraiser. But organizers don't know if he'll take the stage Saturday night. Headley's supporters have 800 tickets available for the fundraiser. They hope to contribute \$32,000 to the sheriff's defense fund.

Headley faces criminal charges in Davidson and Williamson counties. He is represented by Nashville attorney David Raybin.



Bobby Bennett



Pat Steele