



22

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# Bride beats bigamy botch

By DAREH GREGORIAN

Wedding bells can ring for club queen Desiree Gonzalez — now that a Manhattan judge has divorced her from two “phantom” husbands.

Gonzalez — co-owner of rap giant Jay-Z’s 40/40 Club — found out about her mystery men this past May, when she went to the Municipal Building to get a marriage license.

“Instead,” Justice William Wetzel wrote, “she got the surprise of her life when she was informed that she was ineligible for another marriage license because according to the city clerk’s records she was concurrently married to two other men!”

Gonzalez had been married twice before — but not to the two people listed by the city, whom she has never met, said her lawyer, Douglas Colbert.

Still, the bureaucratic bungling meant Gonzalez had to delay her wedding — a wait made even longer when the city fought her attempts to clear her record, Colbert said.

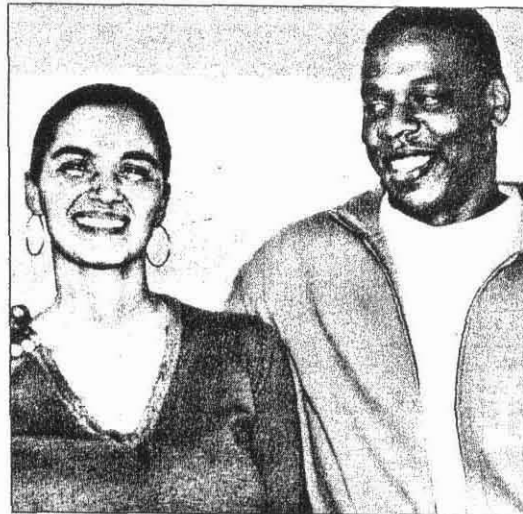
“They held her up for months” before Wetzel rescued her, Colbert said.

Gonzalez, 35, had been married twice before — but not to either of the men the city claimed, her court papers say.

Her first wedding was to Joel Reinoso in 1988, a union that produced two children and that ended in tragedy in 1995, when Reinoso was killed in a parachuting accident on Long Island.

Gonzalez remarried in 1998, but that union ended in amicable divorce this year.

At the clerk’s office, Gonzalez was told she was also



**HITCH:** Club queen Desiree Gonzalez, with pal Jay-Z, can now wed after a clerical error recorded her as already married — to two men. N.Y. Post: Jennifer Weisbord

married to two other men — but the clerk wouldn’t tell her who. Gonzalez got Colbert involved, and he learned the other “grooms” were a man named Guillermo Gutierrez and another named Hector Saldariagga — two people Gonzalez didn’t know.

A private investigator was hired to find the men the judge refers to as the “phantom husbands,” but the addresses listed on the license were phonies — as were Gonzalez’s address and signature on the forms, Colbert said.

The city said it couldn’t void the marriages without the “phantom husbands” — and then questioned whether Gonzalez’s divorce filing and her late husband’s death certificate were authentic.

“That’s the outrageous part of this,” Colbert said.

The city’s lawyers said

they were “concerned” because Reinoso’s first name was spelled with a “G” on the wedding license, but with a “J” on the death certificate.

“I don’t think I need to order an exhumation to resolve this one,” Wetzel wrote — noting that Reinoso had signed his name with a “J” on the wedding license. He ordered the city to process her marriage application “without regard to the two marriages of record to the ‘phantom husbands,’” which he said “are to be deemed a nullity.”

Gonzalez declined comment and would not identify her fiancé.

But she may not want to start mailing the invitations just yet. Gabriel Taussig, of the city Law Department, said “we are considering our legal options, including whether to appeal.”

Allan R. Pearlman was hired by the lawyer for the bride-to-be. He wrote the prevailing argument on behalf of the bride-to-be.