

Rights Agency Calls Hearing On Neo-Nazi

The Philadelphia Human Relations Commission has scheduled a hearing June 2 to investigate the conduct of self-proclaimed white supremacist, Charles Kress, 36, of Cumberland st. near Sepviva, Kensington.

A spokesman for the commission said yesterday the hearing is to air charges brought against Kress by the commission and two unidentified citizens that Kress's activities "are violating the civil rights of Philadelphians."

Kress, who says he is seeking admission into the National Socialist White People's Party, has used a home telephone-answering device to broadcast antiblack messages for persons.

On Sunday a bomb exploded at the front door of his apartment, but no one was injured.

In issuing the announcement of the hearing, the commission spokesman said:

"We want to issue an appeal for citizens to step forward who have evidence against this man (Kress) which might be a violation of their civil rights or their children's civil rights."

If Kress refused to attend the hearing he will be subpoenaed, the spokesman said.

He described Kress as a "neighborhood Hitler" who allegedly distributed "hate literature" at Penn Treaty Junior High School in an effort to stir antiblack sentiment.

The spokesman said the commission was initiating the action under the public accommodations section of the city's Fair Practices Code. The commission is charged with enforcement of that code.