

## Paying Federal Income Taxes?

By Edward Snook  
Investigative Reporter

USA - Volumes have been written on the subject of paying or not paying the federal income tax even though the subject is very simple. Our founders didn't create an income tax because to do so would have been totally against the principles of freedom, just as it would have paved the way (which it now has) for absolute federal control.

A number of our founding fathers warned us regarding the dangers of a powerful central government. We have all witnessed the alarming growth of America's federal government and the control that it has over us, but most fail to even consider whether the growth is right or wrong, because most Americans have been lulled into a sense of false security.

Our public schools stopped teaching the Constitution and Bill of Rights (supreme law of the land) years ago in order to dumb down Americans to the fact that the supreme law of the land contradicts a great number of acts we are witnessing our government perform. From the Internal Revenue Service, to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Education, Department of Transportation, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Justice, U. S. Forest Service, etc., etc., we have watched this government violate the very law that was created by our founders to protect us from the extreme control these unconstitutional agencies have over us. The founders cherished

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## DA Campbell – Ex-DA Nifong Willfully Wasting Taxpayers' Dollars

By Edward Snook  
Investigative Reporter

Josephine County, OR - On October 6, 2006 Josephine County District Attorney Stephen Campbell filed false charges ranging from Reckless Driving to Assault In The Fourth Degree against Stanley Strange, Glen Seybold and Louie Pombo.

The three motorcyclists were out on a Sunday afternoon enjoying their ride when they were, according to eye witnesses, harassed by one Eric Hill who was driving his Mercedes with two friends ( read "To Hate A Biker!" at [www.usobserver.com](http://www.usobserver.com)).

After being tailgated for nearly three miles, Strange and Seybold pulled off of Highway 199 across from McGrew's Restaurant and Lounge in O'Brien, Oregon. Pombo had fallen behind and was no longer with Strange and Seybold. Hill stopped in the middle of his lane, backing up traffic. An extremely upset Strange got off his motorcycle and approached the driver's side of



This pictorial depicts Josephine County, Oregon District Attorney Stephen Campbell (left) with the man he defended in a public forum, Ex-Durham County, North Carolina, DA Mike Nifong (right).

Hill's vehicle shaking his finger at Hill and asking him, "what the hell do you think you are doing?" Hill's window was wide open as Strange continued shaking his finger and demanding an answer. At this juncture Hill hit his electric window button trapping Strange's arm. According to eye witnesses, Hill then accelerated and drug Strange approximately 15-20 feet,

before Strange was able to pull his arm free.

Strange immediately crossed 199 to McGrew's to seek assistance and call 911. A patron helped Stan clean up his bleeding and damaged arm and a call was placed to 911 by an employee. The three bikers had waited over an hour for the Oregon State Police (OSP) to

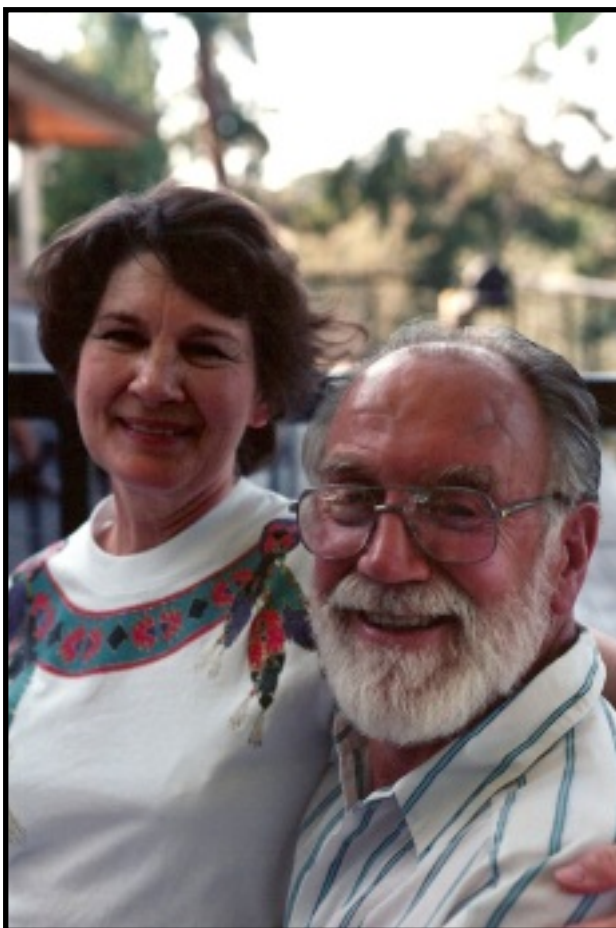
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## How The IRS Steals Estates From Beneficiaries & Heirs

By Edward Snook  
Investigative Reporter

*Editor's Note: Read this invaluable article very carefully and you will clearly see how Jackson County Clerk Kathy Beckett, Lawyer's Title Company, two county attorneys, one state judge and two federal judges aid and abet the IRS in their "crimes of financial rape". In Jackson County, Oregon this happens several hundred times each year, you just don't hear about it.*

*The cornerstone of justice in this nation used to be due process of law – however, the out-of-control IRS, for decades has been simply pulling figures (they say is owed) out of thin air, attaching it to a person*



Caroline and Bruce Carpenter, "targets" of the IRS.

*using an uncertified notice and then confiscating their property. No trial, no court and absolutely no due process!*

Jackson County, OR - Over the last seventeen years, IRS Revenue Officer (RO) Art Trainor has made Bruce and Caroline Carpenter's lives a virtual hell by pursuing the Carpenters as if he were waging some kind of personal war against some horrible criminals. Is this any way to treat an old World War II veteran and his family? From day one this non-statutory agency planned to intimidate, control and break the Carpenter family (the targets), whose alleged offenses were setting up a lawful trust for their daughter and type 1 Diabetic

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## OK Dept. of Corrections Misconduct?

By Verna Wood  
Investigative Reporter

Lexington, OK - Is there anything worse than being innocent and in prison, locked away from the free world and from your family? Can a person who is already in prison be punished further? Yes, he can. Being locked up in solitary confinement and losing the few privileges a person is allowed can make life even more painful. These sanctions are usually punishment for some type of misconduct such as possession of drugs or cigarettes or some type of weapon. Fighting and other forms of violence are also reasons for loss of privileges. Before an inmate loses his privileges he goes through a hearing process during which he must be found guilty as

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## 1st North American Union (NAU) Drivers Licenses Issued in US

Jim Kouri, CPP  
[NewsWithViews.com](http://NewsWithViews.com)

*Editor's Note: This article is based on a report received by the National Association of Chiefs of Police.*

While the battle over providing illegal aliens with driver's licenses rages in state capitals and Washington, DC, North Carolina created the first "North American Union" driver's license, complete with a hologram of the North American continent on the licenses.

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# The Grange Adopted Resolutions for a Stronger America

The National Grange is the nation's oldest national agricultural organization, with grassroots units established in 3,600 local communities in 37 states. Its 300,000 members provide service to agriculture and rural areas on a wide variety of issues, including economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure a strong and viable Rural America. It was formed in the years following the American

Each year, a listing of more than 1,400 issues of concern is published and distributed by the National Grange.

## Grange Resolution

### Support H.R. 5860

### Amend the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986



Grange Headquarters,  
Washington, D.C.

Civil War to unite private citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population. Over the past 137 years, it has evolved to include non-farm rural families and communities.

The Grange is also a fraternal order known as the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, hence the "P of H" on the organization's logo. Founding members determined that a fraternal organization would be best able to combine loyalty and democratic ideals to provide service to others. The National Grange was one of the first formal groups to admit women to membership on the basis of equality with men. It remains so today.

The 11-story landmark National Grange headquarters building in Washington, D.C. was dedicated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on June 29, 1960, and is the only private edifice in a federal block across from the White House. It serves as a non-governmental headquarters for agricultural and rural families.

**Whereas:** The passage of H.R. 5860 would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow above-the-line deduction for state and local and foreign, real property taxes.

**Whereas:** H.R. 5860 Bill states the following: Section 1. Deduction for real property taxes allowed whether or not tax payer itemizes other deductions.

(a) In General - Subsection (a) of Section 62 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining adjusted gross income) is amended by inserting before the last sentence the following new paragraph:

'(21) Real Property Taxes - The deduction allowed by Section 164 for real property taxes described in section 164(a)(1).'

(b) Effective Date - The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

**Therefore be it resolved:** That the Oregon State Grange supports the passage of U.S. Congressional H.R. 5860 Bill which will amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow deduction for real property taxes on income tax forms without having to itemize other deductions.

**This resolution was adopted by the Deer Creek Grange #371 at its regular meeting held on May 14, 2007.**

**This resolution was adopted by the Oregon State Grange at its 134th Annual Session haeld at Jefferson, Oregon, week of June 17-22, 2007.**

*William D. Waggoner, Master*  
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For more on the Grange go to:  
[www.nationalgrange.org](http://www.nationalgrange.org)

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# Jurors' True Duties

## Take back control before it's too late

By US-Observer Staff

*Editor's Note: The information in this article can and will make a difference. It is imperative that this knowledge finds its way into the hands of all potential jurors. We will be reprinting this article in upcoming editions.*

**AMERICA** - During the early years of the United States, up to the mid 1800s, you could get tossed in prison for failing to pay back your debts. Not only were you expected to come up with the money to pay back what you owed, but you also had to pay for your imprisonment!

Today, it is still possible to be thrown or remain in jail for debt. Debts of fraud, child-support, alimony, or release fines can land you in jail or prevent you from being set free. This is the government's goal when prosecuting income tax cases. Apparently we have become desensitized to incarcerating men and women in what should rightfully be called "debtor's prison."

Anybody who is called to be on jury duty for any court should know their responsibilities, rights and power. The jury has the absolute moral and legal power to judge all cases on the basis of the fairness and reasonableness of the law. Corrupt judges have suppressed this information so most of us are not aware of the jury's power. At the time of our nation's founding, when many judges were honest, this power was not hidden as it is today. The jury has the undisputed power to acquit, even if its verdict is contrary to the law as given by the judge and contrary to the evidence. The judges want to keep this power secret so they can continue to force all of us to obey unfair and unreasonable laws. The judge will instruct the jury that they must make their decision based on the facts as presented during the trial and in strict accord with the law as stated by the judge. The jury does not legally have to adhere to the judge's instructions. This is because in a jury trial, the real "judge" is the jury itself, and the judge in the black robe only has the power to oversee the orderly presentation of the case to the jury, while it is the jury that is the proper "judge" of both the facts and the law involved in the particular case at hand.

Every prospective juror has not only the right but the obligation to himself and his fellow Americans to see that justice is done and to remember that ignoring an unjust law is sometimes the juror's only recourse to achieve a just verdict which would be NOT GUILTY.

Example: The year was 1670, and William Penn was on trial for violation of the "Conventicle Act." This Act made the Church of England the only legal church. The Act was struck down by a not guilty vote. Freedom of Religion was established and became part of the English Bill of Rights and later it became the First Amendment to the Constitution. William Penn most likely would have been executed if the jurors would have yielded to the guilty verdict sought by the judge and prosecutor.

It is an irrefutable fact that our system of justice has been stolen or better yet swindled from us by attorneys over past decades. Judges are part of this swindle in that they are also attorneys. The legal profession in America has denigrated itself from one of ethics to one of "legalized" theft.

The vast majority of people in this country are petrified of attorneys, judges, prosecutors, the IRS and in many cases corrupt "law enforcement officers." In a free and just nation this would not be the case.

The answers to the problems with our "legal system" appear to be complex, when they actually aren't. Americans must bridle our out of control "legal system" or we are all in for a world of hurt.

We live in a land where hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens can march in our streets, right in front of law enforcement and where border patrol agents are imprisoned for doing their job in attempting to stop an illegal alien drug smuggler from bringing drugs across our border. U.S. District Court Judge Kathleen Cardone in El Paso, Texas, sentenced Jose Alonso Compean to 12 years in prison and Ignacio Ramos to 11 years and one day despite a plea by their attorney for a new trial after three jurors said they were coerced into voting guilty in the case, the Washington Times reported. Judge Cardone is corrupt and the jurors in this case were anything but "fully informed" regarding their true duties. As happens in court rooms across this nation every day, the judge actually instructed the jury to find these agents guilty.

Realizing that our justice system closely resembles a slaughter house where cattle are herded through chutes to their execution, something has to be done and the obvious place to start is with our juries. If a person is called to jury duty they need to realize that they are the real "judge" of the case. If the court excuses the jury to make private decisions, that the court doesn't want the jury to hear (exclude evidence from them), then all responsible jurors should simply come back with a Not Guilty verdict. If the judge in any given case even hints at instructing the jury to find a defendant guilty, responsible jurors must deliver a Not Guilty verdict. And above all else, if the law purportedly broken by a defendant is presented to the jury and that law is either vague, ambiguous or appears to be a bad law, the jury must deliver a Not Guilty verdict. This won't be hard for jurors in income tax cases because they won't be shown any law since it doesn't exist.

It is a fact that we have some down right dangerous criminals living among us and when bad people commit crimes they need to be properly punished, however, far too many innocent citizens are falsely prosecuted in our courts and it is up to all of us to make sure we are fully informed regarding the rights and duties of being a juror.

The government is working hard to "dumb down" the American public. They want all people reliant on it for everything including the ability to think. The government controls the people by controlling their thought processes. This welfare society it's creating is a far cry from the God fearing, independent, hard working, productive, family oriented people God created us to be. Who says we should stop thinking for ourselves and use common sense in making decisions? In reality and if we don't change the course we are on, it won't be too far down the road that we won't be allowed to think or make decisions, because government is rapidly taking these rights from us. Jurors had better wake up before the jury itself is gone... ■



# Are You a Victim of False Prosecution?

If you are then you are aware of how the ‘justice’ industry (racket) in America works. You (**the innocent person**) are falsely charged with a crime. Most of the time you receive a myriad of stacked charges intended for the sole purpose of extracting a “plea bargain” from you.

You then rush to an attorney, pay him a retainer to cover the usual \$150.00 per hour (if not higher), which he/she charges, to supposedly defend your innocence. The attorney usually files some motions, writes some worthless letters and makes many unproductive (unless they pertain to you accepting a plea bargain) phone calls until you are broke. Generally you haven’t even started your trial and 99% of the time the attorney hasn’t completed any investigation.

All of a sudden your attorney is telling you that you can’t win your

case and you should accept the benevolent plea bargain that the almighty district attorney has offered you. “Do you want to take the chance on spending 30-40 years in prison when you can plea bargain for 18 months,” your attorney tells you. What happened to: “I think we can win this case, it’s a good case.” Remember? Isn’t that pretty close to what your attorney told you as he/she was relieving you of your money?

You then accept a plea bargain and go to jail or you have a jury trial, you’re found guilty (because your attorney hasn’t produced enough evidence-if any and because the judge directs the jury to find you guilty) and then you go to jail. When you finally wake up you realize that on top of now being a criminal, you are flat broke and incarcerated. You find that the very person (your attorney) you frantically rushed to retain, became your worst enemy.

## Wel come to the Largest racket in history, the American Justice System.

There is only one way to remedy a false prosecution: Investigate the accusers, the prosecutors, the detectives and then watch the judge very carefully. In other words, complete an in-depth investigation before you are prosecuted and then take the facts into the public arena.

*The US~Observer* newspaper will not waste your time or your money. This is not a game, it’s your life and your freedom. We do not make deals. If you are innocent, then nobody has the right to steal what belongs to you, most of all, your liberty. Nobody! That includes your attorney—as well as your supposed public servants.

Why have a bad day when it’s still possible to force justice...right down their throats?

If you are innocent and there is conclusive evidence of your innocence, *The US~Observer* provides a 100% money-back guarantee on criminal cases should we fail to prove your innocence and achieve your total vindication. *The US~Observer* investigates cases for news and therefore we don’t print that which can’t be resolved. We want to win, just as you want to prove your innocence.

Do not contact us if you are in any way guilty and for justice sake, don’t wait until they slam the door behind you before contacting us if you are innocent.

In civil cases the scenario is the same except for the incarceration part. Don’t go broke trusting someone who is only concerned with your pocket book!

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# Assignment has Students Renounce US Citizenship

By **Jim Kouri**  
**NewsWithViews.com**

America's government schools are fast becoming the vanguard for the Neo-Marxist/Internationalist power elite to assume control of children in the United States, according to conservative activists and pundits.

Under the guise of educating youngsters, leftists are usurping parental authority from the American people. While the schools work in secret, every once in a while a story is leaked out with most of the news media ignoring the news or soft-soaping it.

For instance, an eighth-grade teacher in Chico, California assigned his 13- and 14-year old students to compose a letter, which encouraged them and their parents to renounce their United States citizenship. The letters -- dictated by the teacher Mike Brooks -- stated in part: "After careful consideration of the facts of our current situation, I have decided to announce to everyone that I am no longer a citizen of the United States, but a free and independent member of the global community."

"The Bidwell Junior High School administrators in the usual cowardly way when leftists are caught in treasonous activity claimed that the letter was a good idea for a history lesson, [but] with bad execution," said J. Martin, a grade school teacher and administrator in New Jersey.

"Schools are always shocked when

parents discover such activity because they count on parents not being involved in their children's education," said the veteran teacher.

The letter prompted phone calls to the school from several irate parents. But in typical fashion, the Bidwell Principal Joanne Parsley "did a political soft-shoe" and told parents the teacher Brooks never intended the parents sign and mail their citizenship renouncement to the White House.

"It was a well-intended lesson that didn't shake out too well," she said, adding that Brooks would not be subject to disciplinary action.

In other words: "Oooooops -- we got caught!"

"The point was, I wanted to ask parents if they would sign such a letter if conditions that existed prior to the Revolution were happening now," Brooks claimed. "I just wanted to start a discussion."

Parsley said Brooks sent the letter out with no explanation or disclaimer, and was relying on students to tell their parents

Chico resident Michael Hill told a Chico newspaper reporter that he was told by his daughter, Kaytlen Hill, 13, that the assignment was to have parents sign the letter and return it to class Wednesday.

"The lesson being taught in class was that the US kidnaps innocent people and takes them to Cuba, where they are kept indefinitely and tortured," Hill told the

Chico Enterprise Record's news writer, Greg Welter, that he learned through his daughter.

When Hill asked her if Brooks mentioned Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where the US imprisons terrorist suspects, he said his daughter replied "yes."

He said his daughter broke into tears when she talked about Brooks mentioning illegal wiretaps and other surveillance directed against innocent people.

"I think I was more irritated by the classroom discussion than the letter," the angry parent told reporter Welter.

In another incident -- also in California -- on November 3, 2006, Allie Martin and Jody Brown of Agape Press wrote the following, concerning a Nov. 2 decision by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals that limited parental rights:

"The case involves the Palmdale School District in California, which notified parents of its intentions to conduct an assessment of children ages seven to ten in order to 'establish a community baseline measure of children's exposure to early trauma (for example, violence).' What the letter to parents did not convey was that ten of the 79 questions on the survey would ask the children about the frequency of 'touching my private parts,' 'thinking about having sex,' 'having sex feelings in my body,' and 'can't stop thinking about sex'" (emphasis added).

In that decision, Judge Stephen

Reinhardt -- considered one of the nations most liberal judges -- writing for the court, stated: "We hold there is no free standing fundamental right of parents 'to control the upbringing of their children by introducing them to matters of and relating to sex in accordance with their personal and religious values and beliefs.'"

Continuing, Judge Reinhardt said: "We conclude only that the parents possessed no constitutional right to prevent the public schools from providing information on [sex education] to their students in any forum or manner they select."

"In other words, the liberal-left administrators and teachers controlling our nation's government schools are free to indoctrinate our children and parents have no right to stop these One-World Government advocates from brainwashing American kids," says conservative political strategist Mike Baker.

"Whether it's about morality or politics, American children are at the mercy of some of the most left-wing and ignorant people in the US -- our so-called educators," accuses Baker.

**Contact: Teacher Mike Brooks:**  
**mbrooks@chicousd.org**

**Bidwell Junior High School:**  
**2376 North Ave, Chico, CA 95926.**  
**(530) 891-3080 • www.chicousd.org**

■ ■ ■

# Audit Finds U.S. Nuclear Weapons Parts Misplaced

By **Tom Doggett**

**WASHINGTON (Reuters)** - Some facilities that handle the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile misplaced classified bomb components under their care, according to an Energy Department audit.

The department's Inspector General also found there was confusion at the facilities over who was responsible for keeping track of weapons parts and recommended changes in how to better safeguard the parts.

John Broehm, a spokesman for the department's National Nuclear Security Administration that oversees the U.S. nuclear weapons arsenal, said his agency disagreed with the recommendations.

He said the parts, which he declined to identify, were later found.

A summary of the IG's audit -- a little-noticed two-page document released in late July -- found that two of the three sites reviewed did not track "many" classified weapons parts in their custody.

The facilities "could not readily account for or locate some of the items included in our inventory sample," the IG summary said.

The Inspector General's office would not elaborate beyond the summary document or say when the audit was done.

Since the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington, the United

States has worried that terrorists may try to buy or steal weapons in other countries to use against it, but the IG's findings raise the possibility of domestic weapons parts getting into the wrong hands.

The IG said it suggested changes to improve tracking and safeguarding the classified weapons parts, but "management did not agree with the report's conclusions and recommendations."

The NNSA said extra accountability controls were not needed on parts for "non-war reserve" weapons, which are used only for routine testing, research and development.

"We're very comfortable that our accountability standards are more than sufficient for keeping track of everything," Broehm said this week.

The IG wanted the same tough standards used for "war reserve" bombs that are ready for use to be applied to all weapons parts.

The NNSA operates at 11 facilities, including three national research laboratories: Los Alamos and Sandia in New Mexico and Livermore in California. The agency also oversees the Pantex Plant near Amarillo, Texas, which is the only U.S. nuclear weapons assembly and disassembly facility.

The IG said details on the problems at the weapons sites would not be made public.

"We're not going to be able to provide any additional information due to

national security," IG spokeswoman Marilyn Richardson said.

However, the IG's summary of its audit broadly addresses the shortcomings discovered.

The summary said security officials at the two sites in question said they were not responsible for keeping track of the weapons parts, even though they

acknowledged they had "certain physical safeguarding responsibilities."

President George W. Bush in 2001 directed that the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile be reduced from about 6,000 operational warheads at the time to between 1,700 and 2,200 by 2012 -- a goal the administration reaffirmed last month.

■ ■ ■

## Ron Paul 2008

### HOPE FOR AMERICA


There is a new group that has just been formed in Grants Pass. The groups name is the **“Ron Paul Meetup”** group. The purpose of the group is to facilitate grassroots campaign organizing, and to promote Congressman Ron Paul's campaign for President of the United States.

We will be discussing ways to spread the word about this great candidate for U.S. President. This group is for those who treasure their liberties and are willing to help get them back. Bring your ideas on how to promote Ron Paul in our area.

For info contact:

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**(541) 866-2783**  
**mancuso@grantspass.com**  
**http://ronpaul.meetup.com/760/**

**Join Us!**  
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Ron Paul



# In The Nation

## Hoffa: Bush creating North American Union *Mexican trucks part of 'master plan' for 'super-government'*

By Jerome R. Corsi  
WorldNetDaily.com

Saying he is convinced "the Bush administration has a master plan to erase all borders and to have a super-government in North America," James P. Hoffa, general president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, celebrated the Senate's 75-23 vote Tuesday night to block the Department of Transportation's Mexican truck demonstration project.

In an exclusive interview with WND, Hoffa argued that the Bush administration push to allow Mexican trucks into the U.S. is symptomatic of a larger administration plan advanced by multi-national corporations to create a European Union-style regional 'super-government' in North America.

"Congress has now spoken out and said Mexican trucks cannot come into the United States until they meet our standards," Hoffa told WND.

He noted the Senate seconded the House's overwhelming 411-3 vote to pass the Safe Roads Act of 2007, a bill also targeted to block the Mexican truck project.

"We're very excited about the Senate vote," Hoffa told WND. "We worked very hard on it. We thought we already had this Mexican truck demonstration project stopped three times before this year, and every time the administration comes right back trying to press this idea of opening the borders to unsafe Mexican trucks."

WND asked Hoffa if he thought Bush would carry out his threat to veto the Department of Transportation funding bill in order to kill the amendment defunding the truck project.

"I just cannot imagine President Bush vetoing a whole major transportation bill," Hoffa answered. "This is only one amendment to this tremendous bill which includes needed funds to repair highway infrastructure and prevent more bridges like the one in Minneapolis on Interstate 35W from collapsing."

"Everybody who's looked at this knows that the Mexican trucks do not meet our standards," Hoffa argued. "Mexico doesn't have drug testing, they don't have mandatory physicals, they don't have the written test, they don't have the proficiency in English, they don't have a reliable national database."

"For us to lower our standards for Mexico is ridiculous," he continued.



"The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration did not demonstrate to the American people or to Congress that we could ensure that allowing Mexican trucks into the U.S. would be safe. It was going to endanger people, it was going to endanger national security, and it was going to endanger good jobs."

Why did Hoffa think the Bush administration was so insistent on pressing forward with the Mexican truck demonstration project?

"President Bush has been determined to jam through this Mexican truck demonstration project because of big business pressure and pressure from President Calderon in Mexico," he answered directly. "Big business wants cheap trucking so they can make more money."

"Unfortunately, you get what you pay for," Hoffa continued. "Just look at all the problems we have had with China – toothpaste with anti-freeze in it, bad dog food, lead paint on the toys for our children."

"You have to have standards here," Hoffa insisted. "We have standards in America. The American trucker has to be careful. He can't get a ticket for drunk driving, even in his own private car. He has to be drug tested."

"Now they're saying we should waive all these standards and not apply them to the Mexican trucker and the Mexican trucking company?" Hoffa asked. "It doesn't make sense."

"But if you want the real answer," Hoffa explained, "it's about money, and it's about the pressure of these big companies wanting to get this Mexican truck deal done now, because they realize that Bush is a lame duck and they figure that if they don't get this done now, they're not going to get this done with a Democratic president in the White House."

As WND reported, at the recent Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America third summit held in Montebello, Quebec, Bush and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper ridiculed the idea that SPP might result in the creation of a North American Union or NAFTA Superhighways.

Hoffa disagreed.

"I think the Bush administration has a master plan to erase all borders and to have a super-government in North America," he argued. "There's talk about mega-ports down in Mexico and superhighway toll roads built with foreign money right into the heart of America."

"I think those things are real and the Mexican truck demonstration project is just one piece in that larger puzzle," Hoffa continued. "The Bush administration figures that once the Mexican trucks get started, the rest will be easy."

I think that the whole plan of this Mexican truck demonstration project is part of a larger overall plan," Hoffa contended. "The goal to basically erase that border so Mexican trucks can run across that border, unload trucks with no security, no supervision, and have them run all the way through from some port on the Pacific Ocean down in Mexico to Kansas City, Detroit and then to

Montreal.

"I am convinced that the plan to create a North American Union is what is going on," Hoffa asserted. "I am convinced big business wants that. Big business hates any types of standards. They don't want to have a minimum wage, they don't want to have safety protections, they don't want to have product inspections, they don't want environmental protection."

"Big business doesn't want to have anything slowing down commerce coming across the borders," he said. "And to do that, they have to erase all standards and they have to have one type of a North American government that would be over Canada, Mexico and the United States."

"I believe there is such a plan," he insisted. "I believe the Mexican truck demonstration project is part of it. I have seen enough to know that this is going on right now."

As WND has reported, Alan S. Blinder, a Princeton University economist who was former Federal Reserve Board vice chairman, told the Wall Street Journal in an interview reported March 28 the U.S. was at risk of 40 million jobs being shipped out of the country to outsourcing in the next decade or two.

The Journal reported 40 million jobs lost would be more than double the total of U.S. workers employed in manufacturing today.

Blinder was a top adviser to President Clinton whose "free trade" views led him to strongly recommend the passage of NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Hoffa was asked about Blinder's prediction.

"Look at the way India is opening up," he answered. "I recently made a trip to China. Unless we stop this with legislation and tariffs and duties on foreign goods, you are not going to have any jobs in this country except flipping hamburgers at McDonalds."

"We've got to stop this now," he continued. "Nothing is inevitable. The problem is that there is an agenda of these globalists and these free traders to ship every good job out of America. Any good job that pays good money, they can find somebody else to do it in India or China or in Hong Kong or wherever. We've got to say enough is enough."

"What about our children?" he asked. "Where are our children going to work? What is the future of this country if there are no good jobs here?"

Hoffa then turned to national security concerns he has about outsourcing.

"We are now at the point where we are farming out technology, we're farming out the manufacturing of airplanes," Hoffa argued. "We're outsourcing some of our biggest secrets, like the technology of the modern airplane, the 787 being built by Boeing. We're giving that technology over to Japan where they are going to make the wing."

"This is a very big erosion of our national security," he continued. "We're making the best ideas here in America, we come up with the ideas for the technology, but the manufacturing happens in a plant in some other country, and we just allow them to take our



James P. Hoffa

ideas."

Hoffa returned to the Senate amendment to block the truck project.

"Today is a victory to keep unsafe trucks from coming in from Mexico," he asserted, "but there is a bigger agenda here. America could lose 40 million jobs and our children are not going to have any place to work. American technology and manufacturing and American know-how are being outsourced all over the world because foreigners will do it cheaper."

"Bush won't speak openly about the Security and Prosperity Partnership because he doesn't want anybody to know anything about it," Hoffa emphasized. "If the American people knew openly about the plan to build superhighway toll roads with foreign money or the plan to create a North American common market and regional government, we would rally to stop it. The Bush administration hasn't even openly consulted Congress about SPP."

Hoffa ended the interview by stressing the Teamsters Union resolve to continue fighting against "free trade" agreements that are not "fair trade agreements."

"We've fought NAFTA," he reflected. "These trade bills are all the same. They end up with these massive trade deficits and why is that? Because it gives countries like Mexico and China access to our markets, but we don't get access to their markets on the same terms. The trade bills should not be one-way deals that only advantage the multi-national corporations. Fair trade deals should also open up foreign markets so we can (sell) American products on an equal basis."



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# Oregon News

## Josephine County

### Cost-Cutting Saving Big Bucks

By Illinois Valley News

Cost-saving measures by Josephine County government have resulted in a predicted savings of more than \$5 million for the 2006-07 fiscal year.

That optimistic report, based on unaudited numbers, was presented the county board of commissioners by Rosemary Padgett, the county’s chief financial officer.

She made the presentation in Grants Pass Wednesday morning, Sept. 12 in Anne G. Basker Auditorium to commission Vice Chairman Dave Toler and Commissioner Dwight Ellis. Chairman Jim Raffenburg was absent, as he was in the nation’s capital lobbying for continued federal funding under the Secure Rural Schools Act.

Padgett said that all levels of county government deserve recognition for their money-saving accomplishments. It appears that \$5,304,960 has been accumulated in savings, based on department budgets for ‘06-’07 and actual amounts spent.

She noted that a hiring freeze, a reduction in force (employee layoffs in

June), and other cost-saving efforts have resulted in the surplus. Efforts to save money and increase efficiency continue, she said.

In the face of potentially declining federal funding, the savings will be applied to the 2007-08 fiscal year budget that will begin July 1.

Padgett noted that the Josephine County Fair did an exceptional job in the area of finances. She said that there was a \$136,000 deficit, but that that has been reduced to \$12,000.

“This is a wonderful accomplishment, and the fair board and others deserve recognition,” she said.

Some \$4.8 million of the apparent savings would be transferred to Public Safety, she said, thereby helping the forthcoming new budget. Public Safety is comprised of the sheriff’s office, D.A.’s office, and Juvenile Justice.

An official audit by an outside firm will be conducted later this year. Padgett indicated she is confident that the figures showing the results of fund-saving will be borne out.

...

# Teacher fights to take gun to class

By Teresa Carson

**PORTLAND, OR (Reuters)** - An Oregon high school teacher on Tuesday (September 18th) sued for her right to bring a gun into the classroom for personal protection, clashing with anti-gun advocates fighting for years to rid U.S. schools of weapons.

The teacher, who has a legal permit to carry a concealed handgun, filed a lawsuit against the Medford school district in southwestern Oregon to overturn the district's rule that prohibits teachers from bringing a weapon onto school grounds.

The standoff between the teacher and the school district has grabbed the attention of both sides of the national gun debate.

After a student shot dead 32 people at Virginia Tech University in April, some pro-gun advocates have argued that teachers and perhaps students should be armed to prevent such tragedies in the future.

"The right to protect yourself is natural, God-given and should not be taken away," said Kevin Starrett, executive director of the Oregon Firearms Federation, which is paying for the teacher's legal bills.

"State law unequivocally allows her to

do this," he said.

School safety became a national issue after the 1999 shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado in which two students killed 13 people. Anti-gun advocates used the tragedy as an example of the need for tighter gun controls.

The teacher's identity is being concealed to protect her from an abusive ex-husband who has made threats against her and her two children. She said the school district cannot adequately protect her.

The lawsuit was filed in Oregon's state Circuit Court in Jackson County and a hearing is set for mid-October.

The 12,370-student school district argues that being gun-free is a condition of her employment.

"We are saying that the school district has the right to regulate the conduct of its employees to foster a safe environment for students and staff," said Tim Gerking, the school district's attorney.

"If they prevail, will other staff members also want to start carrying weapons? What might happen if the gun got into the wrong hands?" said Gerking.

**Editor’s Note: Read the related story by Carl Worden on page 15.**

## How are Oregon Lottery proceeds used? (And where will they be used in the 2007-2009 biennium?)

News Release  
By Oregon.gov

The Lottery saw record sales in Fiscal Year 2007, and that resulted in record transfers of over \$604 million. Since we began selling tickets in April 1985, over \$5.4 billion has been transferred for state programs. Economic development and job creation were the first - and only - use of Lottery proceeds approved by voters in the initiatives that created the Lottery in 1984. A second use, “financing of education,” was added by voters in 1995, and that is when Lottery funds began supporting K-12 education. Finally, in 1999, voters approved the use of 15% of Lottery proceeds for parks and watershed enhancement.

From 1985 through June 2007, almost \$1.7 billion has benefited economic development and job creation, public education has received over \$3 billion, and over \$451 million has been allocated to parks and watershed enhancement projects.

In the 2007-2009 biennium, Lottery is expected to transfer about \$1.3 billion in

Here is the breakdown of the major allocations (in millions) for the 2007-2009 biennium:	
<b>PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES</b>	
Parks (7.5% - voter mandate).....	\$98
Natural Resources/Watershed Enhancement (7.5% - voter mandate).....	\$98
<b>EDUCATION</b>	
Education Stability Fund (18% - voter mandate).....	\$236
State School Fund.....	\$634
Debt Service (Bonds).....	\$55
Sports Programs in Higher Education.....	\$11
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>	
Oregon Economic & Community Development Department.....	\$67
Debt Service (Bonds).....	\$112
County Fairs.....	\$3
Governor's Office for Economic Revitalization Team.....	\$2
Counties for Economic Development (Statutory Mandate).....	\$45
<b>GAMBLING TREATMENT PROGRAM.....</b>	<b>\$13</b>

all Lottery transfers to colleges and universities to support sports programs that previously received proceeds from Sports ActionSM and Score BoardSM.

Some of our recent research shows that Oregonians are particularly interested in individual projects that are funded by Lottery proceeds – small businesses, farms, fire training facilities, etc. Those allocations are typically awarded through the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department (OECD), a state agency that is entirely funded with Lottery proceeds. Programs administered through this agency are directed toward enhancing the economy and creating jobs. Funded projects can include assistance to specific businesses, industry support (i.e., tourism funding), and community enhancement efforts such as improvements to small airports and transportation infrastructure.

Because it’s important to Oregonians to know how our proceeds are used, the Lottery has always dedicated part of its advertising budget to this effort. For many years, “Oregon Wins” television, radio, and print advertisements have carried the message that the Lottery “does good things” for individuals, schools, businesses, and communities all around the state.

In fiscal year 2008, we will further develop our relationships with the agencies that receive our proceeds. This will enable us to obtain more specific information about Lottery-funded projects, and will also provide new opportunities to work in tandem with these agencies to spread awareness about Lottery-funded projects.

...



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# Four-month trial ends with no convictions

## Federal income tax evasion case involved nine defendants

By Joan Whitely  
Review-Journal

A criminal tax case alleging income tax evasion and conspiracy dissolved in federal court this week, when a jury returned zero convictions on 161 charges faced by nine defendants.

Monday's verdict "sends a strong message," said defense attorney Lisa Rasmussen, who represented Joel Axberg, a tile layer.

Informally called the Kahre case -- after the primary defendant, local business owner Robert Kahre, who paid workers in gold and silver coins -- the trial lasted four months. It relied heavily on evidence gathered in a controversial armed raid in May 2003 on several of Kahre's local business places. The raid entailed keeping more than 20 workers handcuffed, at gunpoint, in 106-degree heat without shade or water while agents collected records and equipment.

"Yeah, that's a pretty major victory," said defense lawyer William Cohan. "If you go 0 for 160 (in baseball), they'd send you down to the minor leagues."

Cohan was upbeat although his client, Kahre, was not acquitted of any of his 109 charges. Rather, the jury hung on all of Kahre's counts.

The jury also hung on all counts faced by Kahre's sister, Lori Kahre, and defendant Alex Loglia.

Four defendants acquitted of all the

charges against them were Axberg, Robert Furman, Ron Ruggles, and Kahre's mother, Myra Buonomo.

"It was the most wonderful feeling and the most wonderful day in ages," Buonomo, 66, said of her acquittal. She said she works "more or less as a runner" for her son's construction-related businesses. Part of the case hinged on whether Kahre's workers were employees or independent contractors, who are responsible for paying their own taxes.

Two other defendants, Dannielle Alires and Debra Rosenbaum, were partly acquitted, with the jury hung on one count each.

Before trial, five additional defendants had pleaded guilty.

Michael Kennedy, who defended Lori Kahre, said the case turned on the notion that taxpayers could be wrong without being criminal. He was referring to the fact that his client, Lori Kahre, and other defendants had not paid taxes according to the market value of the precious metal content of the coins in which they were paid, as opposed to their face value. He conceded at trial that his client may owe federal taxes for her mistakes.

The Internal Revenue Service had never before provided guidance on how to handle gold and silver coins that circulate, only on noncirculating collectible coins, according to Kennedy, who is a federal public defender. "If

that's the case, we're not going to take someone's liberty from them, on something that a (certified public accountant) with a master's degree doesn't even know. That's a scary country, and I don't live in that country."

J. Gregory Damm, the assistant U.S. attorney who led the prosecution, declined to say whether the government will retry any of the five defendants on the charges that resulted in a hung jury. Damm referred the newspaper to Natalie Collins, public affairs specialist for the U.S. attorney's office in Las Vegas.

Acting U.S. Attorney Steven W. Myhre issued a statement through Collins that thanked jurors, investigators and prosecutors. "Ultimately, the responsibility lies with the jury to decide whether the government met its burden of proof in the case and we accept their decision." He said the office will "soon decide" whether to retry any defendants.

Jurors got stuck on the question of whether the government had proved defendants intentionally violated tax law, according to David Ramirez, jury foreman. "Oh my God, the willfulness is very hard to prove, as we found out," Ramirez, 49, said Wednesday. "That was the hard part, especially in the conspiracy charge." Ramirez works in management for the U.S. Postal Service.

The government "did not present one

witness who agreed with the conspiracy theory," said attorney Joel Hansen, who defended Loglia. Currently unemployed, Loglia did paralegal work for Kahre.

The jurors favoring acquittal varied by defendant, Ramirez said. "Personally, I went guilty (on some counts) and some, not guilty." He said when the 12 jurors split on a count, it was usually a 6-6 or 7-5 split.

Ramirez said the prosecuting team had a clear, although silent, reaction to the verdict: "The head was hanging down, the shoulders were low." He said "shocked" was the term some prosecutors used to describe themselves when they talked to him after the trial.

Cohan did not want Robert Kahre, who testified during the trial, to talk to reporters after the trial because his client and five others still face additional charges in a separate criminal tax case set for trial in January. That case alleges Kahre hid assets by having relatives or friends buy property in their names using his funds.

Once the criminal cases are over, Kahre will pursue related civil actions he has filed against several parties, including federal prosecutor Damm, Internal Revenue Service agents and North Las Vegas police officers who had roles in the raid or indictment process.

■ ■ ■

# Questioning Kerry Results in a Shock

## Outspoken Student Gets ‘Tased’ at College Talk



Andrew Meyer (left) being subdued by campus police during his Kerry questioning.

By Monica Hesse  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Andrew Meyer, the University of Florida student whose Monday arrest at a John Kerry speech headlined CNN and other networks yesterday, has contributed a better lead to this story than we could have invented:

**"Don't tase me, bro!"**

In a widely circulating video of the scuffle, university police grab Meyer and remove him from a town-hall-style forum at the university featuring the Massachusetts senator. The senior telecommunications major had been given permission to ask a question after the official end of the Q&A portion; the question turns into an increasingly agitated three-parter. He asks why Kerry had conceded the 2004 presidential race ("Didn't you want to win the election?"), why President Bush hadn't been impeached, and whether Kerry was a member of Yale secret society Skull & Bones.

Midway through his time at the mike, as seen on the video, police officers appear behind him. As Kerry is heard saying, "That's all right, let me answer his question," five officers begin to

escort Meyer out the door. In what is sure to become an AIM away message for millions of college students, Meyer yells, "Don't tase me, bro!" before an officer fires a Taser at him.

In the police report of the incident, officers state that Meyer calmed down once in the squad car, even joking with them and saying, "I am not mad at you guys; you didn't do anything wrong."

Arrested on charges of resisting an officer and disturbing the peace, he spent the night in the Gainesville city jail before being released yesterday morning. He did not return calls and e-mails asking him for comment.

According to a statement released by university President J. Bernard Machen, who called the takedown "regretful," two officers involved in the incident have been placed on paid leave. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement has begun an investigation.

This was not Meyer's first escapade as a provocateur, but it may be his most physically punishing. As a freshman his weekly columns for the Alligator, the campus newspaper, regularly prompted debate. "He would take an idea such as a fundraiser for cancer research, and would bash the way the whole event

would go down," wrote Meyer's friend Brandon Crone in an e-mail, noting that some of Meyer's articles were rejected for publication because of their incendiary material.

Some have speculated that his penchant for attention (his e-mail handle is "famouswriterman") led him to stage the outburst to draw traffic to his Web site, <http://www.theandrewmeyer.com>, a mishmash of political commentary, sketch comedy and filmed practical jokes. On Meyer's Facebook wall, his friends' good wishes are half-horrified, half-admiring.

"Meyer, you are a genius," writes one fan. "Just don't go on Larry King yet wait till you get millions first."

Asked about speculation that Meyer staged the confrontation, university spokesman Steve Orlando said in an interview that someone in the Office of Student Affairs told him Meyer brought his own video camera to the forum, handing it to a friend before rising to ask his question.

But Meyer's closest friends call the theory of a publicity stunt ludicrous. Said Henry Perlstein, a university senior who has known Meyer since high school: "My first impression was that [the video] was a home movie he made for his friends because it was so surreal. Then I heard the screams and he sounded genuinely afraid."

Justin Long, a telecommunications professor who made a special exception to allow Meyer into a graduate-level seminar last year, said that Meyer was outspoken, but never combative. "He might not have used the best judgment because he was overcome with passion," Long said.

John Levy, a graduate student at the



Andrew Meyer

university who said he met Meyer in a gifted-students program in second grade, spoke with Meyer shortly before Kerry's talk. He said Meyer was excited about attending the forum; he'd been loading up on questions and was excited to hear the senator's responses.

"Andrew sees himself as a journalist," Levy said. "He didn't want to incite anything, he wanted to motivate other students to ask questions."

Levy spoke with Meyer on the phone yesterday afternoon, shortly after his release from jail. "He's really upset that people are more concerned with the police attack and not with the dialogue he was trying to start with Kerry. . . . What kind of message does that send? He wants to show students it's okay to ask hard questions, and then he gets tased for doing it."

As for Kerry, he said in a statement yesterday that "in 37 years of public appearances, through wars, protests and highly emotional events, I have never had a dialogue end this way. . . . I hope that neither the student nor any of the police were injured. I regret enormously that a good healthy discussion was interrupted."

Staff writer Mark Berman contributed to this report.

■ ■ ■

COMMENTARY

Your Right to Speak Out

GOP is a Fraud

By Tom DeWeese  
NewsWithViews.com

I've been waiting for the disbelief and outrage to emerge from Republicans across the nation over the Republican Party's recent announcement. Incredibly, the RNC announced that it is endorsing the poverty eradication program of rock star Bono. There hasn't been any outrage yet from GOP rank and file. Is there nothing left of the old GOP?

For those who missed it, in August, the Republican National Committee took steps to endorse Irish rock star Bono's proposal to spend \$30 billion in U.S. taxes to eliminate global poverty. Bono, lead singer of the rock group U2, has dogged political leaders around the world, using his rock star status to pressure them into accepting his brand of global guilt. However, the GOP's capitulation to Bono's charms goes much deeper than getting excited about the passions of a rock star.

This time, Bono is acting as the messenger boy for the United Nations. You see, back in 2000 every head of state in the world agreed to the UN's Millennium Declaration which calls for the end of poverty by the year 2015. There, the world's leaders agreed to put up the money for UN poverty programs. Now the UN is working to collect. Bono has declared himself to be the collection agent. And the Republicans jumped when he called.

How can it be that the Republican Party, which once advocated free

enterprise, limited government and individual liberty, could fall for such a wealth redistribution scheme, and at the request of an avowed Marxist like Bono? The two should have nothing in common, what so ever. Or don't they?

Eradication of poverty is certainly a noble cause. People throughout the world are suffering from hunger, poor health and filthy water. The number of poor in the world is growing higher each year. There is no doubt that something must be done.

Of course, there are thousands of efforts in the world aimed at eradicating poverty or feeding and clothing the poor. From churches to charitable organizations to local, state, federal and international government programs, billions of dollars are collected and presumably distributed to the poor.

Yet, every day we have more poor. Why? Because none of these efforts focus on the source of poverty. None of them take steps to reverse the situation and help the poor to help themselves. And neither will the GOP's new Bono-inspired scheme. And that is what's so astounding about the GOP's announcement. It should know better.

Poverty, as run by the international poverty cartel headquartered in the United Nations, is big business. As in almost every case where there is unlimited cash and little accountability by mindless, faceless bureaucrats and all-powerful potentates, corruption, embezzlement, exorbitant salaries and inside procurement deals fatten the

pockets of a few and leave the poor hungry and left out.

Adam Lerrick, visiting scholar at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) told the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Security and International Trade and Finance that he estimates between \$100 billion and \$500 billion in World Bank funds intended for African development have been smuggled into offshore accounts.

As poverty grows ever greater, Bono establishes himself as the self-proclaimed savior of Africa. He uses his concerts to enflame young audiences to hate the rich. He postures. He snarls. He marches up and down the stage waving a red flag while the music pounds a steady, military beat. And political leaders cower as he shakes them down for the cash.

Yet, where is Bono's indignation over the theft by the very organizations he promotes? Where are his revelations of radical environmental groups who openly advocate that African villagers must continue to live in mud huts and walk five miles for water, because that is "sustainable?" In fact, Bono, and the ilk he supports, arrogantly deny the poor the opportunity to live in the Twenty First Century because they don't want them to have electricity, cars, better roads and modern homes. This, they say would damage the environment. And this is the policy the Republican National Committee has chosen to support?

Even as the poverty cartel demands the

eradication of poverty by 2015, how do they propose to achieve that success? How are the poor supposed to climb out of poverty? They aren't. Ending poverty would mean the end of the stolen funds and the political power that the poverty cartel has come to expect.

Instead, they have condemned the poor of the world to live in life-long bread lines, dependent on others for daily existence, no hope for a future of betterment. The poor are mere pawns in the game. And this is the policy the Republican National Committee has chosen to support?

Moreover, even without the corruption, redistribution schemes are not the answer to saving the poor. The GOP should know that taking money from hard working people and giving it to those who must instantly consume it solves nothing. It's a momentary band-aid. Tomorrow the poor and hungry will need more. And more will be taken from the providers. Anyone who has ever studied economics 101 should know that the only possible outcome of such a scheme is to make everyone poorer. And this is the policy the Republican National Committee has chosen to support?

So why are some nations so poor, and others are so rich? What is the real answer to eradicating poverty? The "2007 Index of Economic Freedom," published jointly by the Heritage Foundation and the Wall Street Journal may hold the answer. It examines 10

Continued on page 14

Continued from page 1  
Paying Federal Income Taxes?

freedom and many gave their very lives and those of their families to secure this way of life. We, on the other hand, have allowed the federal government to squander our freedom and openly ridicule those who created this foundation for America. Our Supreme Court stated, *“It is not the function of our Government to keep the citizen from falling into error; it is the function of the citizen to keep the Government from falling into error.”*

Limitations on Congress –  
the Federal Government

The Constitution's Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17 addresses Congress and states: “To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (**not exceeding ten Miles square**) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise **like Authority** over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings”(emphasis added). This portion of our supreme law makes it very clear that the above mentioned agencies were created and are operating in direct violation of law. What about the millions of acres of federal forests? We have been so comfortable and complacent over the past few decades that we have allowed the federal government to turn **“not**

**exceeding ten Miles square”** into millions of acres and they have accomplished the same with each and every unconstitutional agency they have created, including the Internal Revenue Service. Thomas Paine described our apathy very well in his 1776 pamphlet *Common Sense*, that: *“A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives it the superficial appearance of being right.”*

The main reason for the founders placing restrictions on the feds is quite simple; they knew that the more control, the less freedom – they had all experienced the total control that Great Britain had over them. How many of us even remember the Boston Tea Party - taxation without representation? Thomas Jefferson wrote: *“Yes, we did produce a near perfect Republic, but will they keep it, or will they, in the enjoyment of plenty, lose the memory of freedom. Material abundance without character is the surest way to destruction.”* Countless Americans today are completely unaware that our founders revolted, the Constitution was written and America was created due to heavy taxation and the widespread use of “Debtor Prisons.”

A look inside the walls of the federal prison system today exposes the fact that thousands of Americans have been placed there because they refused to pay a tax on income which is being unconstitutionally applied to them. This proves exactly what Jefferson wrote about over two hundred years ago – we have lost the memory of freedom.

Whatever government services we have, they are not being financed by the income tax. A part of the Grace

Commission Report (below) proves that none of the personal income tax goes to pay for any government services and that it is used to pay only the interest on the national debt. This report was requested by President Ronald Reagan to see exactly where our federal dollars go. Please take note of the underlined section.

Let's read what the Grace Commission Report of January 12, 1984 has to say:

***“Resistance to additional income taxes would be even more widespread if people were aware that:***

***One-third of all their taxes are consumed by waste and inefficiency in the Federal Government as we identify in our survey.***

***Another one-third of all their taxes escapes collection from others as the underground economy blossoms in direct proportion to tax increases and places even more pressure on law abiding taxpayers, promoting still more underground economy - a vicious cycle that must be broken.***

***With two-thirds of everyone's personal income taxes wasted or not collected, 100 percent of what is collected is absorbed solely by interest on the Federal debt and by Federal Government contributions to transfer payments. In other words, all individual income tax revenues are gone before one nickel is spent on the services which taxpayers expect from their Government.”***

We are all aware that the Government wastes money. Here's a small \*list of how these wastrels foolishly squander it - 2005:

- The federal government spends \$23

**billion annually** on special interest pork projects such as grants to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, or funds to combat teenage "goth" culture in Blue Springs, Missouri.

- Washington spends **tens of billions** of dollars on failed and outdated programs such as the Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Geological Survey and Economic Development Association.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development's **\$3.3 billion** in overpayments in 2001 accounted for over 10 percent of the department's total budget.
- The Defense Department wasted **\$100 million** on unused flight tickets, and never bothered to collect refunds even though the tickets were reimbursable.
- Over one recent 18-month period, Air Force and Navy personnel used government-funded credit cards to charge at least **\$102,400** for admission to entertainment events, **\$48,250** for gambling, \$69,300 for cruises, and **\$73,950** for exotic dance clubs and prostitutes.

**Examples of wasteful duplication include:** **342** economic development programs; **130** programs serving the disabled; **130** programs serving at-risk youth; **90** early childhood development programs; **75** programs funding international education, cultural, and training exchange activities; and **72** federal programs dedicated to assuring safe water.

The Advanced Technology Program spends **\$150 million annually** subsidizing private businesses, and 40%

Continued on page 9



"Congress has not unlimited powers to provide for the general welfare but only those specifically enumerated. ... A wise and frugal government...shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned." --Thomas Jefferson

# COMMENTARY

## Is There One Person Who Can Answer These Questions? *Workable Answer to one Question could Save America*

By Andrew C. Wallace  
NewsWithViews.com

1. Is there anyway to force government to protect us from invaders and Anarchy as guaranteed in the United States Constitution?
2. Is there any way to charge government officials with Treason without going through the U.S. Attorney?
3. Anarchy by public officials exists at all levels of government leaving citizens with no recourse to government, can citizens appeal directly to U.S. Supreme court for redress?
4. Can we bring civil actions under RICO against local, state and federal officials and those in business with whom they are colluding to deny us our rights under the Constitution and Laws of the United States?
5. Can we bring civil actions against sanctuary city officials for refusing to obey and enforce federal laws using U.S. Code-Title 42, Sec. 1983. "Civil Action For Deprivation of any Rights, Privileges, or Immunities secured by the Constitution and Laws", but denied by state and local officials such as in sanctuary cities?
6. Can we charge any legislator with corruption who votes to support illegals and we can prove they received money from employers of illegals?
7. The so called amnesty bill seeks to legalize unconstitutional actions and non actions, is the law then unconstitutional?
8. Is there any way to force government officials to obey the constitution and laws of the United States?
9. Our Constitution is the basis for all

- government power, so do government officials who refuse to follow the constitution have any legitimate power?
10. Can we challenge in court, the vote of officials in congress if we can prove they were on the take?
  11. Do American citizens have any way to be compensated for the thousands who were murdered, raped, robbed and molested by illegal invaders supported and protected by business and government contrary to our constitution and laws?
  12. Can we force Federal Government to withhold all federal funds in accordance with the law from sanctuary cities that refuse to obey and enforce federal laws for the benefit of local officials and criminal employers?
  13. Sanctuary City Officials are nullifying federal laws and the Constitution of the United States. Nullification by state and local officials was a primary cause of our bloody Civil War. Can we assume that these greedy officials are trying to incite a Civil War?
  14. Is there no legal recourse for the millions of Americans who will lose their Social Security, Medicare, Veterans and all other benefits because officials gave their benefits to illegal invaders to increase profits of criminal employers?
  15. Is there no legal recourse for the millions of poor Americans who have lost their jobs to illegals who are encouraged to invade our country by criminal employers and protected by government officials?
  16. Can Government Officials at all levels do whatever they please by ignoring the Constitution and Laws of The United States?
  17. Do we have any legal options

- against an agenda driven media that reports propaganda and refuses to report the truth?
18. Does the constitution of The United States make any provision for the lawful removal of government officials for failure to obey The Constitution and Laws of The United States other than appeal to these same traitors, or waiting till the next election?
- It is my sincere prayer that someone out there can answer one or more of these questions quickly in a way that will save this country. Just a very few of the facts that support my need for prayer are as follows:
1. There is no such thing as any economic benefit from illegal invaders they will cause abject poverty for Americans.
  2. Every illegal head of household costs taxpayers \$19,588 a year, over and above any taxes paid.
  3. Taxpayer support of illegals is money that ends up in the pockets of criminal employers and government officials.
  4. Business and government officials want cheap labor and abject poverty for Americans.
  5. Using the Security and Prosperity Partnership for North America, SPP, Criminal elites in business and Government are stealing our sovereignty so we can be slaves of Business.
  6. Business must have open borders for cheap labor and control, that is why government has refused to obey our constitution and laws, even framing Border Patrol Agents for doing their jobs.
  7. It is obvious from their actions that elites, born into wealth, hate America,

- and the corporations they control do not give a damn about this country.
8. Corporations and government officials are sharing the blood money they get from hiring and protecting illegal invaders which is looting the resources of our country. It is blood money because 25 Americans die every day, on average, at the hands of illegals.
  9. Twenty nine percent of convicts in state and federal prisons are illegal invaders at a cost to us of \$1.6 billion a year. They are only 4% of our population.
  10. Forty seven per cent of cited/stopped divers in California have no license, no insurance, and no registration. 92% of these people are illegals.
  11. Seventy one percent of all apprehended cars stolen in 2005 in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and California were stolen by illegals.
  12. Ninety five percent of warrants for murder in Los Angeles are for illegals.
  13. Without question, there is anarchy in California, Americans are leaving California in droves. Only a complete idiot would even visit such a lawless and dangerous place.
  14. California is the most glaring example of the total, and deliberate failure of all levels of Government to obey the Constitution and Laws of the United States.
- ... We must demand that government deport every last illegal on sight and return this country from Anarchy to Constitutional Government and the Rule of Law. Our Constitution guarantees us a hell of a lot more than we are getting.
- Andrew C. Wallace is a former Kentucky State Trooper. ■■

### Continued from page 8 Paying Federal Income Taxes?

of this goes to Fortune 500 companies.

The Medicare program **pays as much as eight times the cost** that other federal agencies pay for the same drugs and medical supplies.

*\*These few examples were obtained by Brian Riedl who is Grover M. Hermann Fellow in Federal Budgetary Affairs in the Thomas A. Roe Institute for Economic Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation.*

Who should be held accountable for this waste? Are you really so comfortable in your lifestyle that you can't see the forest for the trees? Or, do you see the forest, and are just so complacent that you're not going to do anything about it? Are you afraid that if you learn something you might have to do something? Do you really think that ignorance is bliss? You're not going to stand up for what is right until your ox is being gored? Is this truly the mentality of most Americans today? Who's protecting We The People? It certainly isn't the government. So, who is the real enemy today? As Pogo once said, **"We have met the enemy and he is us."**

**There are three kinds of people in the world:** Those who make things happen, those who watch others make things happen and those who don't even know things are happening. Let's make sure that we the readers of this paper are the ones who will make things happen.

This country was founded on

FREEDOM, period. We cannot be free if we have these rogue agencies breathing down our necks at every turn. We cannot be free if we cannot take home 100% of our receipts. We cannot be free if we are slaves to any part of this government, nor can we be free with involuntary servitude being lorded over our heads, as per the 13th Amendment. According to Black's Law Dictionary, Fifth Edition: **Involuntary servitude - "The condition of one who is compelled by force, coercion, or imprisonment, and against his will, to labor for another, whether he is paid or not. Slavery, peonage, or compulsory labor for debts; all of which are prohibited by the 13th Amendment."**

If the government takes a portion of your labor by withholding money you rightfully earned to provide for you and your family, isn't that a form of slavery and a violation of the 13th Amendment? We cannot be free without the right of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. These rights are being stripped away on a daily basis.

Now, close your eyes and imagine this country without the IRS. Imagine the fathers of this country bringing home 100% of their receipts so they can adequately provide for their households. Imagine this country **"free"** from government control.

Government funding is a legitimate aspect of government and of course our founding fathers were very well aware of that. That's why they made sure that

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 was a part of the Constitution - *"The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;"* (emphasis added)

Previously in this article we listed just a few ways of how the government wastes billions of your hard-earned dollars. How do any of those wasteful expenditures "provide for the general Welfare of the United States"? How can a progressive income tax, where one person pays a higher percentage because he earns more be "uniform throughout the United States"? The federal income tax is being unconstitutionally applied to every working man and woman in this country.

The time has come for each of us to do our part to turn this country around, and if you think that there's nothing you can do we'll leave you with these final thoughts:

**"The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."**

--Edmund Burke

**"Posterity--you will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it."**

--John Quincy Adams

**"They that would give up essential**

**liberty for a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."**

--Ben Franklin

**"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be."**

--Thomas Jefferson

**"There are more instances of the abridgement of the freedom of the people by the gradual and silent encroachment of those in power, than by violent and sudden usurpation."**

--James Madison

**"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it."**

--Thomas Paine

**"If a republican government fails to secure public prosperity and happiness, it must be because the citizens neglect the divine commands, and elect bad men to make and administer the laws."**

--Noah Webster

**"Hold on, my friends, to the Constitution and to the Republic for which it stands. Miracles do not cluster, and what has happened once in 6000 years, may not happen again. Hold on to the Constitution, for if the American Constitution should fail, there will be anarchy throughout the world."**

--Daniel Webster

**Editor's Note: We will never solve any problem by feeding it or ignoring it.**

■■■

**The US~Observer**

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**Continued from page 1**  
**How the IRS Steals ...**

grandson and the fact they resisted paying claimed taxes without a procedurally proper and lawful assessment being issued. Although the Carpenters are hard working people who feel they have an obligation to their beneficiaries, they seem to fall short in their sense of reality by thinking they are innocent until proven guilty, as quaint as that notion is. As the trustee/agents of

these lawful trusts, the Carpenters have followed all lawful procedures and still think that justice will prevail since they believe that they live in a free society. They have mistakenly overlooked the thousand "ifs" before the word free.

The Carpenters' lives have been decimated. The result of this unwarranted IRS attack on Bruce Carpenter has made it impossible for him to have normal relationships with the business community. They and everyone else who falls into this trap will never be secure in their own person again. Why, because their social security numbers will be made public record (a federal crime to do so), not to mention the fact that they will be financially damaged to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Hope and pray that the events in this article never happen to you.

**Beginning the Vicious Attack**

To fabricate a crime without probable cause you need a rogue and unaccountable agency. In this instance low level IRS RO, Art Trainor is part of such an agency that attempts to steal the trusts' assets from the beneficiaries, complicit in the knowledge that the proper, lawful and valid assessment procedures have not been followed. The target never knows how or why he owes the amounts of tax they say he owes without certification of the IRS claims.

The agency's employees make a calculated, arbitrary and erroneous claim against targeted beneficiaries and trustee/agents of the Irrevocable Trusts (actually all trusts' assets belong to the beneficiaries of the trusts), resulting in a filing of an unlawful Notice of Federal Tax Lien (NFTLs) against the beneficiaries' property by an overly zealous and immoral revenue officer, without any semblance of due process of law.

Since this case started in 1990, the trustee/agents have spent 13 years out of the last 17 attempting to correct the wrongs, settle with the IRS and recoup their lives. In October 2003, the trustee/agents' lawyer addressed the NFTLs by preparing eleven invalid encumbrance notices as defined in the Oregon Revised Statutes and presented them to Jackson County Clerk Kathy Beckett for filing in the Jackson County records. This action would have removed the NFTLs from the title of the property held in trusts for the beneficiaries. Beckett refused.

Beckett's refusal left the property title clouded, thus necessitating the trustee/agents' legal counsel to immediately file a Writ of Mandamus (as defined by Nolo.com: A writ of mandamus is a court order that requires another court, government official, public body, corporation or individual to perform a certain act) in the Jackson County Circuit Court of Judge William G. Purdy to force Beckett to file the invalid encumbrance notices in order to remove the uncertified NFTLs. Judge

Purdy, upon reading the Mandamus and looking up the statute agreed with the petitioners' counsel and signed a Peremptory Writ of Mandamus ordering Beckett to follow proper procedures regarding the filing of encumbrance notices. The county recorder still refused in defiance of a valid court order. The questions begging an answer deal with the source of Beckett's income. Is she working for the county, is she subcontracted with another organization, or, like others, is she simply scared to death of the IRS?

The Carpenters subsequently obtained, through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a copy of their Complete Transcript Entity Summary Information file (ICS History) dated 9/17/04. During discovery, Department of Justice employee and attorney for the IRS Kelly Blaine inadvertently supplied the targets a copy (his copy) of another ICS History file dated 7/14/04. This ICS History has agent Trainor's unabridged notes, as well as other authorities' involved with the case. After close examination of both ICS Histories there appears to be many discrepancies between the two – proof of criminal conduct by the conspirators who deleted items or made certain changes... sound familiar? Early on the trustee/agents, in their attempt to expose the deceit and many false statements, hired Forensic Accountant, Certified Fraud Examiner and expert court witness Victoria Osborn. Her sworn Affidavit verifies that Art Trainor knew that his actions

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**Continued from page 10**  
**How the IRS Steals ...**

were unlawful. This information will definitely be presented in the trial scheduled for December.

The July 2004 ICS History file proves an embarrassment to the government because Trainor makes an entry detailing how Steve Rinkle, assistant to Jackson County Counsel Mike Jewett called Trainor seeking help due to the trustee/agents counsel's attempt to file the invalid encumbrance notices in Jackson County records. Trainor immediately responded by contacting Kelly Blaine, through all available means, asking for high priority assistance to prevent the filing of these notices – pulling out all the stops.

Jewett and Rinkle, with assistance from Trainor, persuaded Judge Purdy to withdraw his order in an after-hour, ex-parte hearing, without ever notifying trustee/agent's counsel, thereby preempting the trust lawyer from making an appropriate and timely response to their antics. Purdy, Jewett and Rinkle absolutely have the same fear of this non-statutory agency that judges in general have.

Gordon Douglas, legal counsel for the Internal Revenue Service, earlier stipulated in writing that the trustee/agents didn't own the trusts or trusts' assets and this admission was signed off by the tax court judge. It was soon discovered that Bruce and Caroline Carpenter didn't possess great wealth in the form of cash and property that could be targeted, so the vultures switched their focus on more easily accessible and controllable assets, anyone's assets. Furthermore, upon doing his homework, Trainor discovers that Bruce Carpenter's step-brother is the beneficiary of a totally separate and unrelated trust that coincidentally had the Carpenters as trustee/agents. Trainor, with all of the training of an extortionist confiscates \$10,500 from the ailing 79 year old step-brother's personal bank account using an uncertified, counterfeit and invalid "Notice of Levy." Remarkably, this piracy was accomplished after Trainor had proof, again as recorded in ICS History, through notification from Well's Fargo Bank, that Carpenter did not have any interest in the step-brother's account and would not realize any possible benefit until the death of the step-brother. Trainor, unprincipled as he is, took it anyway because he has this power entrusted to him by individuals who spread their greed and corruption within our judicial system. Trainor could never accomplish his crime without the assistance of third parties – attorneys, banks, title companies, clerks, etc. If these third parties would fulfill their custodial duties to protect their clients' assets by requiring a proper and lawful judgment before surrendering them, Trainor and his ilk would have to operate within the law. Trainor has refused to respond to the Carpenters' many attempts to recover the ill gotten money and has retaliated against these efforts by attaching NFTLs against the step-brother's real property, preventing him from selling his property prior to the

current deflation in market values. Using these same unlawful methods Trainor has been able to extort over \$140,000 from the personal accounts of the Carpenters and the beneficiaries.

With the knowledge that the NFTLs tainted the trusts' assets and prevented their sale, the fiduciaries hands were illegally tied. In the preliminary title report, Lawyer's Title Company then magically converts the invalid NFTLs to a negotiable instrument in the form of an invalid "Federal Tax Lien," under the color of law, making the NFTLs appear to be a legitimate lien claim, thereby allowing the IRS to receive money from the title company and continue with their illegal collection activities. At this juncture the title company becomes an accomplice in this crime by honoring a counterfeit security. In the escrow concerning these trusts and beneficiaries' properties, the trustee/agents requested that Assistant Vice-President Escrow Administrator Robyn Tuttle of Lawyer's Title Company obtain a certified lien document signed by Trainor, so the alleged debt could be paid. The escrow contained liquid assets, but the revenue officer refused to provide the proper paperwork! – How odd is that?! Without question, state and federal law requires that NFTLs, Liens and Levies be certified as true, correct, and not misleading under the penalty of perjury. In this case Trainor knows full well that he cannot sign the certification, but his unlawful actions are supported by his superiors, conflicted judges, public servants, licensed title officers and of course attorneys, because they all condone these illegal acts. Conspiracy accomplished, laws violated and crimes allowed to go unpunished! The fact is that in order to have lawful possession of the property there must be a judgment from a court with jurisdiction.

Referring back to the ICS History report, Trainor writes on more than one occasion, "We must foreclose our lien." This cannot happen lawfully until the rogue agent obtains a valid and lawful assessment claim on which to foreclose.

Chameleon-like IRS revenue agents often change the definition of the trusts' intent depending on the situation they are facing. Nominees and alter egos are two common references to trustee/agents. With the planned destruction of all the trusts' assets and trustee/agents in place the trustee/agents are left only with the option of filing bankruptcy, in an effort to have themselves defined outside of the trusts, thus enabling them to protect the beneficiaries' assets from the tax mongers. Our readership should realize that trust assets are in reality no different than individual assets as far as the IRS is concerned.

The Carpenters were forced to file a personal Chapter 7 (no asset) Bankruptcy case in Eugene, Oregon, listing the only alleged creditors they have - the IRS and State of Oregon. In this case, Federal Bankruptcy Judge Frank R. Alley III makes some very controversial rulings in March 2005, by ordering the property sold and the proceeds held by Bankruptcy Trustee Candace Amborn. Alley, by this order,

converts a fraudulent claim into a counterfeit and unperfected, negotiable security. This order was given in total disregard for the trustee/agents' arrangements to complete an IRS 1031 tax deferred exchange that was in place at the time, with the intent to save the selling trust capital gains taxes and enabling the trust to take advantage of the strong real estate market. Alley then recuses himself in May 2005, due to a conflict of interest. It should be noted that federal judges like Alley are paid from the Department of Treasury, the same agency that contracts with the Internal Revenue Service for collections.

Alley's conflict (which existed before his ruling) in this case stems from the fact that the property was sold to Michael and Dawn DeSimone, represented by attorney Bill Fowler of Medford, Oregon. Judge Alley was formerly in a law practice with Fowler, as well as co-owner in his building, before Alley became a judge. Alley makes his ruling in favor of Bill Fowler, Fowler's clients, the IRS and their attorney Kelly Blaine and David Mills, attorney for Bankruptcy Trustee Candace Amborn, then recuses himself due to his conflict of interest that existed long before his ruling. Too little, too late might be the best way to describe Alley's ethics. An honest judge with integrity would have recused himself prior to hearing the case. The US-Observer attempted to contact Alley, but our efforts have been ignored. This makes one wonder why we have courts and judges.

It is worthy of note, that the main interest of David Mills and Candace Amborn is not justice, it is money. Amborn pays her attorney any amount he requests out of the trusts/beneficiaries' money and she pays herself based on her pay-outs ahead of both the IRS and the state. They are number one in the food chain (for money) – to hell with justice! Amborn has been busted on this issue before by the US-Observer.

Trainor's notes, in the ICS History report, reveal he received notice from Department of Justice local counsel, "unfortunately, counsel has advised me that, unless I have some official documentation regarding the seized property, I should release it." Carpenter subsequently received the release of levy on April 1, 2003, whereupon he immediately proceeded to the recorder's office to record the release in public record. The office manager read the release form and in front of witnesses states, "I need to call Art Trainor about this." This begs the question; does Trainor also work for Jackson County? According to Trainor's ICS History notes he instructs her to file the release of Levy, but not to release the NFTLs. Since Trainor was ordered to remove the Levy for legal reasons, it is obvious that he never had a lawful right to file it in the first place. Due to his vindictive nature Trainor still blemishes the title to the beneficiaries' property with the unlawful and invalid NFTLs.

The trustee/agents have asked the IRS to prove their claim they filed into the Bankruptcy case on Form B-10, yet the

agency hasn't provided any proof of claim to date. Not to be outwitted by the citizenry, DOJ attorney for the IRS Kelley Blaine, in November 2005, files a Summary Judgment Motion with new Federal Bankruptcy Judge Albert E. Radcliffe, thereby avoiding having to prove the impossible – the claims filed into the Bankruptcy on Form B-10. Radcliffe, safely in the pocket of the rogue agency, on May 31, 2006, grants the IRS their Summary Judgment in part and denies in part. He rules that they have a claim, but "Summary Judgment is denied as to the proof of claim's secured status." No cigar, no money. Again, as Frank R. Alley III did before him, Radcliffe, in July 2006, claimed a conflict of interest and ordered the case transferred from Eugene, Oregon to Judge Elizabeth L. Perris in Portland, Oregon. In a phone interview with Radcliffe's clerk the US-Observer was informed that the judge had a conflict of interest involving himself as a trustee on a trust that is not a part of this case. According to Radcliffe the conflict is with the IRS. Unlike Judge Alley, Radcliffe did respond and informed the Observer that his conflict arose after his ruling in May 2006. Does one become a trustee in a matter of 40 days? It makes you wonder...

The trusts (through the trustee's efforts – improvements to the property) have made it possible for Jackson County to now collect \$28,500 per year in property taxes due to the improvements to the property - to the tune of over 5 million dollars. This fact alone makes any prudent person realize that this IRS attack is absolutely all about control.

The parties to this case recently agreed to have it heard in Medford, Oregon on December 7, 2007, rather than in Portland. Judge Perris is currently scheduled to hear the case. We are anxious to see whether Perris serves justice or cowers to the IRS as those who have preceded her have chosen to do. History will record her actions just as it has those of her predecessors. We know justice will prevail if Perris rules according to that which is lawful. Should Perris continue the prior abuses of those before her she can look forward to having millions of Americans informed of her actions, and all involved can begin preparing for a trip to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

**Editor's Note: When an agency has a losing case the best angle is to continue their well-polished delay tactics and stall (17 years now), as in all cases, time is on their side. Stay tuned for follow up articles on this case.** ■■

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WHERE REALITY SHATTERS ILLUSION



Continued from page 1  
Willfully Wasting Taxpayers' ...

show up before they left and went to Strange's home.

When Strange arrived at his home he opened a beer and took two pain killers. Just as Strange opened his second beer OSP Trooper Joshua Quick arrived at his door. Strange gave Quick his statement and Quick left. At about this same time Hill was stopped by California Highway Patrolman (CHP) Ryan Stonebraker. Hill and his friends had just enough time to contrive a well versed story – a story that was completely the opposite of three separate eye witnesses.

OSP Lies – The Conspiracy Begins

Originally Strange was named the victim, however, Trooper Quick and Stonebraker quickly jumped to the conclusion that Hill was a victim without even attempting to speak with any eye witnesses. Quick then drafted a police report that contained obvious exaggerations and lies.

In the days following this incident Strange made up flyers which he posted around the Illinois Valley seeking witnesses and he even placed an ad in the local newspaper. Three eye witnesses were located and all three signed affidavits stating what they had witnessed. Neither the OSP nor DA Stephen Campbell did any investigation whatsoever other than speaking with a "drama" oriented Eric Hill and his friends.

After being indicted, Strange retained attorney Matthew Galli of Grants Pass. Seeing that Galli wasn't doing anything except extracting money from him, Strange got in touch with the US-Observer and we agreed to do an investigation. After thoroughly investigating every aspect of this case it was clear that the three bikers had done nothing wrong and were facing false criminal charges.

At this point I made an appointment with DA Stephen Campbell and took the eye witness affidavits to him, thinking he would investigate and drop his false charges. Campbell didn't pay much attention to them as he explained that "these types of cases need to go to court." I soon realized that I was witnessing a brain-dead and arrogant attorney who had long been without any conscious or sense of right or wrong. I left his office knowing that I must expose this dangerous individual.

Stan Strange's arm injury after being rolled up in car window



I immediately started promoting a protest and published my first article on this corrupt DA. The protest was a success as the sidewalk in front of the Josephine County Courthouse was filled with protestors carrying signs stating, "Corrupt DA Campbell Must Go" and "DA Campbell Files False Charges" – Campbell's picture was on all the protest signs.

Campbell witnessed what was taking place and instead of doing the right thing by looking into this case and the absolute facts surrounding it, he chose to conspire with officer Quick by doing an "in person interview" with him. In other words Campbell had Quick escalate his already exaggerated lies. Quick's first report was dated 8-27-06 and his second report was dated 2-15-07. The second (written after the protest and after Campbell had read our first article), was without question, written to help a corrupt DA get out of the mess he had created. Campbell just hasn't realized that it is going to have exactly the opposite effect.

In Quick's first report he states, "I observed that he (Strange) had a strong odor of Alcoholic beverage on his breath." Quick's second report, written over 5 months later states, "Upon contact, Strange is visibly intoxicated." This absolute lie is easily provable. Strange entered McGrew's at approximately 4:30 p.m. According to Quick's first report he was contacted at 4:45 p.m. According to witnesses, Strange waited for the cops over an hour, which would have him at McGrew's until at least 5:30 p.m. Witnesses at McGrew's have stated that when Strange entered the establishment that he hadn't been drinking and that he didn't have anything to drink during the hour he waited. Strange's home is at least 10-15 minutes from McGrew's. In Quick's first false police report he states, "At approximately 6:00 p.m. I contacted Mr. Strange at his residence." This time frame would give Strange 10-15 minutes to arrive home and either drink enough to acquire a "strong odor of alcoholic beverage on his breath," as was stated in Quick's first report or to become "visibly intoxicated" as was stated in Quick's second trumped-up police report. When Strange arrived home he spent some time showing his wife his damaged arm and explained what had happened to him. These facts not only prove that Joshua Quick is a dangerous liar, they completely trap Quick and DA Campbell in their illegal conspiracy. There are numerous other lies contained in Quick's reports, such as the statement in his second report that: "Strange is Jovial." Strange was angry,



Stan Strange (right) protesting DA Campbell

physically damaged, and had just gone through an extremely traumatic experience. Quick thinks we are ignorant enough to believe his statement that Strange was "jovial..." Without question, the numerous lies in Quick's second report completely expose the conspiracy that Campbell and this bad cop had started.

Attorney Malpractice?

On September 12, 2007 the three bikers arrived at the Josephine County Courthouse for docket call. Seybold was represented by public defender Gary Berlant and Louie Pombo was represented by attorney Dan Simcoe. Berlant informed his client with the other two defendants present that they were "scheduled for trial the following Tuesday" and "when the judge calls us we will say we're ready for trial." I asked the attorneys if they had subpoenaed the eye witnesses yet and they responded that they hadn't. Berlant did state that he had called witness John Tromler and Tromler stated that he wanted nothing to do with case. Any competent attorney would have had Tromler subpoenaed and called to the stand as a hostile witness to testify about the facts stated in his affidavit. Even though both attorneys have had the affidavits of the three witnesses for months, they hadn't even made an attempt to contact them (except the one call to Tromler) and yet they were ready for trial – no wonder the prosecutors in Josephine County win 90-plus percent of their cases. This is not only ineffective assistance of council, it

is inexcusable...period. Two of the witnesses have now changed their tune and have stated to this reporter that they don't want to appear in court. Why would they be so willing to sign affidavits and then be so fearful of appearing in court? This writer would ask our readership to recall the lies in the police reports and then simply use their imaginations to come up with the answer. DA Campbell will get his own chance to answer this before this issue is over.

Public Official Lies to Citizens



JoCo Commissioner Dwight Ellis

During the recent budget hearing meeting held at the Ann Basker building in Grants Pass, County Commissioner



Continued from page 1  
1st North American Union...

The hologram is a facsimile of the map of North America that is used as the background for the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America logo on the SPP website.

Marge Howell, spokeswoman for the North Carolina DMV, told the press that the state was embedding a hologram of North America on the back of their new driver's licenses. "It's a security element that eventually will be on the back of every driver's license in North America," Howell said.

Howell explained the hologram of the North American continent was the creation of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization that, according to the group's website, "develops model programs in motor

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Willfully Wasting Taxpayers' ...

Dwight Ellis stood before a crowded room and before those watching the cable television coverage of the meeting and lied. Ellis was attempting to get more hard-earned tax dollars for DA Campbell as he told everyone how honorable and what a wonderful person Campbell is. This is "par for the course" with Ellis, who is most likely the worst commissioner Josephine County has ever elected. This writer attended the meeting and I was first at the microphone for public comment. I informed those present that Campbell is both arrogant and corrupt and that Ellis was lying to them. Honorable men don't attempt to falsely prosecute the innocent.

Campbell/Nifong  
Connection

About the only difference between DA Campbell and disbarred Durham N.C. DA Mike Nifong is that Nifong was held accountable and Campbell has not been. Before Nifong was stripped of his license to practice law, Campbell reportedly told Josephine County resident Paul Walter that Nifong hadn't done anything wrong and that he supported the corrupt prosecutor. "Birds of a feather flock together."

Nifong was disbarred after N.C. state prosecutors investigated his actions regarding the attempted false prosecution of three Duke University lacrosse players. Nifong was ushered to jail on September 7, 2007 to serve a 24 hour jail sentence for withholding evidence. State prosecutors declared the lacrosse players innocent victims of a "tragic rush to accuse."

DA Campbell has mirrored Nifong's actions in this case. Campbell, with the assistance of Quick, rushed to accuse. When presented with evidence that vindicates Strange, Seybold and Pombo he ignored the evidence. In fact, Campbell has had eye witness's affidavits for approximately one year and hasn't even bothered speaking with one of them – he placed his corrupt blinders on and is now rushing to prosecute. Campbell's abusive actions have cost Stan Strange approximately \$11,000.00 to date in his efforts to prove himself innocent. Any prudent person must conclude that if the Attorney General's Office in Oregon had any integrity, they would be prosecuting Campbell, just as the State of North Carolina prosecuted Nifong. We must also conclude that all citizens are "at

vehicle administration, law enforcement and highway safety."

Founded in 1933, AAMVA represents state and provincial officials in the United States and Canada who administer and enforce motor vehicle laws. The government of Mexico is also a member, though the individual Mexican states have yet to join.

According to the group's website, AAMVA's programs are designed "to encourage uniformity and reciprocity among the states and provinces."

"The goal is of the North American hologram," Howell explained, "is to get one common element that law enforcement throughout the continent can look at on all driver's licenses and tell that the driver's license is an official document."

Jason King, spokesman for AAMVA, affirmed the North American hologram

risk" when a dangerous and unethical prosecutor holds office in their community.

The trial scheduled for 9-18-07 was once again postponed. The US-Observer will keep you informed of the new court date and we will be sure that the three Illinois Valley innocent defendants are well prepared for the trial when it does occur. We will also do everything in our power to get rid of corrupt District Attorney Stephen Campbell. Watch for our next article on this corrupt District Attorney and for more protests in front of the Josephine County Courthouse.

*Editor's Note: We understand that Mr. Strange has been forced to pay approximately \$11,000.00 to prove his innocence and he hasn't even had a trial yet – how many tax dollars has District Attorney Stephen Campbell wasted to date? How many tax dollars did Mike Nifong cost the taxpayers in the state of North Carolina? Nifong has cost N.C. taxpayers a few million dollars to date and with the 30-million dollar lawsuit filed by the Duke University lacrosse players, he will cost them much more... With over twenty-years experience handling such cases I can safely state that Campbell has cost Josephine County, Oregon taxpayers approximately \$20,000.00 on this case alone, to date. If he continues this false prosecution it will cost taxpayers an additional 20-30- thousand in combined costs. Since Campbell has been with the Josephine County District Attorney's Office the US-Observer has logged over 1-million-dollars in wasted money on false prosecutions – and these are only the few that we have investigated – how much more wasted tax money has occurred that we don't know about?*

*Campbell virtually stated at the last public budget meeting that he was immune from lawsuits. This is true in Oregon, because we have a totally corrupted Attorney General's Office, but it is not true in North Carolina. Should we be thankful that no one is allowed to sue a District Attorney in the State of Oregon, or should we, as Americans, demand accountability and by doing so, start breaking down the destructive scam that our "Legal System" has perpetrated upon each and every Oregonian?? And get this – DA Stephen Campbell has the audacity to stand before the public and tell them in his polished persona that he needs more money to prosecute criminals. The lies continue and continue and continue...*

*Call DA Campbell - 541-474-5200 or e-mail da@co.josephine.or.us and let him know what you think!*

was created by AAMVA's Uniform Identification Subcommittee, a working group of AAMVA members.

He explained the goal is to create a continental security device that could be used by state and provincial motor vehicles agencies throughout North America, including the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

King referenced a document on the AAMVA website that describes guidelines for using the North America continent hologram as an Optical Variable Device (OVD) that AAMVA has now licensed with private manufacturers to produce.

AAMVA supplies member motor vehicle agencies with a quantity of North American continent hologram OVD foils to use on their driver's licenses and ID cards as needed.

As the guidelines document on the AAMVA explains, each North American continental hologram OVD foil is embedded with a unique set of control numbers that permit law enforcement electronic scanners to identify the exact jurisdiction and precise individual authorized to hold a driver's license or ID card with that particular OVD foil embedded.

"AAMVA understands its unique positioning and the continuing role identification security will play in helping the general public realize a safer North America," King said. "The association believes ID security will help increase national security, increase highway safety, reduce fraud and system abuse, increase efficiency and effectiveness, and achieve uniformity of processes and practices."

Missouri State Rep. Jim Guest has held a seminar in North Carolina to protest the Real ID law. The surprise came at a meeting on the Real ID held in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Saturday, July 28,"

When Rep. Guest asked participants to take out their driver's license and see what was on it one gentleman was a state employee and on his license there was this hologram with the North American continent on the back. They were all surprised to see that on a North Carolina driver's license.

Guest has formed a coalition called Legislators Against Real ID Act, or LARI.

"I was astonished when I saw that North American hologram on the North Carolina driver's license," Guest said. "I thought to myself that the state DMV has already included this North American symbol on the back of the driver's license without telling the people of North Carolina they were going to do this."

"I thought right then that this was going to be the prototype for the driver's license of the North American Union. When we called the North Carolina DMV, they hedged at first," Guest said, "but finally they admitted that, yes, there was a North American continent hologram on the back of the license."

"This is part of a plan by bureaucrats and trade groups that act like bureaucrats to little by little transform us into a North American Union without any vote being taken and without explaining to the U.S. public what they are doing," Guest argued.

In 2005, North Carolina was the state where illegal immigrants go to get a driver's license, with busloads of aliens travel south on I-95 to get an easy ID.

The Tar Heel State's requirements to obtain a license are weaker than those of many surrounding states.

In 2006, Pastor Rios Sanchez, 55, an illegal alien, was accused of killing three people, including two North Carolina State University students and a 26-year-old, while driving drunk.

*Jim Kouri, CPP is currently fifth vice-president of the National Association of Chiefs of Police. He's former chief at a New York City housing project in Washington Heights nicknamed "Crack City" by reporters covering the drug war in the 1980s. He's also served on the National Drug Task Force and trained police and security officers throughout the country.*

*He writes for many police and crime magazines including Chief of Police, Police Times, The Narc Officer, Campus Law Enforcement Journal, and others. He's appeared as on-air commentator for over 100 TV and radio news and talk shows including Oprah, McLaughlin Report, CNN Headline News, MTV, Fox News, etc. His book Assume The Position is available at Amazon.Com, Booksamillion.com, and can be ordered at local bookstores.*

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*Paid for by the Committee to  
Remove Stephen Campbell*

Continued from page 8  
GOP is a Fraud

economic characteristics of 157 countries. Those include, property rights, monetary stability, freedom from government, trade restrictions, business regulations and government corruption. The report includes a color-coded map showing the nations that are free, mostly free, moderately free, mostly unfree, and repressed. Does it surprise anyone to discover that the most repressed nations also contain the poorest people in the world? People who lack freedom have no ability to produce wealth. As Economist Walter Williams points out, "Extensive government control, weak property rights and government corruption almost guarantee poverty." Those three factors are almost universal in United Nations' anti-poverty programs and the very reasons why none of it programs will ever achieve the goal of eradicating poverty. If the GOP was actually interested in helping the poor and making itself a hero to the masses it should abandon any connections with Bono and the UN. It should renounce any such wealth redistribution schemes. It should advocate the policies that made the United States the wealthiest nation on earth - the policies of private property ownership, limited government and free enterprise. The United States isn't wealthy because of an abundance of natural resources or good Karma. The United States is rich because it's free. And every nation on earth could be as wealthy if they too allowed their people to live their own lives without interference from busybodies who want to dictate how others should live - or seek to confiscate the fruits of someone's labor. Every nation could have it, no matter the education level of the country or the population. If the GOP needs a hero to follow why not choose a real one - with real solutions - those which actually reflect the freedom the GOP insists it promotes? Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto is such a man. De Soto wrote a book, "The Mystery of Capital, Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else." That book has become an international phenomenon with those who truly want to do something about eradicating poverty. De Soto has been sought out by at least 50 heads of state, each asking him to come to their country to help establish programs and guidelines for eradicating poverty, helping the poor build their own wealth. So why hasn't the GOP endorsed de Soto's brand of freedom instead of Bono's tired old socialism? The answer may surprise most GOP supporters, for it is no accident or miscalculation. Few Republicans are aware of an organization called the International Democrat Union (IDU). But they should know it because the GOP is a major player in it. It's no accident that every four years, at the same time and in the same city as the GOP National Convention, the IDU holds its own meeting. Formed in 1983, the IDU says it's a "working association of over 80 Conservative, Christian Democrat and like minded political parties of centre and centre right." Some of the political party members of the IDU include the German Christian Social Union; British Conservative Party; Norway Conservative Party - and the U.S. Republican Party. Now one would expect that an organization which is made of "centre and centre right" organizations which

advocate "free enterprise, free trade and private property," as the IDU claims - an organization with the Republican Party as a major active member, would also advocate the greatest collection of ideas for freedom ever written - the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. What an opportunity for the GOP to advance American ideals for eradicating poverty throughout the world. But such is not the case with the IDU. A careful look at the group's founding Declaration of Principles reveals a very different message. The second paragraph of the IDU Declaration states: "Being committed to advancing the social and political values on which democratic societies are founded, including the basic personal freedoms and human rights, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights..." That, of course, is the United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights that the IDU is promoting. There are two conflicting philosophies of governing in the world. One, the American view, as outlined in the Declaration of Independence, states that all people have rights they are born with and that government's main job is to protect those rights at all costs. America's founding document says that these rights are forever and unquestioned. It is the foundation of human freedom. The other view says that government decides the rights we should have, professing that all such rights give way to an unidentified common good whenever the situation is warranted. That means that all so-called rights are subject to the whim of whatever gang is currently in power. This is the position promoted in the UN's Declaration of Human Rights. Moreover, Article 29, section (3) of the document says, "These rights and freedoms may in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations." To understand why the Republican Party has embraced the socialism of Bono instead of the freedom of de Soto, one only has to connect the dots. As an organization advocating human freedom, the Republican Party is a fraud. ■■

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Victim's Assistance Fund**

The US~Observer is constantly contacted by individuals and groups who have been wronged and/or falsely accused of crimes. In the majority of cases we are their last recourse for aid in their vindication of these malicious allegations. Our operating expenses during an investigation are such that we can not help all of those who aren't able to afford our services. These people need your assistance and through your generous donations we can provide a place of refuge where the innocent aren't prosecuted and the guilty are exposed. For more information call 541-474-7885 or simply send a check to:

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# 'God' Responds to Senator's Almighty Lawsuit

By Eric Young  
Christian Post Reporter

Less than a week after a Nebraska state senator filed a lawsuit against God, a one-page document marked "Special Appearance" mysteriously appeared at the Douglas County Courthouse in Omaha, a local CBS affiliate reported Wednesday. "It was on the counter in legal filing yesterday," Gordon Rieber in the Clerk of the District Court's office told Omaha's Action 3 News. "No one saw it come in. She (an employee) turned her back and there it was." In the paper, "God" says the suit by Sen. Ernie Chambers (D-Omaha) should be thrown out because there was "[n]o proper and sufficient service of summons" by a deputy. And although He doesn't issue "terroristic threats," as Chambers had claimed in his lawsuit, "God" wrote that the senator would receive an "appropriate punishment." "He is going to take care of the senator by removing him from office next year," attorney Bill Gallup told Action 3. The CBS affiliate noted that "'God' apparently has a sense of humor – term limits keep Chambers from serving another term." Last Friday, Chambers, considered by many to be one of the Nebraska Legislature's most controversial and colorful members, filed a lawsuit claiming that God had made "terroristic threats" against him and his constituents, inspired fear and caused "widespread death, destruction and terrorization of millions upon millions of the Earth's inhabitants." The senator also accused God of causing "fearsome floods, egregious earthquakes, horrendous hurricanes, terrifying tornadoes, pestilential plagues" and more. Chambers' lawsuit asks for a

"permanent injunction ordering Defendant to cease certain harmful activities and the making of terroristic threats." "It's a lawsuit against a defendant who has perpetrated much harm and damage on the human race," he said on CNN. Although he is known to skip morning prayers during the legislative session and often criticizes Christians, Chambers said he isn't suing God because he has any kind of personal objections against Him. The Omaha senator told a local Fox affiliate that his lawsuit is in response to bills brought forth by other state senators to try and stop frivolous lawsuits from being filed. "The Constitution requires that the courthouse doors be open, so you cannot prohibit the filing of suits," Chambers said. "Anyone can sue anyone they choose, even God." And the senator says he is able to sue God because the "defendant, being omnipresent, is personally present in Douglas County." Regarding the one-page document that mysteriously appeared in the Clerk of the District Court's office, Gallup, a longtime defense attorney, said, "It looks to me like a legitimate document that would have to be sustained by the judge," also noting that "God" has a good strategy. Several attorneys that were interviewed denied writing the document, but said they're available if God needs them in court. "He (God) hasn't called me yet!" defense attorney James Martin Davis told Action 3. According to KETV.com, Chambers is asking for the court to grant him a summary judgment or, as an alternative, for the judge to set a date for a hearing as expeditiously as possible and enter a permanent injunction. ■■

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# OREGON GUN OWNERS EMERGENCY ALERT

By Carl F. Worden

*Editor's Note: Carl Worden responds to an opinion article which appeared in the Medford Mail Tribune on September 12th, 2007, titled "Gun loophole should be closed - Guns don't belong in schools; lawmakers should take action".*

You all know what an SD is, right? Well we've got an SD newspaper here in Medford, Oregon that has issued an editorial 9/12/07 calling on the Oregon State Legislature to enact a law that would prohibit carrying a concealed gun on any Oregon school campus, even if the person has a concealed gun license.

This whole unnecessary nonsense started when a woman teacher with a violent ex-husband obtained a restraining order against him, and the Medford School District officials called her into the office like some errant student and point-blank asked her if she was carrying a concealed gun, because they somehow found out she has an Oregon Concealed Gun permit.

She told them she did not have a gun on her, but after the meeting, she went rather public, seeking help from a prominent Oregon Gun Rights group that promises to bring a lawsuit against the Medford School District on the basis

that existing Oregon Law specifically protects her right to carry concealed on school grounds if she wants to.

Now we've got this big brouhaha that never should have been made public in the first place. We've got news reporters reporting that there is a no-gun policy on Medford school campuses, letting every psycho out there know exactly where to go out in a blaze of glory by shooting as many kids as possible before police finally get there to stop him, because God knows nobody on campus will be packing – thanks to the intrepid work of the Medford Mail Tribune and its Publisher, Grady Singletary, and Senior Editor, Bob Hunter.

Can you tell I'm just fuming? You know, Rupert Murdoch just acquired the Dow Jones Corporation, and one of its subsidiaries happens to be Ottawa Newspapers, and Ottawa Newspapers just happens to own the Medford Mail Tribune. I strongly suspect that Singletary and Hunter were not real happy about Murdoch's acquisition of their little dictatorship, and I think maybe Rupert Murdoch ought to know that.

In fact, the reason I'm sending this out to the entire national list is because we all have a stake in how this turns out. After one school and college massacre

after another, you would think these politically correct pansies might have gotten the clue that a "Gun Free Zone" is an invitation, and not a deterrent, to a violent attack.

But no, they just don't get it, mainly because they don't want to. The editorial, which I will include following this rant, claims school killings are very rare, but anyone carrying a concealed gun on campus might have an accidental discharge, go Postal or some kid might somehow grab a concealed gun and start killing other kids just for the thrill of it.

What kind of sick, twisted and pathological people come up with this imaginary nonsense? First, it hasn't happened, not once, and people go on Oregon school campuses all the time with concealed guns and nobody knows about it because the guns are concealed, get it? I happen to be one of them.

So these jackasses that run the Medford Mail Tribune, the Ashland Tidings and the Nickel weekly ad paper, who have a virtual monopoly on the printed news people get here, have taken a stand against guns on school campuses, and I think this is the grand opportunity we've all been waiting for to make it their last stand. How about you?

Just today, it was reported that Bill Sizemore, a renegade (hero) who runs a major political organization called Oregon Taxpayers United, got a sizable infusion of cash for his efforts to get voter-initiatives on Oregon election ballots. Perhaps he might be willing to get involved in this matter, since it would affect all concealed gun licensees statewide.

It is just simply ridiculous that I would have to park off school grounds and leave my Glock in my vehicle while

visiting a local school, and nobody else should have to do that either. Give me a break: The very least likely citizens to ever do something stupid, let alone violent, with their concealed gun is a duly licensed citizen. The ones you have to worry about are the ones who cannot qualify for a concealed gun permit, and pack concealed anyway. It's not like the rules school officials impose ever had any real teeth, so why would a person intent on making a bloody statement be deterred? Damn, these school officials are stupid!

Anyway Oregonians, we had all better start putting in calls, faxes and e-mails to the Oregon State Legislature right now. These idiots running the Mail Tribune have thrown down the gauntlet, and it is time we put them in their proper place – and that place would be the unemployment line in some nice spot like Anchorage, Alaska, where they can go unarmed to their heart's delight in Big Bear country.

Our school kids need to be protected from these morons. ■■



## Continued from page 1 Dept. of Corrections ...

charged. He can appeal the hearing verdict if he is declared guilty. The appeal is not based on guilt or innocence but on whether proper Department of Corrections procedure was followed during the hearing.

On Monday, June 4, 2007, Reno Francis received a message upon arriving back at his cell from work that he should go to unit 5 and speak with Mr. Sims, the unit counselor. At that meeting Mr. Sims informed him that he had been under investigation since December 2003 for "use of the mail to conduct illegal business". He was also told that he (Reno) had sent a letter to a post office in Idabel, OK which allegedly was an address where money was sent by several people to purchase drugs. Reno was told that the Department of Corrections internal investigator, Tim Coppick, had three anonymous statements concerning the situation. Reno was not told who had given the statements or what information was contained in them. Mr. Sims made the comment that Reno was not given enough facts or information concerning the situation to even be able to defend himself. At the meeting Reno was given a write-up for misconduct and was told that he would have a hearing within the next seven working days.

The next day Reno's attorney, Debra Hampton, visited him and briefed him on how to handle the upcoming hearing. Reno had not been given the usual paperwork whereby he could have asked that his hearing be taped as well as other requests. She looked over the only paper that had been given to Reno from

Mr. Sims and advised him how to proceed.

According to DOC policy when an inmate is charged with a misconduct and has a hearing for that misconduct he is not allowed to have anyone present at the hearing, not even his attorney. He must face the charges and the "judge", usually a DOC staff member, alone.

When an inmate is found guilty of a misconduct he loses many privileges. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections classifies all inmates according to a level system. Upon arrival in prison a person is classified as a "level 1". Within approximately 60 days he can work his way up to "level 2" if he presents no behavior problems and stays out of trouble. After another 30-60 days he can work his way up to "level 3" and after the same amount of time with clear conduct he can arrive at the coveted "level 4".

Not only does the inmate's level classification affect the amount of money he can spend at the canteen weekly but it also affects his right to own certain items such as a television, or radio, or even a fan (a necessity in Oklahoma's 100+ degree summers in non-air conditioned cells). At Lexington Assessment and Reception Center (where Reno is) a person on level 1 is not allowed to buy any food from the canteen but can only spend \$5.00 weekly on hygiene items. And possibly the most painful part of having a low level number is that visits with family and loved ones are based on the inmate's level. Level 4 people are allowed to visit from 9:30 until 3:30, the entire visiting hours, level 3s can visit from 11:30 until 3:30, level 2s visit from 1:30 until 3:30,

and level 1s can only visit for 1 hour behind glass. A person on level 1 is allowed no physical contact with his family. If the inmate has been sentenced to time in lock-up he will be escorted to his 1 hour visit in handcuffs and shackles wearing red coveralls rather than his gray uniform. If sentenced to lock-up he will also lose 120 days of good-time credit. Each medium security facility functions a little differently depending on the warden at that institution. At Lexington all the level 1s live on the same unit. Therefore if a man loses his level he also loses his "house" and must move to the appropriate unit for his current level. If he has a job he will also likely lose his job while in lock-up. No one wants to suffer the consequences of losing his level.

Debra Hampton spent the next several days attempting to reach Mr. Coppick, the DOC investigator. Mr. Coppick, however, did not respond to any of her phone calls or messages. Dick Frye, a private investigator who has worked on Reno's case for 4 years, also tried to reach Mr. Coppick to no avail. Mr. Frye suspected that someone was trying to cause problems for Reno, knowing that he was innocent of the charge. It didn't seem right that the alleged misconduct had taken place 3 ½ years earlier and nothing had been said or done about it sooner. This was not normal DOC policy as questionable actions are usually investigated within a year. Why had it been brought up now after all this time? Could it have anything to do with the fact that Reno's innocence is being brought to public attention and certain people in powerful positions are resentful of the fact?

In the meantime Reno racked his brain trying to think of any person he might know in Idabel. But he knew of no one in the town or even in the area. He knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that he had had no dealings with anyone or even any contact with anyone in Idabel.

The days passed slowly for Reno and his family as they waited for the fall of the axe that would cut Reno's level to 1 and reduce his Saturday visits to 1 hour behind glass. They were unable to eat or sleep.

On Friday June 15 Reno had his hearing before Barbara Wilson, a counselor at Lexington Assessment and Reception Center. At first Ms. Wilson seemed reluctant to proceed with the hearing stating that she didn't have much to go on and she was considering postponing the hearing. Before postponing it she called a department of corrections attorney to discuss the situation with him. After getting off the phone she stated that she would proceed with the hearing. She told Reno that she had no evidence but she still found him guilty of "using the mail for illegal purposes". Reno asked, "if I am supposed to be guilty of writing a letter to that post office box I would at least like to see the letter". Ms. Wilson responded, "We have no letter". He asked her why she was finding him guilty if she had no evidence and her response was, "I have to". She then told him she hoped he would "appeal all the way" because she thought he could win the appeal.

Reno and his family were devastated at the thought of losing their visits and confused at why he would be found

Continued on page 23

# Another Middle East War?

## Speculation Centers on Fears of Missiles and Nuclear Weapons

### Peace Talks Seem Impossible as Tensions Grow

By Simon McGregor-Wood  
ABC News

**JERUSALEM, Sept. 14, 2007** - Eight days ago, the Syrian government announced that Israeli military jets had been spotted flying through Syrian airspace. The Syrians said the jets had been fired upon and had fled. The Israelis said nothing at all.

Ever since, the region and its media have been engaged in a frenzy of speculation as to what really happened. As soon as news of the reported incident broke, the Israeli government imposed a complete media blackout.

That blackout has muzzled Israeli journalists who have been frustrated by the silence of their usually talkative defense sources. In one bulletin an Israeli radio announcer sarcastically told his audience to log onto the Web site of a government-sponsored Syrian newspaper to find out what really happened.

In the strange atmosphere that has followed last week's incident, the region's bloggers have been working overtime to fill the void. What seems clear is that something important did happen, and far from the Israeli mission being limited to probing, or reconnaissance, the consensus view is that the Israelis flew a mission that had a real target.

This speculation has been supported by a number of anonymous defense sources in the United States. One such source is quoted in The New York Times saying, "The strike I can confirm, the target, I can't."

Judging by the extraordinary secrecy attached to the target, it was highly sensitive. Another unnamed U.S. source said the Israeli strike "left a big hole in the desert." Meanwhile the Syrians are sticking to their story that the Israelis turned and ran once they were detected. Syrian U.N. ambassador Bashar al Ja'afari told reporters: "There was no target. They dropped their munitions. They were running away."

Here are the leading theories about the target, in no particular order of credibility or importance:

The Israelis, presumably with U.S. knowledge and backing, targeted a transfer of weapons destined for the Lebanese group Hezbollah. This trafficking of weapons has long been an issue for the Israelis, and now is in direct contravention of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1701, which was drawn up at the end of last year's conflict between Israel and Hezbollah. Israeli intelligence has been warning that Hezbollah is trying to rearm and the usual suspects are Syria and Iran.

Syrian ballistic missiles were the target. Syria has a lot of missiles within range of Israel's main population centers. In recent years, according to Western intelligence sources, they have been trying to improve and upgrade with the help of the North Koreans and others. Last summer's conflict between Israel and Hezbollah showed that Israel's conventional military superiority can be neutralized by an opponent who can strike deep inside

Israel's home front. Syria certainly has that capability and if it is radically improved that would be cause for Israeli concern.

The strike targeted nonconventional weapons facilities. Syria is known to have chemical weapons capability and its own production plants. With an upgrade in Syria's missile arsenal, this capability becomes a big worry for the Israelis. If some kind of intelligence warning indicated the Syrians have reached a higher level in this area, the Israelis might have decided to act.

The second unconventional area is, of course, the nuclear one. A New York Times story this week suggested with the help of some U.S. defense and diplomatic sources that the strike targeted an emerging nuclear program. Again, the North Koreans are implicated with former U.S. Ambassador John Bolton stoking the fires with bold claims about North Korean technology transfers to the Syrians. "It is legitimate to ask questions about whether that cooperation extends on the nuclear side," he told The New York Times.

Despite the recent improvement in U.S.-North Korean relations over the nuclear issue and the communist state's declared intention to abandon its enrichment program, one unnamed administration official, quoted in the Times, expressed a word of caution. "The Israelis think North Korea is selling to Iran and Syria what little they have left."

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in an interview with Fox News declined to comment on the supposed airstrike, but did add fuel to the fires of speculation by repeating the administration's policy of preventing what she called "the world's most dangerous people from having the world's most dangerous weapons."

ABC News consultant and former U.S. Ambassador to Korea, Donald Gregg believes that the North Koreans could be selling weapons but is highly skeptical of the idea that they would be touting nuclear technology, "North Korea has sold short-range missiles to a number of countries, and may well have sold some to Syria."

But, Gregg adds, "The idea that North Korea would jeopardize the progress it is currently making with the United States by becoming involved in nuclear-related issues in the most volatile region of the world beggars belief, as the establishment of normal relations with the US has been a major objective of North Korea since the collapse of the USSR."

If the Israelis thought the Syrians were developing nuclear ambitions, many analysts think they would certainly consider a preemptive strike, as they did against the Iraqi nuclear program of Saddam Hussein in the 1980s.

It is interesting to note that the only countries to have launched vehement rhetorical attacks against the Israeli action have been Iran and North Korea, whose foreign ministry in an official statement accused Israel of a "dangerous provocation little short of wantonly



violating the sovereignty of Syria and seriously harassing the regional peace."

Syria's Arab neighbors have been strangely quiet and have refused to be drawn into their usual criticism of Israel's military adventures. Do their governments know something about the target we don't?

Whatever happened, the incident has certainly raised tension between the two countries. They are already in a state of war after the Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights at the end of the Six Day War in 1967. The tension has been growing all year with both sides conducting a confusing dual campaign of military exercises and talk of peace negotiations.

The chance of them sitting down to talk peace now seems more remote than ever. The Syrians have complained to the U.N. Security Council, but are also hinting at other responses.

"Our response has not yet come," Ja'afari told BBC Arabic Service, accusing Israel of "seeking military escalation." Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Faysal Mekdad added that his country retains "the means to respond in ways that will preserve its position of power."

Meanwhile, most diplomatic sources suggest neither side wishes to let this incident flare into a full-blown conflict. The Israelis have recently stopped potentially provocative military exercises on the Golan Heights, and Western intelligence sources have detected no mobilization of Syrian forces since the incident.

In the absence of official statements from the Israelis, the frenzy of speculation, however, looks set to continue, with little prospect of the two sides sitting down to talk peace.

■ ■ ■

# U.S. targets in range, Iran says UN nuclear watchdog resists use of force

Steven Edwards  
CanWest News Service

**UNITED NATIONS** - The United Nations yesterday resisted new Western bids to increase pressure on Iran over its nuclear ambitions and calls for Israel's destruction as Tehran upped the ante by threatening to fire long-range missiles at U.S. and Israeli targets in the Middle East.

"Today the Americans are around our country but this does not mean that they are encircling us. They are encircled themselves and are within our range," said General Mohammed Hassan Koussechi, according to the state news agency IRNA.

"If the United States is saying that they have identified 2,000 targets in Iran, then what is certain is that it is the Americans who are all around Iran and are equally our targets.

"We have reached capacities that allow us to hit the enemy at a range of 2,000 kilometres."

Not only are U.S. and other coalition forces in neighbouring Iraq, but many Western firms are based in such places as Dubai. There is also a U.S. base in Qatar and the main harbour of its Fifth Fleet is in Bahrain.

An escalating conflict could even

include oil fields in Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest producer, as an Iranian target.

Gen. Koussechi was responding to Bernard Kouchner, the French Foreign Minister, who said on the weekend the West, in pressing the UN-endorsed demand Iran roll back its nuclear program, should "prepare for the worst, and the worst is war."

Mr. Kouchner's comments reflected the stronger line France has pursued following the election of President Nicolas Sarkozy, who himself has bluntly warned Iran risked being bombed if the nuclear crisis remains unresolved.

France showed no sign of backing down as officials rolled out proposals for new European sanctions. "The Iranians must understand that tension has reached an extreme point ... in the relationship [with] its neighbours," said Francois Fillon, the French Prime Minister, adding force was the "last option."

The UN Security Council has imposed two rounds of limited sanctions against Iran in its bid to ensure the country cannot build atomic bombs under the guise of nuclear energy development.

Germany and the council's five permanent members -- the United

States, Britain, France, Russia and China -- have had input into the structure of talks with Iran, but so too has the UN's nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), headed by Mohamed ElBaradei.

"I would not talk about any use of force," Mr. ElBaradei told reporters outside an IAEA meeting in Vienna. "There are rules on how to use force, and I would hope that everybody would have gotten the lesson after the Iraq situation, where 700,000 innocent civilians have lost their lives on the suspicion that a country has nuclear weapons."

In Boston, Mitt Romney, a Republican presidential hopeful, urged the United Nations to revoke an invitation for Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the Iranian President, to speak next week, adding the Iranian leader should be indicted for war crimes.

In a letter to Ban Ki-moon, the UN Secretary-General, the former Massachusetts governor said Washington should also reconsider support for the world body if Mr. Ahmadinejad addresses the General Assembly on Sept. 25, as scheduled.

"The Iranian regime under President Ahmadinejad has spoken openly about wiping Israel off the map, has fueled

Hezbollah's terror campaign in the region and around the world and defied the world community in its pursuit of nuclear weapons -- capabilities that make these threats even more ominous," the letter said.

It called for the Iranian President, who is expected at the UN on Monday for the opening of this year's General Assembly debate, to be indicted under the Genocide Convention, adding the United States should take action if the world body doesn't.

"The United States and the world must take a strong stand against the terrorist Iranian regime, and the time for action is now," the letter said.

Officials at the United Nations in New York found Mr. Romney's comments misdirected.

Elie Wiesel, a Nobel prize winner, and Alan Dershowitz, a professor at Harvard Law School, have called for Iran's expulsion from the United Nations as long as Mr. Ahmadinejad uses his post as president to issue statements such as his infamous call to wipe Israel off the map.

They have pointed out that calling for the destruction of a fellow UN member state contravenes the UN Charter, the document on which the world body is based. ■■

## Iran hits back in war of words

By Edmund Blair

**TEHRAN (Reuters)** - Iran, responding to Western debate about the possibility of war over its nuclear plans, said on Wednesday it would use any means to defend itself if attacked and could bomb Israel if the Jewish state launched a strike.

Its latest swipes came despite French efforts to row back from a comment by its foreign minister that publicly raised the specter of war over Tehran's disputed nuclear activities.

The semi-official Fars News Agency quoted an air force commander as saying Iran had drawn up a plan to bomb Israel if the Jewish state attacked it first.

Some analysts have speculated that Israel could seek to stage a pre-emptive strike against Iran's nuclear facilities, where Israel and Western nations believe Tehran is developing technology to build bombs. Iran denies the charge.

"We have drawn up a plan so that, in the event of foolishness by this (Israeli) regime, Iran's bombers can retaliate by attacking Israel's soil," Mohammad Alavi, deputy commander for air force operations, was quoted as saying.

The White House said Alavi's comments were unhelpful.

Earlier, when asked if Iran would block the Hormuz Strait, the world's most important waterway for oil shipments, if attacked, government spokesman Gholamhossein Elham dismissed it as "far-fetched" that anybody would take "this foolish option."

But, "we would use all our means to defend ourselves because territorial integrity is a key issue for every country," he said.

The world's fourth-largest crude producer has said it will not rule out using oil as a weapon if attacked.

Iran has previously threatened to hit U.S. regional interests if the United

States launches a military strike against the Islamic Republic.

U.S. naval chiefs are concerned that Iran could resort to mining the strait and the wider Gulf in a major conflict.

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice sought to ease concerns by insisting on Wednesday that diplomacy with "teeth" was the focus, but Washington has not ruled out military action should such a route fail.

Russia's U.N. ambassador poured cold water on calls from Western states for a new set of U.N. sanctions on Iran.

Comments by French officials, including President Nicolas Sarkozy, have driven the latest speculation this week about a possible war with Iran.

Prime Minister Francois Fillon said on Monday everything must be done to avoid war, a day after Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said Paris should prepare for that possibility though he did not think any war was imminent.

Alavi of Iran's air force also dismissed Israel's ability to launch strikes.

He said Iranian industry had developed new weaponry to confront any attacker, including long-range missiles, fighters, smart munitions and heat-seeking and video-guided munitions.

Western military experts say Iran has developed skills particularly in modifying equipment supplied by third parties, such as China, or U.S. weaponry bought before the 1979 revolution.

But they say Tehran rarely gives enough details about claimed advances to make an accurate assessment.

"That sort of comment as reported out of Iran is unhelpful. It is not constructive and it almost seems provocative," White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said.

She also reiterated U.S. calls for Iran to comply with Western demands that it stop enriching uranium.

*(Additional reporting by Caren Bohan in Washington, Sue Fleming in Shannon, Ireland, Oleg Shchedrov in Moscow)* ■■

## Rice urges bold action on Iran

By Sue Fleming

**SHANNON, Ireland (Reuters)** - U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice scolded the U.N.'s atomic watchdog agency on Wednesday over its Iran strategy and called for diplomacy with "teeth" to end Tehran's nuclear plans.

While repeating the U.S. stand that "all options" remained on the table -- a reference to military action against Tehran -- Rice sought to ease fresh concerns over talk of war.

"We believe the diplomatic track can work but it has to work both with a set of incentives and a set of teeth," said Rice.

The United States has been critical of a deal International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei has made with Iran to answer long-standing questions about its nuclear activities.

Rice, who has previously accused ElBaradei of "muddying the message" to Iran, voiced strong irritation with the IAEA chief.

"The IAEA is not in the business of diplomacy. The IAEA is a technical agency that has a board of governors of which the United States is a member," Rice told reporters traveling with her to Israel and the Palestinian Territories.

Washington and its European allies argue that IAEA moves divert attention away from U.N. Security Council demands that Iran suspend uranium enrichment and grant broader inspections.

"It is not up to anybody to diminish or to begin to cut back on the obligations that the Iranians have been ordered to take," Rice told reporters before a refueling stop in Shannon.

### MILITARY ACTION

The U.N. Security Council has passed two sanctions resolutions against Iran. The United States is pushing for a third, harsher round of measures, which China and Russia oppose, arguing that the IAEA should be given more time before

either further sanctions or military action are considered.

ElBaradei has urged Western powers to be patient and has been critical of talk of future military action by the United States and others against Tehran, telling nations opposed to his efforts to learn from the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003.

France's Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner raised the spectre of war with Iran this week but has since played down his comments, saying they were meant as a warning against military action and not to incite it.

Rice declined to comment on Kouchner's statements but said: "The key here is that we are committed to a diplomatic track but the president has not taken any of his options off the table."

Aside from U.N. action, The United States and its European allies are considering a range of unilateral measures against Iran. U.S. officials say Washington may soon sanction a unit of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps, among other punitive steps.

Political directors from the major powers are to meet in Washington on Friday to discuss what could be included in a third U.N. resolution, said Rice, without elaborating.

Tehran says its nuclear program is for civilian power generation while Washington and others say it is geared towards building a bomb. Western powers point to Iran's past secrecy over nuclear research as cause for concern. ■■



**Iranian President  
Mahmoud Ahmadinejad**



# Articles and Opinions

To the Editor letters for publication are encouraged – they must be typed, a maximum of 1,000 words or less in length. Please submit photographs or artwork. Contact Editor for permission to submit in-depth articles up to 1,750 words, plus graphics. Opposition opinions are welcome.

Always provide a computer disk or E-mail address. Accepted 3.5, or CD, PC or Mac format. Please save all text files in *text only* format.

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# Letters to the Editor



## US~Observer Equals Truth

Dear Sirs;

I have subscribed to your Observer for many years, but I am on a fixed income and I just can not afford it any more. I am hell-bent for the truth and your magazine has that. I am 77 years old and I have never seen America in this condition before. God help us. God bless you people.

Howard Campbell  
Winston, OR

*Editor's Note: God bless you, Howard. You are the recipient of our "Subscriber of the Year" award and will receive a lifetime subscription to the US~Observer!*

## NAFTA/NAU Superhighway

To the Editor:

We are "The Golden Goose" that is being prepared for the "Kill".

How? The NAFTA / NAU Superhighway.

China and their allies are moving forward with plans to build the NAFTA/NAU Superhighway, from the Mexican West Coast through and to the American Heartland, in Kansas. From there the goods of China will be spread throughout the U.S. and Canada. These goods are so cheap that the wages of the workers in the U.S. and Canada will be lowered to a point that the masses of the citizens of the U.S. and Canada will not be able to buy anything.

They are after "The Market / The Money".

If they are successful in building the NAFTA/NAU Superhighway, life in the U.S. and Canada as we know it, will end.

Is there a way to defend ourselves? Yes. Stop buying goods from China. Kill their "Market" and the incentive to come will go away.

To save ourselves we must buy from other sources, buy used if we have to, or even go without!

John Sweeney  
Portland, OR

## Jurors' Rights and Duties

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for your article,

“Jurors’ True Duties.”

I was recently on a jury in Grants Pass and had the pleasure of watching exactly what you wrote about. I had no idea that our courts had become so corrupt.

There is one Not Guilty person out here thanks to your information. Please keep up your fine work and please don't publish my name for obvious reasons.

Sincerely,

Anonymous

## Deadly Force - Government's Control Method?

Editor;

A lot of people think it's exaggerating or being melodramatic to say that EVERY command from "government" is a threat of violence, backed by the ability and willingness to use deadly force. The main reason it doesn't look that way is because most people immediately cave in and comply with government demands ("laws"), so the violence backing it up is never seen.

Imagine an armed car-jacker using the following defense when put on trial: "Hey, I didn't ever shoot anyone, or even hit anyone. I just said some words, and they all GAVE me their cars! I didn't use violence." If the words he used were "Give me your car or I'll blow your brains out," I think we'd all agree that that constitutes violence. The THREAT of force--stating that you WILL use violence if someone doesn't do what you say--is by itself a form of violence. No one with a brain would claim that car-jacking is perfectly fine if the crook has never ACTUALLY shot anyone (but only threatened to).

Nonetheless, the violence inherent in ALL involuntary "taxation" goes unnoticed by most people, simply because in most cases, the violence never actually occurs--people "comply" in order to AVOID the nasty things threatened by the feds. However, for a reality check, it's helpful for people to be able to see, every once in a while, the true colors of so-called "tax collectors," and that only happens when someone resists.

I was merely put in prison for a year, but even that is a very deceptive indicator of how vicious and violent the "law enforcers" truly are. I went along with being put in a cage in order to avoid the ultimate "trump card" behind EVERY "law" or EVERY "government": murder. If you doubt that, you need only look to an example of someone who DIDN'T go along with the federal terrorists. I'm speaking, of course, of Ed and Elaine Brown.

Does anyone need machine-guns and

tanks in order to ask nicely for a voluntary contribution? Are SWAT teams and sneak attacks required to collect "donations"? No. The IRS, the ATF, and all "tax collectors," are gangs of armed robbers, willing to murder those who do not give in. Again, we rarely SEE the true colors of these gangs of inhuman monsters, because almost everyone caves in quickly in order to AVOID having the really nasty stuff happen to them.

I have heard that there are indications that the feds are escalating their "presence" near the Browns' house. Setting aside authoritarian euphemisms, what that means is that they are getting closer to using overt violence to either capture or kill the Browns. And since Ed Brown has made it clear that he won't go quietly, it's pretty darn obvious that if they go in, the feds have every intention of MURDERING him.

For what? For not giving them a piece of his paycheck. Let's pretend for a minute that the Browns legally owed the "taxes" in question, and let's even pretend that the Browns THOUGHT they owed the tax (neither of which is true). Even if they said "Yeah, we owe it, but we're not paying," would that make it okay to MURDER them?

In his brilliant writings, Lysander Spooner constantly described government agents as "bands of thieves and murderers," which to most people would seem a little harsh and over-the-top. But the Browns are performing the public service of PROVING that that is EXACTLY what authoritarian "law enforcers" are: people who forcibly rob people, and who are willing to commit MURDER against those who resist. Of course, if no one ever resists, we never get to actually SEE just how evil the parasite thugs really are.

"The evils of tyranny are rarely seen but by him who resists it." [John Hay]

Whatever someone thinks of Mr. Brown personally, or of any unorthodox tax-related beliefs, it is good for Americans to be forced to face the question: Is it okay to MURDER people for not paying the government's "protection" fees? If you say "yes," you deserve any level of enslavement and oppression "authority" can impose upon you. If you say "no," then ALL "taxation"--however many layers of euphemisms and platitudes the truth is buried under--is an intolerable evil.

Some people are going as far as volunteering to use defensive force to try to prevent the murder of Mr. Brown. Amazingly, those people are then publicly demonized--and when possible, arrested--by the hypocritical, power-happy, murderous, machine-gun-toting fascists who are willing to COMMIT the murder. Mr. Brown is in his house, surrounded by a bunch of heavily-armed enemies, who are there with the obvious goal of capturing or

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DIAMOND

WINDOWS

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Windows  
Doors  
Siding  
Skylights



# Letters to the Editor continued

Get involved  
& send YOUR  
comments or  
concerns to  
the Editor  
[editor@usobserver.com](mailto:editor@usobserver.com)

killing him (knowing that the former is extremely unlikely), but when someone tries to come to the aide of Mr. Brown, to protect him from the aggressors, that person is arrested for being a nasty criminal. This shows just how insane the belief in "authority" can make people: armed robbery and murder are okay because they're (supposedly) "legal," but using defensive force against thieves and murderers is evil (if they call themselves "government").

Well, if that is the case, then I'm proud to be rooting for the evil side. Only the belief in "authority" can brainwash people so thoroughly that they can see the guy who is being ROBBED as the criminal, and the ROBBERS as the good guys. Such is the power of the most dangerous superstition.

Not surprisingly, the thieves and murderers want things happening quietly, which is why they've cut off the Brown's phone lines and internet. Personally, I'd love to see a thousand eyes all around the place, always watching, always recording, always spreading the truth. If the U.S. Marshals, the New Hampshire Sheriffs, and any other "authorities" involved actually believe that THEY are the good guys, wouldn't they WANT lots of people watching? Wouldn't they WANT the whole thing to be open and public, so their nobility and righteousness would be plain for all to see? They are the criminals, and they know it. They just want the rest of the country to remain so indoctrinated and clueless that the Browns will look like the "criminals"--dead criminals, if "government" once again has its way (as it did in the cases of Waco, Ruby Ridge, Gordon Kahl, and many others most people have never heard of).

Not surprisingly, most people don't really want to go up against the most powerful regime the world has ever known. But at least let he who has eyes SEE what is going on, and once again the "law enforcers" will be shown for what they are: as Lysander Spooner put it, "a band of thieves and murderers."

Sincerely,

**Larken Rose**

*(P.S. I have no idea what the physical layout of the surrounding area is, but if Mr. Brown's house is visible from anyone else's property, I hope they have 24-hour video surveillance going--infrared if possible.)*

## Measure 37?

**Dear Editor:**

Why is our Oregon Democrat Governor and his cohorts ignoring voters' support and passing of Oregon Measure 37? Oregon courts ruled it constitutional. George Orwell's book, Animal Farm fits them perfectly. Lowly voters just don't understand what they voted for. Mister Pig and his cohorts know best, making a mockery and serfs of Oregon taxpayers.

Not one Oregon Republican Senator or Oregon Republican House Member

voted for Oregon's Measure 49. They had the facts. Doesn't this tell you something is wrong? I thank them for standing firm for we the people. Oregon voters get the facts! M49 is really a trap at your own expense! This bill affects your rights as a property owner. In my opinion, their ads favoring M49, sound too good to be true. Haven't you heard this old statement before? This bill did not get due process. The ballot title is written to mislead the Oregon voters. Isn't it sickening to stand by and watch, each time we pass a ballot measure, to have our government tell us it can't be that way and we must revise the passed LAW!

After listening to David Hunnicutt of Oregonians in Action speak, it is my understanding, if M49 passes with a yes vote and your land, farm or otherwise, ever comes into any dispute you will pay the cost of your appraiser and your attorney. In addition you will also be responsible to pay the costs of the county's appraiser and the county's attorney. If the case is decided in your favor, none of those costs will be reimbursed to you.

Let history open minds not to be led down the destructive ruts that past civilizations suffered. What good is education if we continue to repeat history? Please vote one more time to protect our Constitution, our Bill of Rights and our way of life. Don't let Orwell's Mister Pig and cohorts fool you. Vote NO on measure 49.

Sincerely,

**Lyle Woodcock  
Josephine County, OR**

## Vote NO on Measure 50

**Dear Editor:**

I am a non-smoker, so when I first heard about Measure 50, the Healthy Kids Program, I thought it sounded like a great idea. It's supposed to help kids, like the ones I see every day in my first grade classroom. I'm writing you today because I was shocked to learn about the details of this plan to amend our constitution for a cigarette tax.

While doing some research, I read an analysis of the Healthy Kids Program that the state's budget experts drafted. I was astonished to discover that over 70% of the new tax money will NOT be expended for the Healthy Kids Program. The legislature shouldn't call it "Healthy Kids" if less than 30% of the money will actually go to the kids.

The legislature also set aside, as unexpended, \$65 million of the new tax revenue to spend on whatever health care expenses it wants. To me, that's just a blank check that will probably be written to state health care contractors like HMOs, health insurance companies or hospitals for bigger reimbursement payments.

Another loophole you should know about is the fact that the state will hand out no-bid contracts to health insurance companies and HMOs to run most of

Measure 50's new health care programs. I have to shop for the best values, and the state should too.

As you'll read in the ballot title, Measure 50 is a constitutional amendment that puts a cigarette tax in Oregon's Constitution. It would be the first time our constitution was amended to create a tax on a single product. The legislature should not use the constitution to pass a new tax. A tobacco tax simply does not belong in our constitution.

Finally, a recent independent economic analysis based on state data shows that we can't continue these new programs without additional tax dollars. The analysis shows that over the eight years after the program is fully implemented, tobacco tax revenues will decline by 2.2%, while the cost of these programs will rise 128%. The tax revenues that Measure 50 would raise won't cover the costs of the new programs. Who and what will be taxed to pay for these new programs?

After doing some research, the decision was easy for me. Please join me in voting against Measure 50. No one should say Measure 50 is "for the kids" when it really isn't.

Sincerely,

**Ben Matthews  
Salem, OR**

## Homeland Insecurity

**To the Editor;**

Buried in the September 5 issue of the Federal Register, was a notice that this Thursday, September 20, the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) will hold public hearings on their "Secure Flight Plan."

Come with me into a nightmare world where American citizens will have to obtain permission from the government before they can travel by air in the U.S.

Your government - meaning the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) - is up to no good.

Beginning in February 2008, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will implement their "Advance Passenger Information System (APIS)," the gist of which is that you will need permission from the United States Government to travel on any air or sea vessel that goes to, from or through the U.S. The travel companies will not be able to issue a boarding pass until you are cleared by DHS. This applies to ALL passengers, US citizens and visitors alike. And how do you get said permission to travel? That's for your government to know and you to never find out.

Now TSA proposes to do for domestic travel what APIS will do for international routes. That's what I said: the new TSA rule would require that you obtain PERMISSION to travel within the U.S.

Here is the summary of their proposed rules, which seem so reasonable, couched as they are in the blandness of

governmenteez [emphasis added].

- *The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IRTPA) requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to assume from aircraft operators the function of conducting pre-flight comparisons of airline passenger information to Federal Government watch lists for international and domestic flights.*

- *This rule proposes to allow TSA to ... receive passenger and certain non-traveler information, conduct watch list matching ... and transmit boarding pass printing instructions back to aircraft operators.*

- *TSA would do so in a consistent and accurate manner while minimizing false matches and protecting privacy information.*

- *We propose that, when the Secure Flight rule becomes final, aircraft operators would submit passenger information to DHS through a single DHS portal for both the Secure Flight and APIS programs. This would [result] in one DHS system responsible for watch list matching for all aviation passengers.*

Don't you feel great knowing that your government will use economies of scale to protect you?

Edward Hasbrough states that these rules are more insidious than merely complying to demands for 'Your papers please.' He states, "The proposal ... require[s] that travellers display their government-issued credentials not to government agents but to airline personnel (staff or contractors), whenever the DHS orders the airline to demand them. But since the orders to demand ID of [certain passengers] will be given to the airline in secret, ... travellers will have no way to verify whether ... demands for ID are actually based on government orders."

Think about that: you will not be allowed to verify if the person demanding your papers is actually authorized to do so. In addition, the airlines or their contractors (or sub or even sub sub contractors) have the right, under the proposed rules, to do anything they like with your personal information including:

- Keep copies of your passport ... as long as they like, use it, publish it, broadcast it, sell it, rent it, or pass it on to whomever they please.... [T]hey would have no obligation to get your permission for any of this.

Aside from the privacy issue, this is the DHS. Their past performance is an indication of future returns and we can look forward to true travel nightmares beginning February 19, 2008. Just think about the mess that occurred when CBP demanded that travelers to Canada and Mexico have a passport. Multiply that by orders of magnitude to imagine what travelers will be facing.

You have until October 22, 2007 to submit written comments through the Docket Management System. The docket number is TSA-2007-28572.

The Identity Project at Papers Please is working to prevent your government from robbing you of your right to privacy in your movements.

**Blue Patriot Woman**

■ ■ ■

# Innocents in Prison

By Stuart Taylor Jr.  
National Journal

*Many thousands  
of wrongly  
convicted people  
are rotting in  
prisons and jails  
around the  
country.*

As recently as 20 years ago, it was extraordinarily rare for a convicted prisoner to establish his or her innocence conclusively enough to get public attention. That changed with breakthroughs in DNA science.

The 205th DNA exoneration since 1989 was recorded earlier this month by the Innocence Project, a group of crack defense lawyers who have made such cases their mission. The exonerated prisoners—including 15 who had been sentenced to death—have been found innocent by courts, prosecutors, or governors based on post-conviction DNA testing.

But America has been too slow to appreciate that the DNA exonerations, and other evidence, suggest that many thousands of other wrongly convicted people are rotting in prisons and jails around the country. And our federal, state, and local governments and courts have done far too little to adopt proposed criminal justice reforms that could reduce the number of innocent people convicted while nailing more of the real criminals.

The case of the most recent DNA exoneree, Byron Halsey, was typical: Based on a confession full of obviously false details, extracted by high-pressure interrogation, he spent 19 years in prison in New Jersey for two heinous child murders committed by another man in 1985. Halsey was able to prove his innocence only after a 2002 New Jersey law forced reluctant prosecutors to give his counsel access to DNA evidence. In Halsey's and some 70 other DNA-exoneration cases, DNA also helped to establish the guilt of the real perpetrators. All or almost all had committed other violent crimes before being caught.

The kind of DNA evidence that can conclusively prove innocence or guilt is available only in a small fraction of cases, mainly rapes and rape-murders in which sperm is recovered. But these cases are the tip of the iceberg. Extrapolation from DNA and other exonerations suggests that the overall error rate in violent-crime prosecutions

is probably much higher than the estimates of less than 1 percent offered by many criminal-justice officials.

In a stunning non-DNA case that shows how low law enforcement can go, a federal District judge in Boston ordered the government on July 26 to pay \$102 million in damages to victims of the FBI's "outrageous" role in framing four men for a 1965 gangland murder. The four spent a combined total of 109 years in prison. Two died there.

"FBI officials up the line allowed their employees to break laws, violate rules, and ruin lives," wrote the judge, Nancy Gertner. She found that the FBI had known all along that a mob hit man named Joseph Barboza was lying when he claimed he saw the four men kill a mobster named Edward Deegan. Barboza and the FBI protected the real killer, Vincent Flemmi, because Barboza and Flemmi were FBI informants.

Although that was decades ago, the FBI (like most police agencies) still insists on a policy—its virtual prohibition of tape-recording interviews—that allows agents to conceal or distort what suspects and witnesses say. The usual motive is not to frame innocent people but to fit evidence to preconceived (and often mistaken) theories of the case.

The FBI has defended its policy on the grounds that taping might deter suspects from talking and that jurors might be offended to hear police using lawful but deceptive interrogation tricks such as lying to suspects and feigning sympathy. But the first concern seems far-fetched in most cases and the second is illegitimate. Refusing to tape interviews hides important evidence from juries as well as lending itself to abuse.

Police and/or prosecutorial misconduct appears to figure in more than half of the 205 convictions that DNA has proven false. Specific reasons for those convictions are catalogued in "Judging Innocence," a study by Brandon Garrett, a law professor at the University of Virginia, slated for publication in January in the Columbia Law Review. Mistaken eyewitness identifications—often due to police subtly pointing witnesses toward the people the cops suspect—figured in 79 percent of these false convictions. Flawed or corrupt testimony by scientific "experts" (about hair, blood types, and the like) figured in 55 percent. False confessions, mostly by juvenile defendants, figured in 16 percent.

What percentage of the 2.2 million men and women locked up in state and federal prisons and local jails are actually innocent of the charged crimes? This is not knowable with any confidence. But we can extrapolate from a few data points.

Samuel Gross, a University of Michigan law professor, has calculated that 2.3 percent of all prisoners sentenced to death between 1973 and 1989 have been exonerated and freed. His research suggests that the vast majority in fact did not commit the crimes. And an unknown number of innocents have not been exonerated.

Does this suggest that we may have 50,000 innocent prisoners (2.3 percent times 2.2 million) in this country? Possibly, but not necessarily. Gross



and Barbara O'Brien of Michigan State Law School stress in another forthcoming article that capital cases (and the DNA exonerations) are not representative of false convictions in general.

On the one hand, for example, the percentage of actual innocents may be higher among capital murder defendants—virtually all of whom go to trial—than among the 90 percent of violent-crime defendants whose cases end in plea bargains.

On the other hand, a much higher percentage of, say, robbery convictions than of capital murder convictions are based on unreliable eyewitness identifications. So perhaps the robbery error rate is much higher than 2.3 percent. And it's clear that most people wrongly convicted of lesser crimes are far less likely to win exoneration than are death-row inmates (who get much better post-conviction legal representation) and rape convicts (when DNA evidence is available).

Gross and others have also found that a very disproportionate number of exonerated prisoners are black or Hispanic. Discrimination no doubt accounts for some of this. So does the especially high error rate in cross-racial identifications, which creates special risks for black men wrongly accused of raping or robbing white people.

But well-off white men are not exempt from wrongful prosecution. This was spectacularly illustrated by the fabricated rape charges against three innocent Duke lacrosse players. Durham District Attorney Mike Nifong falsely demonized them as rapists, racists, and "hooligans," thereby gaining enough black votes to win what had been an uphill election battle. Nifong (who is white) also rigged a photo-identification process to frame the three for a nonexistent crime, hid DNA proof of innocence, and lied to the public and the court for many months before North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper took over the case and declared the defendants innocent.

Nifong has been disbarred and still faces a contempt-of-court charge. But his richly deserved fate is almost unheard-of. Most state bars and judges have given passes even to prosecutors who have hidden or falsified evidence to put innocent men and women on death row.

The DNA exonerations have spurred reforms by some states, but most still use shockingly unreliable police practices.

The good news, according to the Innocence Project, is that 42 states and the District of Columbia now require that inmates be given access to any DNA evidence; 22 (plus D.C. and the federal government) require preservation of DNA evidence; and 22 (plus D.C. and the federal government) compensate victims of false convictions.

But only three states (and some cities) have adopted the reforms to eyewitness procedures—such as excluding officers who know which person is the suspect, among other safeguards—that experts say are necessary to prevent false identifications. And only the District of Columbia, nine states, and some 500 localities keep police honest by requiring them to tape interrogations.

The courts, meanwhile, have "performed miserably in ferreting out the innocent" convicts, as Adam Liptak observed in a July 23 New York Times column. The Garrett study shows that the Supreme Court refused to hear the appeals of 30 of the first 200 prisoners who were later exonerated and rejected the one appeal it did hear.

The justices, and Congress, have also made it difficult for state prisoners to seek relief in lower federal courts. Most recently, on June 15 the conservative high court majority slammed the door on a murder convict because his lawyer had filed his appeal three days late—on the mistaken advice of a federal District judge. This decision seems perverse, especially in an era of DNA exonerations when, as a Justice Department commission observed in 1999, "the strong presumption that verdicts are correct, one of the underpinnings of restrictions on post-conviction relief, has been weakened."

Indeed, so formidable are the procedural obstacles facing falsely convicted innocents that only 10 percent of the 205 DNA exonerees made their innocence the basis of their initial appeals—and none was successful. This reflects the appeals courts' almost exclusive focus on whether the prosecutor or judge made procedural errors and almost complete deference to findings of guilt by juries and trial judges. They should defer less.

**Editor's Note: We have noted an ever increasing amount of innocent individuals being railroaded through our "justice" system. Time and again, these people who have lost everything in their fight for freedom say, "If only we had come to the US-Observer sooner..."**

■ ■ ■



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Va. Republican Bill Would  
Bar Illegal Immigrants From College

Immigration

By Tim Craig  
Washington Post Staff Writer

**RICHMOND** - Virginia Republicans announced legislation Wednesday that would prohibit public colleges and universities from accepting illegal immigrants even if they attended a public high school and were brought to the United States at an early age by their parents.

GOP leaders, who control both houses of the legislature, suggested that some Virginia residents are being denied access to college because too many illegal immigrants are taking available slots.

"If a legal Virginia resident is applying to schools, should they be admitted? Or should that slot be set aside for someone who has arrived here illegally?" asked James K. "Jay" O'Brien Jr. (R-Fairfax), the sponsor of the proposal.

The Republican proposal would also require city and county jails to check a defendant's immigration status and to have at least one person on duty who has been certified by the federal government to detain illegal immigrants until deportation proceedings. It would also routinely deny bail for illegal immigrants charged in a crime and suspend the business licenses of anyone convicted of hiring illegal immigrants.

All 140 seats in the General Assembly are on the ballot this fall, and illegal immigration has been a key issue statewide -- particularly in Northern Virginia, where Republicans have been losing ground in recent elections.

Immigrant-rights activists, who say

illegal immigrants aren't being admitted to Virginia colleges anyway, accused the GOP of trying to needlessly scare voters.

Claire Guthrie Gastanaga, a lobbyist for immigrant organizations, said the GOP "is taking advantage of a public misconception about the facts" and "exploiting fear and ignorance."

"It's poll-driven. It's cynical, and it's just silly," Gastanaga said.

The college admissions proposal, which comes as party leaders try to shift public attention from controversial abusive-driving fees, is part of a five-point plan presented by Republican legislators, including House Speaker William J. Howell (Stafford) and Senate Majority Leader Walter A. Stosch (Henrico).

"Allowing illegal aliens to circumvent the rule of law not only undermines the integrity and wellbeing of our society and stretches thin limited taxpayer resources at all levels of government, but is an injustice to those immigrants who followed the lawful path in coming to Virginia and the United States," Howell said.

The proposals are more restrained than past statewide efforts to deal with illegal immigration.

Last year, the House of Delegates approved a bill that would cut off state funding for any charity found to be assisting illegal immigrants. Some GOP delegates are pushing separate proposals this year to cut off state funding to local governments that provide services to illegal immigrants. Governments in Prince William,

Loudoun and Culpeper counties are trying to curb illegal immigration, too.

Del. David B. Albo (R-Fairfax), chairman of the Courts of Justice Committee, said the House would focus on the proposal outlined Wednesday because the GOP leadership is confident it would be upheld in court.

But the issue of denying a public college education to an illegal immigrant will probably be controversial.

In past sessions, the House of Delegates and more moderate Senate have failed to agree on proposals to deny in-state tuition rates to illegal immigrants.

Howell and Stosch say they are ready to go much further.

Under the GOP proposal, a public college such as Virginia Tech or George Mason University would have to prove an applicant is a legal resident or has a valid student visa.

Northern Virginia Community College allows the admission of illegal immigrants, but they must pay out-of-state tuition.

But most four-year colleges prohibit illegal immigrants, advocates and college officials said. "We don't enroll illegal aliens," said Jeff Hanna, a spokesman for the University of Virginia. "A student who applies and is accepted must produce documentation." In 2004, a federal judge in Alexandria upheld the right of U-Va. and six other Virginia colleges and universities to deny admission to illegal immigrants. The suit was brought by illegal immigrants upset that they were being

denied entry.

O'Brien couldn't present any evidence Wednesday that illegal immigrants are gaining access to Virginia's colleges.

But GOP leaders offered statistics showing that 36 percent of applicants to a four-year public college in Virginia were rejected last year. They couldn't say how many of those denials occurred because the applicants weren't academically qualified.

In some cases, students at Virginia public schools do not have legal status -- even though their younger siblings do -- because they were brought into the country at a young age by their parents. In those circumstances, O'Brien said, it would be up to "the parents of that child to seek legal presence for that child."

The proposal dealing with defendants in county jails would require that sheriffs have at least one person on duty at all times who is certified to check their immigration status.

A 1994 law asks sheriffs to check immigration status. But Albo said that the legislation is confusing and that many jails do not follow it.

"This will absolutely mandate them to do it and tells them how they should do it," Albo said.

Gov. Timothy M. Kaine (D) said that he is eager to work with the Republicans to curtail illegal immigration but that he is waiting for the findings of a state commission studying the issue before he endorses a specific proposal. The commission is expected to complete its work in October.

...

High-Tech Security Visas Sold on Mexican Black Market

Jim Kouri, CPP  
NewsWithViews.com

United States immigration and State Department officials fear that their newly developed, high-tech visas are being sold on the Mexican black market. The US government hoped the newly designed visas would help in curtailing rampant illegal immigration at the Mexican border, but investigators believe many of them are being bought or rented by Mexicans seeking illegal entry into the US.

Well over 11,000 of these Laser Visas, issued to Mexicans for legitimate travel into the United States were reported stolen or "lost" in just two border cities. Government officials claim this is a 15 percent jump from previous figures.

The ATM card-sized documents, which include the legal holder's photograph and scanned fingerprints, were actually developed for use in 1998 hopefully to increase security and standardize documents used by Mexicans to cross the border since so many different types of documentation made the screening process cumbersome and confusing.

"While many may have been legitimately 'lost,' it seems probable that quite a few are either 'stolen' or 'reported stolen' in order to sell them," a U.S. consular official, who declined to be named, told Reuters.

"There appears to be a healthy market for both buying and renting laser visas on the border," she added.

Mexicans call these visa cards "Micas," which allow bearers to cross into the US without other supporting documents. The card also allows them to travel up to 25 miles inside California or Texas and they may remain in the US up to 30 days.

According to figures provided by Reuters, 8,745 of the border crossing cards went astray last year in Ciudad Juarez, south of El Paso, Texas, and 3,095 in Tijuana, opposite San Diego, California. No figures were available for other cities along the 2,000-mile border.

The problem got so bad that the US Embassy in Mexico City revamped its visa policy late last year, but did not inform anyone of the mounting problem. The embassy now replaces "lost" or stolen cards with stickers

placed inside passports hope this will curb the illegal market of the laser cards.

The paradox is that in an effort to beef up security at the Mexican border using state-of-the-art technology, the US may have made it even easier to compromise that very security.

Also, the US is getting zero help from the Fox government in Mexico City during the course of investigations. While not speaking "on the record," off the record some US law enforcement people believe elements within the Mexican federal and local governments are assisting in the diversion of legitimate visas.

While US authorities say they possess no concrete evidence that organized Mexican human trafficking rings overseeing the illicit trade are using these cards, many security experts believe there are several organizations trafficking in this document.

But Tijuana police claim most of the stray visas are sold by cash-strapped holders to human traffickers in the gritty industrial city of 2 million people, on a widely used route for Mexican illegal immigrants headed for the Californian border.

Recently, seven illegal aliens from Mexico were arrested for allegedly operating a fraudulent document ring in Chicago's "Little Village" area. The organized crime enterprise generated approximately \$2.5 million a year.

Found inside the residence was equipment used for making fake government documents, including: five high-speed computers, printers, ID card printers, scanners, laminating pouches, foil strips with security features, dozens of counterfeit identification cards, and other document-making paraphernalia. The estimated value of the seized items is approximately \$10,000; the street value of the software is believed to be about \$100,000.

Law enforcement commanders throughout the US believe that there are similar operations being conducted by Mexican organized crime cells. The Castorena crime family, a Mexican organized crime family that has controlled the majority of the fraudulent document manufacturing and sales trade in the US over the past 10 years, is believed to be trafficking in these new high-tech visas. Some even believe they are attempting to duplicate these cards. ■



Exposing the Truth in Oklahoma

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# Health



By Julie Steenhuysen

**CHICAGO (Reuters)** - At least one man who ate several bags of butter-flavored microwave popcorn each day has developed a life-threatening lung disease possibly caused by an additive in the popcorn, his doctor says, and U.S. regulators have launched an investigation.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration said on Wednesday it received a report from a Denver doctor saying the man has the lung disease similar to an illness affecting workers in plants where microwave popcorn is made, FDA spokesman Michael Herndon said in an e-mailed statement.

"We are currently evaluating the recent information on the association of inhalation of the food additive diacetyl with lung disease, and are carefully considering the safety and regulatory issues it raises," Herndon said.

"This is the first time we're being made

## FDA to Probe Popcorn Link in Man's Lung Disease

aware of a potential consumer case. We're taking (the doctor's) report very seriously," said Bernadette Burden, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ConAgra Foods Inc, maker of Orville Redenbacher and Act II microwave popcorn brands, said Wednesday it will drop diacetyl from its butter-flavored microwave popcorn in the "near future" to safeguard its employees.

The additive, which gives microwave popcorn a buttery taste, has long been linked with a rare lung disease, bronchiolitis obliterans, found in plant workers.

In April, the CDC said workers at factories that make food flavorings as well as popcorn factories are at risk of contracting the hard-to-treat condition, which causes symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath, but steadily worsens.

ConAgra spokeswoman Stephanie Childs said that after months of deliberations, the company now expects to remove diacetyl "within a year" to protect employees who are exposed to large amounts of the additive.

"We made that decision in order to provide our employees with the safest work environment possible, but also to

eliminate even the perception of concern for consumers," Childs said in a telephone interview.

Last month, Weaver Popcorn Co Inc, maker of Pop Weaver microwave popcorn, said it had removed diacetyl from its microwave popcorn, in part to address consumers' concerns about the ingredient.

**NEW WORRIES?**

Dr. Cecile Rose, of the National Jewish Medical and Research Center in Denver, has reported that a patient has contracted the disease from the daily consumption of several bags of butter-flavored microwave popcorn for several years.

Rose, in a July 18 letter to the FDA obtained by Reuters, described a patient who developed progressively worsening respiratory symptoms that resemble the ones described by workers affected by bronchiolitis obliterans, which has been linked to inhaling the food additive diacetyl.

"We cannot be sure that this patient's exposure to butter-flavored microwave popcorn from daily heavy preparation has caused his lung disease. However, we have no other plausible

explanation," Rose wrote.

No other details about the man were immediately available.

The Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association of the United States said it is concerned about the new development.

"This new information ... suggests a possible association between inhaling the fumes from the preparation of several bags of heavily butter-flavored microwave popcorn each day when the butter flavor contains the flavor ingredient diacetyl and the development of the patient's severe respiratory illness," it said in a statement

"The information does not suggest a risk from eating the popcorn," the group said.

Deirdre Flynn, executive director of Popcorn Institute, which represents U.S. popcorn makers, could not say exactly where the flavor ingredient is used.

"To my knowledge it's used worldwide," she said.

It could not be immediately determined how many bags of the popcorn are sold each year.

Shares of ConAgra closed down 42 cents, or 1.6 percent, at \$25.42 on the New York Stock Exchange.

*(Reporting by Julie Steenhuysen and Will Dunham)* ■■

## Prescription Drug Abuse Grows in U.S.



**WASHINGTON (Reuters)** - More young U.S. adults are abusing prescription medications, particularly painkillers, according to the government's annual report on substance abuse released on Thursday.

Overall, in 2006, 22.6 million people - 9.2 percent of Americans ages 12 and up -- either abused or were addicted to drugs or alcohol in the prior year, according to estimates in the report from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

That is up slightly from an estimated 22.2 million people, or 9.1 percent of the population, in last year's report.

The 2006 report found that non-medical use of prescription drugs, mostly pain relievers, among young adults increased from 5.4 percent in 2002 to 6.4 percent in 2006.

"The abuse of prescription drugs for non-medical reasons is of increasing concern," agency chief Terry Cline said in a statement.

"These are potent drugs that can have serious and life-threatening consequences if misused. Parents in

particular need to be aware of this problem and take steps to prevent these medications from falling into the wrong hands," Cline added.

The agency said 3.2 million Americans were dependent on or abused both alcohol and illicit drugs and 3.8 million were dependent on or abused illicit drugs but not alcohol.

Another 15.6 million were dependent on or abused alcohol but not illicit drugs, the agency added.

The report showed that fewer adolescents ages 12 to 17 said they had used illicit drugs in the prior month -- the rate dropped from 11.6 percent in 2002 to 9.9 percent in 2005 and 9.8 percent in 2006.

Current marijuana use among those ages 12 to 17 dropped from 8.2 percent in 2002 to 6.7 percent in 2006, with the decline seen particularly among boys, according to the report.

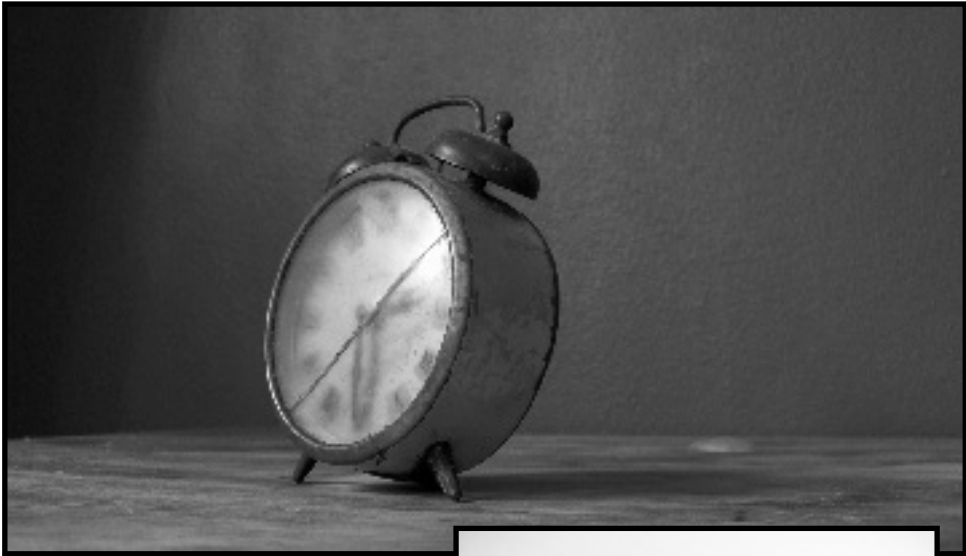
The agency also found that the level of under-age drinking among those ages 12 to 20 remained unchanged since 2002, at 28.3 percent in 2006. The legal age for drinking alcohol in the United States is generally 21.

The findings were based on responses given by about 67,500 people to a government survey.

■■



## Early Rising No Good for the Heart: Study



Generations have praised the wisdom of getting up early in the morning, but a Japanese study says early-risers are actually at a higher risk of developing heart problems.

The study, conducted by researchers from several universities and hospitals in the western Japanese city of Kyoto, revealed a link between wake-up times and a person's cardiovascular condition.

"Rising early to go to work or exercise might not be beneficial to health, but rather a risk for vascular diseases," said an abstract of the study.

The study, covering 3,017 healthy adults aged between 23 through 90, found that early risers had a greater risk of heart conditions including hypertension and of having strokes.

However, the study also noted that early risers were usually older.

The study is being presented this week at the World Congress of the World



Federation of Sleep Research and Sleep Medicine Societies, being held in Cairns, Australia.

A separate study released in June by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania found that chronic sleep deprivation adds stress to the heart, putting a person at greater risk of cardiovascular disease and death. ■■

Continued from page 15  
Dept. of Corrections ...

guilty of a charge of which he was completely innocent. It reminded them of how he was sent to prison 37 years earlier for a crime he did not commit. Reno expected to receive his paperwork on Monday or Tuesday stating that his level had been dropped, making it official that his next family visit would be for only 1 hour and it would be behind glass - no hug for his son or kiss for his fiancée, not even the touch of a hand for comfort.

Debra Hampton called the prison early Monday morning asking to speak with Lexington warden, Randy Workman. Warden Workman was out of town and Debra's call was directed to assistant warden Jayne Stanfield who was acting warden in his absence. Ms. Stanfield told Debra after hearing Reno's story that she too was concerned about the

situation, that she would speak with Barbara Wilson and would look into the case. She told Debra she would get in touch with her after completing her investigation, probably in about two days.

When she had not heard from the assistant warden in 48 hours, Debra called her office. Ms. Stanfield apologized for the delay in contacting her. She told Debra that she was dismissing the misconduct charges against Reno! She stated that she was not saying that Reno was not guilty but that there was no evidence against him and the whole incident was not pursued in a timely manner by DOC. Considering those things and Reno's good conduct record, she decided to dismiss the charge. (Reno has been level 4 the entire 11 years he has been at LARC and for many years previously, he has worked at OCI for 10 years where

his job involves many responsibilities, his work record and his 120 day reviews are always excellent).

The US Observer Oklahoma commends Ms. Jayne Stanfield for her commitment to justice in continuing the investigation into Reno's misconduct even after he had been found guilty and for her courage in dismissing the charge. We only wish the same commitment to the truth had been evidenced in the earlier stages of the investigation. Why after 3 ½ years was the alleged incident even brought up? Why was Reno charged with "use of the mail to conduct illegal business" when the charge was completely untrue? And why was he found "guilty" when there was absolutely no evidence (by DOC staff admission) against him?

We are very disappointed in a system that would take away a man's privileges, especially his visits with his family with

no proof against him. But kudos to Ms. Stanfield for her fairness. Would that the Oklahoma Department of Corrections was always equally fair.

Some people have much to lose when a person who has been incarcerated for many years is proven to be innocent. Such a situation shines a bright light on the justice system and illuminates many of its' faults. Perhaps there are those who feel the system cannot stand such scrutiny and who would like to prevent the public from having an intimate look at a justice system which may not bear up well under such illumination. Could this be the case with Reno Francis? Is someone trying to discourage those who are bringing his case into the light and showing how wrong the system was in locking up an innocent man? Only time will tell. In the meantime we are thankful that Reno is as free as he can be while locked away in prison. ■■

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## At Wit's End

### Attorney Malfeasance Eroding Real Justice

**By Ron Lee**  
**The Verbal Assassin**

Frustrated and tired, the words spilled from his mouth in disgust, booming in his deep powerful voice, "Attorney's are thieving, corrupt, sons of bitches." Ed Snook, lead investigator with the US~Observer, shook his head and looked toward the ground. He was at wit's end. He continued softly about one of the stories he is working on, "We showed up at the courthouse early to talk with the attorneys who had told us they

were ready for the upcoming trial. When they got there I asked them if they had subpoenaed the three key witnesses that vindicate their clients, and each one said, 'what witnesses?' Can you believe it? They've had these cases for nearly 9 months and they don't know a single thing about the cases they are representing! Even after we told them that they needed time to get these witnesses handled, two of them went into court and told the judge they were ready to proceed with trial! How can they be ready for trial, unless they just

don't care about their clients. And they don't! They're corrupt!"

Snook has seen his share of the "Injustice System" over the last twenty-plus years investigating and fighting for the rights of thousands of falsely accused individuals who have sought out his expertise. Even though he is not an attorney and does not do legal advice, there is no one better at putting together a defense strategy with an attorney. He likes to say, "it's all about the evidence." Evidence that the US~Observer gathers when researching

a story. Evidence that, for the most part, is never discovered by a lone attorney as legal practice now appears to be nothing more than paper-pushing and court appearances, rather than researching and fighting for a client by utilizing evidence. They don't even like to return phone calls to clients, a fact I'm sure thousands who have used an attorney's services can verify. And the most absurd fact, most want their clients to take plea deals. They don't care if they're innocent! **Read the rest of the story at: [www.usobserver.com](http://www.usobserver.com).**

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