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AIM / NCOM - Free Legal And Legislative Consultation

Free All Brothers Behind Bars...

Editor: Mike Davis SFFS...

“Remember - When seconds count, the police are only minutes away.....”

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Thanks goes to the Los Valientes DeadEye of Minnesota for his \$ 50.00 Donation to this BBB Newsletter... Thank you...

In Memory of Hells Angel Mark “Papa” Guardado from San Francisco, California... My Papa R.I.P...

Happy Birthday Iron Horsemen Chico, September 6th...

A Big Thank you goes to the Minnesota Motorcycle Club Coalition for becoming the newest sponsor of this newsletter. They have given me a check for \$ 200.00 for One Year sponsorship at \$ 17.00 a month... Thank You!!!

News Article Sources: All News Articles contained in this NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter, unless source is specified, are obtained from the following 3 Web Sites: Road Scholars (Wolf From Atlanta), Outlaw Biker World, & White Trash Biker (Ace)...

Disclaimer: The News Media does NOT always tell the Whole Truth. It tends to sensationalize the News to sell Newspapers...

Editor's Note: I produce this National Coalition of Motorcyclists Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter which is a non partisan newsletter for Bikers by Bikers. The mailing list consists of members mainly of One-percenter Motorcycle Clubs, as well as from some non One-percenter Motorcycle Clubs. Information from the Newsletter contains News Articles & other information that may be of interest to a biker behind bars. Financial support for this Newsletter comes mainly from NCOM, Motorcycle Clubs, Confederations Of Clubs, & Tattoo Shops.

Editor's Note: The current NCOM BBB Mailing List includes 21 Bandidos, 2 Banshees, 2 BPM, 5 Breed, 1 Boozefighters, 1 Brother Speed, 1 Christian Motorcycle Association, 2 Death Squad, 2 Devils Diciples, 4 Diablos, 3 Finks, 1 Free Souls, 1 Gypsy Jokers, 15 Hells Angels, 1 Hermano, 1 In Country Vietnam, 1 Invaders, 8 Iron Horsemen, 1 Iron Ranger, 1 Iron Wings, 1 Liberty Riders, 1 Mohawk Valley Riders, 8 Mongols, 30 Outlaws, 13 Pagan's, 2 Phantom's, 4 Pharaoh's, 1 Reapers, 1 Renegades, 1 Salramanials, 9 Sons Of Silence, 1 Sundowners, 1 Thunderbird, 1 Unforegiven, 2 Vagos, 1 Vietnam Vet, & 5 Warlocks...

Of which: 6 - Australia, 2 - Norway, 2 - England & 3 - Sweden... Total of 156...

New Brothers added to the NCOM BBB Newsletter's Mailing List are approved via their respective Club's Contact Brother. Contacts are: Bandido Eclipse, Breed Shameless, Diablo Tommy, Hells Angel South Side Billy, Iron Horsemen Backwards Bob, Iron Horsemen MF, Mongol Jeff, Outlaw Smitty, Pagan Hose-A, Pagan Ronnie, Pagan White Bear, Solders For Jesus Louie, SOS Bronson, SOS Gary, Orange County Vago JR, Orange County Vago Greasy Johnny, Warlock TW, And Warlock Big John... Editor's Note: I would like to thank all of these Club Contacts... If you have a chance, please thank them also!!! Mike SFFS

Editor's Note: For July there were 4 issues; For August there were 4 issues, For September there is 1 issue so far...

Hello Mike, Thanks for all your support to the Brothers Behind Bars & please send a shout out to my Brothers Big Rick & Pit. All my love & respect to both & I miss you both. And all my respect to the S.O.S. From Rude Richie Berdoo Vagos Forever

Waseca prison to become women-only facility – Aug 13, 2008 – Minnesota - The men's federal prison in Waseca is becoming an all-women's federal prison. The low-security prison currently houses 1,100 inmates about 75 miles south of Minneapolis. The change is expected to happen within the next few months. Waseca Mayor Roy Srp says the Federal Bureau of Prisons needs more bedspace for low-security women inmates. The mayor says there seems to be an influx of female prisoners in the Upper Midwest, & making the prison all-female will make visitation easier for friends & family. A spokeswoman for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Washington, D.C., would not comment to Minnesota Public Radio on why there is a need for more female bedspace. She did say that the male inmates currently at the Waseca prison would be sent to other prisons around the country.

Seattle cop charged in Sturgis shooting – Aug 28, 2008 – *Sturgis, South Dakota / Washington* - By Jennifer Sullivan; Seattle Times - Several criminal charges were filed in South Dakota this morning against a Seattle police officer who shot & wounded a Hells Angels member during a fight inside a Sturgis bar earlier this month. The Meade County State Attorney's Office charged Seattle Police detective Ronald Smith with assault, perjury & carrying a concealed pistol without a permit. Smith said he shot & wounded Hells Angels member Joseph McGuire after being jumped by several bikers inside the Loud American Roadhouse on Aug. 9, according to a statement released this morning. Smith declined to comment on the charges. An assault charge was filed against McGuire, 33, of Imperial Beach, Calif. Charges also were filed against four other members of a motorcycle group called the Iron Pigs, which is made up of police & firefighters. The other Iron Pig members who were with Smith in Sturgis face a charge of carrying a concealed weapon without a permit. They include: Scott Lalalde, 38, of Bellingham; James Rector, 44, of Ferndale, Whatcom County; Erik Pingel, 35, of Aurora, Colo.; & Dennis McCoy, 49, of Seattle. Smith, 43, said he has belonged to the Seattle chapter of the Iron Pigs since it was founded several years ago. He said he & other officers were in Sturgis attending the famed annual motorcycle rally there. Meade County State Attorney Jesse Sondreal said in the news release that 10 witnesses testified Wednesday before a grand jury. Another 25, including Smith, testified on Aug. 10. Sondreal said in an e-mail this morning that the grand jury found that Smith lied while testifying before them the day after the shooting. "The grand jury must've decided that Mr. Smith, having taken an oath to testify truly, in a state proceeding, stated intentionally & contrary to the oath, a material matter which he knew to be false," Sondreal wrote. Smith, who has said he was targeted by the motorcycle gang, testified in a high-profile federal racketeering & murder trial last year that sent several former & current members of the Hells Angels to prison. Court records & police testimony show that the detective has clashed with Hells Angels members before.

Seattle cop charged in Sturgis shooting – Aug 28, 2008 – *Sturgis, South Dakota* - By Carson Walker; Associated Press - Grand jurors have indicted a Seattle police detective, a Hells Angel biker he shot, & four other people following a bar fight at this year's Sturgis motorcycle rally. Joseph McGuire, 33, of Imperial Beach, Calif., was shot & injured Aug. 9 at the Loud American Roadhouse by Ronald Smith of Seattle, 43, a vacationing off-duty Seattle police detective, authorities said. Both men are charged with alternative counts of aggravated & simple assault. The four other men charged are, like Smith, members of the Iron Pigs MC, a biker group culled from the ranks of law enforcement & firefighters. Dennis McCoy, 59, a Seattle police sergeant; Scott Lalalde, 38, of Bellingham, Wash.; James Rector, 44, of Ferndale, Wash.; & Erik Pingel, 35, of Aurora, Colo., were charged with carrying a concealed pistol without a permit & an alternative count of failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state. McGuire & Smith also face those charges, & Smith is further charged with perjury. "The grand jury must've decided that Mr. Smith, having taken an oath to testify truly, in a state proceeding, stated intentionally & contrary to the oath, a material matter which he knew to be false," Meade County State's Attorney Jesse Sondreal wrote in an e-mail to reporters. The prosecutor said he did not want to comment beyond a news release in which he wrote that warrants will be served & no court dates have been set. In a brief statement Thu, the Seattle Police Dept said only that its officers who were involved remain on paid administrative leave.

Vagos member seeks injunction in B.E. court – Aug 28, 2008 - *Brigham City, Utah* - By Sam Cooper - A member of a local motorcycle club has asked a judge for protection from the Box Elder County Sheriff's Department, citing perceived threats on a Web site. Richard White, of Corinne, filed a request Tuesday for a stalking injunction against the department & other law enforcement entities. White interpreted comments from a person using the screen name "caughtyalookin" on the KSL Web site in an Aug. 16 article as threatening & from a police officer, according to court documents. A Box Elder County 1st District judge declined to sign the injunction, but the case is raising eyebrows among communication lawyers & police officers alike. The injunction requested local police to stay away from White's home business, White's Wheel Works, & all other vehicles & motorcycles owned by himself & all other members of the Vagos MC. In the comment thread, which followed an article about another motorcycle club gathering in Moab & which is still available online, the conversation became a referendum on the Vagos motorcycle club & directly referenced White's business. White was apparently not involved in the conversation until his business was mentioned. He did not respond to a request for an interview for this article. "At first he was just someone who disliked bikers," White wrote in court documents about "caughtyalookin." "Then it became obvious he was an officer familiar with Box Elder County. He was very condescending, but then became more direct & started talking about turf & running people out of Utah." In one of the posts, which are taken verbatim from KSL's Web site, "caughtyalookin" wrote: "Your little two patch wannabe club is attempting to get started in Utah. Understand that you will have to battle for that ground & me or a guy like me with my little MP 5 (cute) will be there to address you with the appropriate level of force. P.S. Your a punk." MP5 is a general term used to identify a particular style of submachine gun. White & other members of the Vagos inferred from this & other messages that the poster was a member of a police agency in the area. The assumption was based on how much "caughtyalookin" knew about the Vagos & the tone of the comments, said KC, the club's president. Near the end of the comment thread, "caughtyalookin" attempted to guess the identity of one of the other individuals responding to his posts. "If you are so proud of your club & the image it projects then what is the name (of White's company). Let me guess its that little one in co***ne. Punk." In a responding post, which was the first under the screen name Rick W., White responded: "Well little man I have read all your post & had them copied!!! I am the guy in corinne!!! you are a prime example of what kind of cop you get when the citys & state lowers their standards for becoming a police officer, now lets see what judge Keven Chistenson & your supervisor have to say about you public post ... see ya there SOON!!!" The injunction request never stood much of a chance of being signed by the judge, said Jeff Hunt, a Salt Lake City media attorney who also provides legal counsel for the Utah Society of Professional Journalists. "It just seems wildly speculative to enjoin a whole class of law enforcement officers based on an anonymous statement made in a chat room," he said. "Generally speaking, to get an injunction of that sort you have to show some imminent threat to your safety. I don't know how you could meet that standard without even knowing the identity of that person." Box Elder County Sheriff Lynn Yeates said he was not aware of the request, but questioned who would be left to enforce the injunction if it had been signed. "How can you enforce where you go, & what you can & can't do?"

There is no distinctly native American criminal class, save congress. - Mark Twain

Shocking Israeli Plot To Assassinate Obama Foiled In US – Aug 26, 2008 – *Colorado* - By Sorcha Faal; WhatDoesItMean . com - FSB reports to Prime Minister Putin circulating in the Kremlin today are stating that an Israeli based plot to assassinate the United States Democratic Party Presidential Candidate Barack Obama has been foiled due to information relayed to American Intelligence Officials from Russian Military Forces who are still decrypting secret documents captured in Georgia from retreating Georgian special forces troops trained in Israel. According to these reports, Russian forces had captured secret war documents, & plans, drawn up by former Israeli Brigadier General Gal Hirsch who commanded Israel's forces during their disastrous 2006 war in Lebanon, who resigned prior to his being investigated for his war failures, & was in command of Georgian Military Forces during their, likewise, disastrous invasion of Russian protected South Ossetia. Contained in these captured documents, these reports continue, was one titled "Operation Drago" which detailed the assassination plot in 'great detail', including its 'main objective' to foist blame for the killing of Barack Obama on Neo-Nazi connected White Supremacist groups based in the United States. It is interesting to note that the American Democratic Nat'l Committee's logo for their Denver, Colorado, convention has incorporated in it a depiction of the Drago Constellation, & which is described: "For an observer on the Northern Hemisphere, the constellation Dragon is one of the mightiest & impresses monsters on the sky. Like a snake he winds his body (tail of the Dragon) through the Little & the Great Bear in direction to the Pole Star, than he bends before the Kepheus in direction to Wega & the constellation Hercules (head of the Dragon)." According to Western propaganda media reports on this plot we learn that a Neo-Nazi 'outlaw biker gang' called Sons of Silence were intended to be the patsies blamed for the assassination of Obama, even to the point of their 'leader', & who attempted to jump to his death prior to being captured, being named Shawn Adolf, in a not-so-transparent effort to better reinforce the American public's perceptions of whom to blame for this killing. British reports state that Tharin Gartrell had stated to US Intelligence Officials, that he & his co-conspirators "planned to kill Barack Obama at his acceptance speech by shooting him from a high vantage point using a rifle sighted at 750 yards". Russian Intelligence Analysts have long reported on the predilection of right-wing Israeli Military & Political factions to use assassinations as a 'tool' for the furtherance of their objectives in protecting their state against their enemies, which include the assassination of their own leader, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin murdered by conspiracy in 1995 prior to his making peace with the Palestinians. Further driving the fears of the Israelis against Obama, & as we had reported on in our Aug 23rd report "Vatican Moves For Total US Takeover With Obama Vice President Pick", is their knowing that they are about to be, literally, crushed by the tides of World War gathering force around them. With an American Gov't fully controlled by Vatican forces, & who are long steeped in the Nazi racial beliefs of Western supremacy over all of the peoples of the World, & then coupled with the already existing apocalyptic Jewish religious belief system, one can, indeed, see that the Israelis greatest fears of total destruction are soon to be realized. To the full outcome of these events it is not in our knowing, other than to state that based upon the past actions of the War Leaders of the United States, the retribution exacted against Israel will, no doubt, be swift in coming & brutal in its outcome. After all, if the Roman Catholics have proved one thing, above all, over these past nearly 2,000 years, it is that they have no qualms, whatsoever, in mass deaths to further their aim of Total World Domination.

Obama assassination plot gets little US coverage – Aug 28, 2008 – *Colorado* - by Michael Carmichael; Global Research - Oddly, an apparent plot to assassinate Barack Obama during his acceptance speech in Denver that led to four arrests on Sunday is getting very little coverage in the US MSM. It would appear that a blackout is now in force on this story in the US MSM. Both Ha'aretz & the Jerusalem Post covered the story detailing the FBI arrests of four subjects now in custody. Unsubstantiated reports from Moscow allege that the plot was foiled after the FSB intercepted documents in Georgia describing a project code-named: "Operation Drago" -- an assassination plot that was allegedly engineered by a rogue element of high-ranking Israeli military officials. The Russian report described the plot that involved a disinformation ploy to set up the members of an outlaw motorcycle gang, the 'Sons of Silence,' as expendables to mislead investigators from the actual perpetrators of the operation. The outlaw bikers arrested by the FBI are described as Neo-Nazis. Ironically, Obama's opponent, John McCain, made a blatant appeal to the racist right by appearing at the massive outlaw biker rally at Sturgis, South Dakota, an annual convention of Neo-Nazis, white supremacists & anti-semites. Lebanese television is now covering the story of the Denver assassination plot. Some of the international reports describe the confessions of one the suspects to his part in the plot to assassinate Obama that was scheduled to take place during his acceptance speech at Invesco Field this Thursday by using a high-powered rifle from a high vantage point that would have provided a clear & unobstructed shot at the podium. Yahoo has covered the story, but its reports do not contain the rich detail of the accounts published by foreign news agencies. Planetary is monitoring the global coverage of this story & the other coverage, foreign & domestic, of both national conventions.

Whatcom County U.S. Customs officers charged with weapons violations – Aug 29, 2008 – *South Dakota / Washington* – By Isabelle Dills; The Bellingham Herald - A South Dakota grand jury has indicted two Whatcom County men who work for U.S. Customs in connection with an altercation during the Sturgis motorcycle rally earlier this month. Scott Lazalde of Bellingham & James Rector of Ferndale were charged with carrying a concealed pistol without a permit & an alternative count of failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state, according to Meade County, S.D., authorities. Both men are members of the Iron Pigs MC, which is made up of law enforcement officers & firefighters. Lazalde & Rector work for the Blaine sector of U.S. Customs & Border Protection. Lazalde, 38, has worked for Customs & Border Protection for 13 years, & Rector, 44, has worked there for more than 20 years, said Mike Milne, a public affairs officer for the agency. Neither has been suspended from work. U.S. Customs plans to conduct an internal investigation, & action may be taken depending on the results. Milne said. The indictments were part of several handed down over an Aug. 9 altercation at the Loud American Roadhouse during the annual motorcycle rally. Hells Angel biker Joseph McGuire, 33, of Imperial Beach, Calif., was shot & injured by Ronald Smith of Seattle, 43, a vacationing off-duty Seattle police detective, authorities said. Both men are charged with alternative counts of aggravated & simple assault. Dennis McCoy, 59, a Seattle police sergeant, & Erik Pingel, 35, of Aurora, Colo, face the same charges as Lazalde & Rector. McGuire & Smith also face those charges, & Smith also is charged with perjury. No court dates have been set. The grand jury heard testimony from 35 people before handing down the indictments, Meade County State's Attorney Jesse Sondreal wrote in an e-mail to the AP.

Motorcycle Gang drama rides onto FX - Aug 29 2008 – *Hollywood, California* - By the Staff of Clutch & Chrome - The latest television drama to enter the world of two-wheels isn't so much about the motorcycle but the characters who ride them, & in this case the gang members who wreak havoc from the saddle of their steel steeds. Coming from the same network that brought a no holds barred police drama 'The Shield', FX's new series 'Sons of Anarchy' doesn't just use motorcycles as props but sets the story in the dark world of motorcycle gangs & immerses its troubled characters in interweaving plotlines. The drama debuts on FX Wed Sept 3rd at 10pm & the show's sharp scripts attracted at least one of the leading men. "It's incredibly smart, very, very, very vivid, completely ungratuitous for a show's that as hardcore & violent & explosive & radical behavior, these are not your average conservative Republicans, these guys are ruthless & badass," says Ron Perlman who plays the club's leader Clay Morrow. "The way it's depicted is very organic, which you could only do if you're a brilliant screenwriter, as Kurt Sutter is, & as an actor you know you're always going to be supported by—you're never going to be made to look gratuitous or silly because everything is incredibly well supported in a very organic & very brilliant way." The series will also be part family drama, with lead Jax Teller forced to walk a thin line between the lawlessness of the club, led by his stepfather, with the respect he has for his fellow members. Katey Sagal will star as Teller's mother in the series. The drama comes from Kurt Sutter, an executive producer for The Shield, "I feel like a full-patch member of Sons of Anarchy, being neck-deep in this project for a year-and-a-half now, so I'm thrilled to get the opportunity to not only explore the outlaw motorcycle world, but to do it with grit & authenticity," "I have an amazing cast & FX is a perfect fit for this show & my offbeat storytelling sensibility," Sutter said.

Clackamas inmate ordered hits on witnesses – Aug 29, 2008 - *Oregon* - By Rick Bella - About 10 additional sheriff's deputies were stationed at the Clackamas County Circuit Court as Ronald A. Everett was tried & convicted of trying to arrange "hits" on witnesses against him. But in the end, there was no trouble - except for Everett. After a 5-day trial, which ended Monday night, a jury unanimously convicted Everett of two counts of solicitation to commit aggravated murder & solicitation to commit second-degree assault. Sentencing is set for Nov. 25. Everett, 41, was stopped by sheriff's deputy Karen Moss in Nov 2006, when she found him in a stolen SUV. He then tried to run her over. In response, she shot him in the upper left arm. Everett subsequently pleaded guilty to attempted murder, & he was sentenced to more than 5 years behind bars. While in the Clackamas County Jail, Everett recruited a fellow inmate - a former member of the Outsiders motorcycle club - to kill Moss. That inmate then went to authorities, & Everett sent word to members of the Outsiders that a former member had "turned rat" - essentially a death sentence in outlaw motorcycle club circles.

Seattle cop charged in motorcycle bar shooting – Aug 29, 2008 – *Sturgis, South Dakota* – By KOMO - If convicted of all charges against them, Smith & McGuire face the possibility of several years in prison & fines. Aggravated assault carries a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison & a \$30,000 fine; perjury carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison & a \$10,000 fine; & carrying a concealed weapon without a permit carries a maximum sentence of one year in the county jail & a \$2,000 fine. An alternative lesser charges of simple assault also was filed against Smith & McGuire, & an alternative lesser charge of failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state was filed against all six.

Major Motorcycle Gang Rally – Aug 29, 2008 – *Utah* - Between August 21st & August 24th, law enforcement staff from Canyonlands & Arches, assisted by personnel from Glen Canyon, Black Canyon, Hovenweep, Natural Bridges & Glen Canyon, joined other regional law enforcement officers – a total of 200 – in working a large motorcycle rally in Grand County & the city of Moab, Utah. During that period, the Bandidos MC held its annual meeting in Grand County. About 700 members attended. An interagency incident command team was formed & spent several months preparing for the event. Park law enforcement staff assisted in the planning efforts. Under agreements with local sheriffs' Depts, rangers participated in activities outside of the parks but were in return supported by the other officers. The high-profile enforcement strategy employed proved successful, as incidents & arrests were over minor infractions & infrequent. Both Canyonlands & Arches were visited by club members, but with no impact to the two parks.

Bikes are art, too – Aug 29, 2008 – *Wisconsin* - By Rick Barrett - Harley-Davidson's new \$75 million museum, at 6th & Canal St., has been a hit with bikers. But even the Milwaukee Art Museum has picked up on the Harley theme with motorcycles from Ron Finch, the Discovery Channel's 2004 biker build-off champion. Twelve of Finch's chrome masterpieces are parked near the Calatrava's white arches. Two of the bikes were built from rare parts such as Corvette exhaust covers. The museum also has a photography display that offers glimpses into The Outlaws MC, an icon of the 1960s motorcycle scene in the Midwest.

Last Chapter – Aug 29, 2008 – *Hollywood, California* - I thought The Last Chapter: The Complete Series was an incredible movie! Jean Pierre Bergeron & Michael Ironside were great together! The great cast includes Jean Pierre Bergeron, Michael Ironside, Frank Schorpion, Roy Dupuis, Marina Orsini. If you love watching Bergeron or Ironside, you are definitely going to want to watch The Last Chapter: The Complete Series. The road to power has no rules. - It's The Sopranos on chrome-plated choppers in this bloody saga of a ruthless biker gang's fight to dominate their vicious outlaw world. Ironside (The Perfect Storm, Highlander) stars in the landmark miniseries that kept international audiences riveted with its in-your-face portrayal of ambitious criminals battling for wealth & power. For the Triple Sixers, Canada's largest motorcycle gang, the sound of breaking bones is as familiar as the roar of their choppers - & Bob Durrelle (Ironside) is ready to cement their influence with a bold (and dangerous) scheme. Get ready as a bare-knuckled turf war explodes among the rival gangs, sucking them all into a choking black haze of money, betrayal & blood.

Police to get phone tap powers – Aug 29, 2008 – *Australia* – By Tony Moore - Organised crime & outlaw motorcycle gangs will be the prime targets of new police phone tap powers that will finally get approval from both state & Fed Gov'ts. Premier Anna Bligh told State Parliament this morning Prime Minister Kevin Rudd had written to the State Gov't advising he would approve the necessary changes to federal legislation. Queensland Police Union president Cameron Pope welcomed the change, which finally gives Queensland police the same powers as their interstate counterparts. Police had been asking for phone tap powers for 10 years, Pope said. "We've been behind the rest of Australia for a long time now in relation to phone tapping powers & now that we've finally got them, well we're certainly looking forward to it," Mr Pope said. "It's a bonus for the public & certainly for the police." Pope said outlaw motorcycle gangs had deliberately moved to Queensland to avoid detection by phone taps.

Sydney shootout: Finks' bail plea – Aug 29, 2008 – *Australia* - By Les Kennedy - A man charged with shooting at rival bikie gang members in a brawl outside a Sydney Italian restaurant is also facing attempted murder & kidnapping charges in Queensland. NSW Police Gang Squad detectives revealed the alleged Queensland offences in Central Local Court today when Finks' motorcycle gang member Yassar Bakir, 34, applied for bail at the end of a committal hearing. Bakir's counsel, John Dailly, SC, made the \$300,000 bail surety application after magistrate Graeme Curran committed his client to stand trial in the Sydney District Court on two charges of shooting with intent to murder. The charges, which include shooting with intent to commit grievous bodily harm, affray & discharging a firearm in a public place, stem from a brawl at the Grappa Restaurant in Norton Street, Leichhardt, on Nov 15 last year. During 3 days of evidence, the court heard that the brawl involving 8 rival members of the Comanchero & Finks gangs erupted about 3pm with chairs being thrown before it spilled into the car park where shots were exchanged. Of 28 people who witnessed the fight & gun shots - one by a yellow T-shirt-wearing gunman at 2 cars containing Comancheros - only one person could identify any of the combatants. Curran said yesterday he was satisfied that the witness, 77-year-old Brisbane tourist Kathleen Moore, had made a positive identification of Bakir that would satisfy a reasonably instructed jury to convict. Mrs. Moore told the court how she found herself sitting in a 4-wheel-drive parked on the street near the restaurant as Bakir used the vehicle as shelter to trade gunshots at the two fleeing cars. Curran agreed with Crown solicitor David Clarke that the photo identification was made despite police finding no DNA evidence, including fingerprints or evidence from 17 spent bullet cartridges linking them to Bakir at the scene. Clarke tended evidence of fingerprints of Comanchero gang members Mick Hari & Daux Ngakuru being found on a Mercedes, which raced from the crime scene. Both men have since been charged with affray & are facing a separate hearing, the court heard. But after Curran committed Bakir to appear before the District Court on Sept 15 for trial arraignment, his legal team applied for him to be released on bail. Police revealed that Bakir, a father of 3 children from Merrylands, is facing charges in Queensland for the alleged attempted murder of an unnamed man shot four times in 2005. Clarke said police opposed bail. Bakir's bail condition had allowed him to live in NSW but to report daily to Merrylands police. The Queensland case included not only the attempted murder charge but offences committed between 2005 & 2006 of two separate counts of kidnapping, two counts of robbery with violence, weapons possession, importing the drug ice & unlawful use of a motor vehicle. Curran said he would temporarily refuse Bakir bail to consider whether he should be released. He said he would make his decision on Fri during a hearing in the Downing Local Court.

Two stabbed in biker-gang brawl – Aug 29, 2008 – *Kiel, Germany* - Two men suffered serious stab wounds Friday in a brawl in Germany involving the motorcycle gang Hell's Angels. Riot police separated the rival gangs after the battle outside a court building in the northern port city of Kiel. Police said the court had been just about to start the trial of an accused for nearly stabbing a Hell's Angels member to death last year. The accused, who had recovered, & the victim, both with a crowd of supporters, met on a street outside the court Friday. Last year's Hell's Angel victim was stabbed again & rushed into intensive care, along with a second man. There were 20 arrests. Police did not disclose the other gang's name, except to say there had been a history of gang feuding between the two groups. The trial was adjourned.

Six indicted in Sturgis rally bar shooting – Aug 30, 2008 – *Sturgis, South Dakota* - The Meade County state's atty has announced six indictments stemming from an early morning shooting at a Sturgis bar during the 2008 rally earlier this month. Ron Smith, age 43, a Seattle, Washington police officer is charged with aggravated assault with an alternative charge of simple assault. He also faces a perjury charge, carrying weapon without permit & an alternate count of failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state. Joseph McGuire, 33, from Imperial beach, California, a member of the Hell's Angels, faces a charge of aggravated assault with an alternate count of simple assault. McGuire is out of the hospital, according to Sondreal. Also charged: Scott Lazalde, age 38 - Bellingham, Washington Count 1: carrying concealed pistol without permit or in the alternative; Count 1a: failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state James Rector, age 44 - Ferndale, Washington Count 1: carrying concealed pistol without permit; or in the alternative; Count 1a: failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state. Erik Pingel, age 35 - Aurora, Colorado Count 1: carrying concealed pistol without permit; or in the alternative; Count 1a: failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state. Dennis McCoy, age 59 - Seattle, Washington Count 1: carrying concealed pistol without permit; or in the alternative; Count 1a: failure to abide by a permit of a reciprocal state. Sondreal won't say whether alcohol was involved but says the attack wasn't spur-of-the moment. "I think this attack can only be described as orchestrated, concerted, & premeditated." Since the shooting, bar owner Dean Kinney says his staff put up "no weapons signs" & "no colors" signs, & he says he hopes the charges filed in this case deter future fights. "But, more than anything, the message we want to get out to the public is how rare an event like this was -- not just at the Loud American but at Sturgis in general," Kinney said.

Laws do not give police officers carte blanche to carry concealed weapons – Aug 30, 2008 – *South Dakota* – By Jack Siebold - Some may be confused about why a police officer is charged with carrying a concealed weapon -- especially since the law enforcement officers safety act was passed in 2004. While federal law allows police from other states to carry concealed weapons, it does not give them carte blanche. The federal act does not supersede any state laws like South Dakota's law that prohibits people from carrying concealed weapons into bars & other establishments that sell alcohol. And the officer can't be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Also, according to the Washington state attorney's website, there is not a reciprocal agreement with South Dakota that would allow members of the Iron Pigs to carry concealed weapons.

The conclusions seem inescapable that in certain circles a tendency has arisen to fear people who fear government. Gov't, as the Father of Our Country put it so well, is 'a dangerous servant & a fearful master'. People who understand history, especially the history of Gov't, do well to fear it. For a people to express openly their fear of those of us who are afraid of tyranny is alarming. Fear of the state is in no sense subversive. It is, to the contrary, the healthiest political philosophy for a free people.
- The Late Col. Jeff Cooper, Cooper's Commentaries, Dec, 1996

Every morning in Africa a gazelle awakens knowing it must today run faster than the fastest lion or it will be eaten. Every morning a lion awakens knowing it must outrun the slowest gazelle or it will starve. It matters not whether you are a gazelle or a lion, when the sun rises you had better be running...
- African Proverb

Outlaw biker leads local church service – Aug 30, 2008 – *Colorado* - By Jesse Chaney - Aside from a line of motorcycles outside the door & a few leather-clad congregants in several front pews, it appeared the Sunday morning service at New Freedom Church in Fort Morgan would be nothing out of the ordinary. A preacher welcomed the congregation to worship; churchgoers sang a few songs & then placed their weekly offerings in cans passed around the room. But then, without any warning, the deep, deafening roar of an obviously large motorcycle filled the room, & the congregation began to cheer as former outlaw biker Ben Priest drove down the middle aisle to the front of the sanctuary. Priest, the founder & international president of the Texas-based Tribe of Judah Motorcycle Ministry, was ready to deliver the morning sermon. A former drug dealer & ex-convict, Priest told the congregation he had been jailed, shot, stabbed & even set on fire in his tainted past. “I used to get myself in a lot of trouble, & most of the problems I had in my life were self-inflicted,” he said. But after turning his life over to Christ, Priest said, he found that Jesus will stick closer than any friend or brother. “It’s amazing that no matter what’s going on in life, God can put unspeakable joy in your life & it makes people wonder what you’ve been up to,” he said. Like a younger version of himself, Priest said, many don’t believe God could ever love or forgive them if he knew what they had done. But Priest said he discovered that if he turned over his life to the Lord, God would change everything that he couldn’t. People too often try to better themselves by cutting their hair, shaving or otherwise altering their appearance, Priest said, but “the bottom line is that change comes from the inside out, & the only one that can change you is the one that made you.” In 1903, Priest said, the H-D company invented a machine called a motorcycle. For the very 1st motorcycle & every series of bikes created thereafter, he said, the manufacturers have printed manuals to explain how to operate each machine. In the same way, he said, God created the Bible to be a manual about life. “If you read it & do what it says, I guarantee you your life will be blessed,” he said. Among the testimonials Priest shared was a story from his younger days, when he wasn’t sure how he fit into church. He didn’t know how to sing, dance or look pretty, he said, & all he knew was street life & motorcycles. Nevertheless, he said, he asked God to use him in any way he could. While shopping at Dollar General the next day, Priest said, he was approached by a woman who asked if he wanted a motorcycle. He couldn’t possibly pay for the bike, he said, because he had just set fire to \$8,000 in drug money when he gave his life to the Lord. But the woman didn’t want any money, Priest said. She told him that the bike belonged to her husband, who was killed when hit by a semi-truck 3 years earlier. The woman became a Christian at her husband’s funeral, he said, & she had been told in a dream to give the motorcycle to Priest. Furthermore, Priest joked, when he found that the free bike was a 1950 Panhead, “I said man, that sounds like Jesus to me!” Before taking a trip on the bike through Harris County, Texas, Priest said, he prayed that God would cross his path with anyone he was meant to speak with. About 5 miles down the road, he said, he was pulled over by a local sheriff’s deputy & questioned. The officer noticed some exposed wires on the older bike & asked where Priest got the motorcycle, he said. After Priest gave the officer his explanation - “God gave it to me” - he was promptly asked to “assume the position” on the front of the deputy’s cruiser. After several failed attempts to explain that God had crossed the paths of the 2, Priest said, he finally gained the attention of the officer. The deputy eventually revealed that his wife had recently left & he was not living right, Priest said, & the two began to pray together on the side of the road. “We prayed & he made his peace with God,” Priest said, although the two were often interrupted by concerned motorists stopping to ask

if the officer was being attacked. As the two parted ways, Priest said, the deputy told him that he had a green light any time he wanted to travel through the area. So Priest was later surprised the next time he drove along the same stretch of road & was again stopped by a Harris County sheriff’s deputy. This time, Priest said, he promptly jumped off his bike & told the approaching officer that Jesus loved him. Then the confused officer looked back at his cruiser, Priest said, where he saw the deputy who previously stopped him smiling in the passenger’s seat. Priest said the officer in the car explained that his new partner wouldn’t listen to him about Jesus, so he told the rookie to “pull that guy over.” Through this & other stories about his life, Priest told the bikers & regular congregation members Sunday about how his life had changed by giving his life to the Lord. “God has a prepared place for each & every 1 of our lives,” he said. “Not only in heaven, but he’s got a prepared place right here on this earth.”

Small GPS Devices Help Prosecutors Win Convictions – Aug 30, 2008 – *Illinois* - Like millions of motorists, Eric Hanson used a GPS unit in his Chev TrailBlazer to find his way around. He probably didn’t expect that prosecutors would eventually use it too - to help convict him of killing 4 family members. Prosecutors in suburban Chicago analyzed data from the Garmin GPS device to pinpoint where Hanson had been on the morning after his parents were fatally shot & his sister & brother-in-law bludgeoned to death in 2005. He was convicted of the killings earlier this year & sentenced to death. Hanson’s trial was among recent criminal cases around the country in which authorities used GPS navigation devices to help establish a defendant’s whereabouts. Experts say such evidence will almost certainly become more common in court as GPS systems become more affordable & show up in more vehicles. “There’s no real doubt,” said Alan Brill, a Minnesota-based computer forensics expert who has worked with the FBI & Secret Service. “This follows every other technology that turns out to have information of forensic value. I think what we’re seeing is evolutionary.” Using technology to track a person’s location is nothing new. For years, police have been able to trace cell phone signals & use other dashboard devices such as automatic toll-collection systems to confirm a driver’s whereabouts. But the growing popularity of GPS systems — in cars, cell phones & other handheld devices — gives authorities another powerful tool to track suspects. Developed for the military, GPS navigation systems started showing up in cars in the 1990s. Prices have dropped sharply in the past few years, & many units are now available for less than \$150. The Consumer Electronics Association estimates 20% of American households own a portable GPS system & 9% have vehicles equipped with in-dash systems. A GPS unit receives signals from satellites to determine its position on the ground. That data can be used by mapping software to display the device’s location to within a few yards.

Ex-bikie blows the whistle on stolen arms - Aug 30, 2008 – *Australia* – By Ross Coulthart - An Australian army officer recently convicted for stealing rocket-launchers from a high-security military repository is also implicated by a former Bandidos bikie gang insider in at least 1 other criminal transaction where rocket-launchers were sold to bikies. His evidence suggests that many more of the armor-penetrating rocket-launchers may be in circulation in the criminal underworld than the nine officially acknowledged. Former Australian Crime Commission informant Stevan Utah, in hiding overseas, says he witnessed a separate weapons sale by then army captain Shane Della-Vedova from the one for which Della-Vedova was convicted earlier this year.

Hells Angels reportedly started fight with officer – Aug 30, 2008 – *Sturgis, South Dakota* - Members of the Hells Angels appear to have started a bar fight that ended when an off-duty Seattle police detective shot & wounded a biker during the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, the Meade County state's atty in South Dakota said Friday. "The investigation certainly appears to corroborate that version of events," State's Atty Jesse Sondreal said in an e-mail to the Seattle P-I. A grand jury on Thursday indicted Detective Ron Smith, 43, & Joseph McGuire, 33, a Hells Angel member from California, on aggravated assault charges after hearing from 35 witnesses about the Aug. 9 shooting at the Loud American Roadhouse. Four others were charged with weapons violations, including a second Seattle police officer & two U.S. Customs & Border Protection agents from Washington.

Motorcycle Clubs' Charity Money Not Accepted – Sept 1, 2008 – *Sweden* - By Björn Lidén & Av Tomas Svedberg - Each year motorcycle clubs in Gothenburg collect money that they donate to charity. This year like the previous year the money, close to 50 000 sek, were to be given to Bräcke Östergård, a daycare for children with functional disabilities. - but they do not want to accept the money evidently because of being pressured, Clarence Granhage says. Clarence Granhage is chairman of the association ABATE, which he describes as "a common overall trade-union for bikers". **Used To Be Grateful:** Last Sat, he was in the ride with 300 motorcyclists that rode through Gothenburg. It is in connection with the ride that the money is gathered. - We have donated money to Bräcke Östergård for several years & they have always accepted them & been grateful for the money. But now they say they have been submitted to pressure & cannot accept the money. Pressure from who? - I try to research where the pressure comes from, Clarence Granhage says. Is this money somehow shady? - Not at all. It is common money from common working people. But somebody probably tries to get them to believe that it is, that there is something shady with the money. How much money have you donated earlier? - Last year was a record year, then we handed over 50 000 sek, Clarence Granhage says. - Then we also took the children for motorcycle rides around on the yard. They showed us things they bought earlier, that they had not had possibility to purchase without these donations. **No Doubt About Resolution:** Area manager at Bräcke Östergård, Elisabeth Green tells GT that it is not a question about pressure. - We got information from the police that there could be links to criminal gangs among those that were coming to us. According to Green the police contacted the municipality which then contacted Bräcke. Who made the decision not to accept the money? - It was our director Martin Ärnlov, the board's chairman Per Eckerdal & I. - There was no hesitation to take this the decision. If there are links to criminal gangs it is an activity that we cannot continue. At the same time Elisabeth Green says that the children enjoyed the bikers visits a lot. They would sit on the bikes & go for rides. - but in the present situation we cannot act in any other way than we have done, she says.

Rollercoaster ride leads to wedding – Sept 2, 2008 - *United Kingdom* - By Tim Fletcher - Bob Haywood marries Shelly Harrison Bob Haywood, known to his friends as 'Junk', has known Shelly Harrison for more than 25 years, & finally plucked up the courage to ask her to marry him while the pair were riding a Blackpool rollercoaster last year. The couple, from Stapenhill, were hitched at the Coors Visitor Centre - one of the last functions to take place at the Horninglow Street venue - on Saturday, before heading off on a romantic honeymoon. Haywood - a lorry driver for Swadlincote-based Ivor Street - is a member of the Outlaws Motorcycle Club, fierce rivals of the Hells Angels, with members

around the globe. While he admits he is 'no angel', & indeed first developed his relationship with Miss Harrison while he was serving a six-month prison stint for affray, Mr Haywood, 45, says when it comes to his relationship, he is a softie at heart. "We first met when I was 19, as I was going out with Shelly's friend & she was going out with my friend," he said. "Shelly has a job delivering truck parts, so we used to bump into each other on a regular basis. "When I was sent to prison I was a bit down in the dumps so she said she'd write to me - we ended up writing every week & we probably fell in love through the letters before we actually met up again & decided to go out." Miss Harrison, 42, gladly accepted Haywood's high-octane proposal, on the Pepsi Max Big One ride at Blackpool Pleasure Beach, & the couple are now looking forward to sharing the rest of their lives together. "It's been like a proper fairy tale," says Mr Haywood. "We are like two love-struck teenagers even though we are both in our 40s. Neither of us look our age & we don't act it either." Saturday's wedding attracted Outlaws members from across the UK & beyond, with a posse of German biker friends making the trek to be present. Haywood says this is typical of the camaraderie of the often misunderstood motorcycle club. "A lot of people have the wrong impression about us," he says. "What many people don't realise is that each Outlaws chapter does bike shows & raises money for charity. "The last few days my phone has been full of texts from people from all over the world, wishing us good luck, saying 'I wish I could be there' or 'see you in the summer'. "We are all normal blokes just like everyone else - it's just our way of staying kids. People don't realise the loyalty & the respect & the brotherhood that comes with being a member of the Outlaws." After their wedding, the couple jetted off to Amsterdam, before heading off for a driving holiday in Spain. The bike - for once - will be staying at home.

Biker party attracts cops – Sept 2, 2008 – *Canada* - By Trevor Wilhelm - The famed & fearsome death's head logo had police on alert over the weekend as hundreds of Hells Angels bikers poured into the Windsor area. About 200 of the so-called outlaw bikers, most saddled on thundering Harleys & wearing patches & logos, began arriving at the gang's Amherstburg club house Sat for their annual party. The police were there waiting for them. "We are monitoring outlaw motorcycle activity," Staff Sgt. Ted O'Brien, with the province's Biker Enforcement Unit, said as motorcycles rumbled behind him. "We are gathering info & intelligence on outlaw motorcycle gang members, & checking for any infractions under the Highway Traffic Act. This is what we do for a living. This is an issue not only for police & police officer safety, but it's also for public & community safety as well." O'Brien said bikers were coming in from across Ontario & Quebec for their fifth annual gathering at the clubhouse on Howard Avenue, which had a giant Hells Angels logo pinned up on a garage in the back. About 35 officers from the BEU, Amherstburg, Essex, LaSalle & the OPP were on scene stopping the bikers as well as gang members who rolled up in cars & trucks.

In the science fiction novel Pallas, one of L. Neil Smith's characters says, "People—pardon me, journalists & politicians—have often accused me of believing that I'm above the law. And yet, who isn't? ... The law is created by demonstrable criminals, enforced by demonstrable criminals, interpreted by demonstrable criminals, all for demonstrably criminal purposes. Of course I'm above the law. And so are you." - From an essay by Claire Wolfe

Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance & conscientious stupidity.

Biker gangs are watching what other riders wear – Sept 2, 2008 - *Nova Scotia, Canada* - As if potholes, gravel & inattentive car drivers aren't enough to worry about, a growing number of Nova Scotia motorcyclists are finding out their fashions are also cause for concern. RCMP Const. Stephen MacQueen, who investigates outlaw biker gangs for the provincial intelligence unit, occasionally comes across law-abiding citizens who've unknowingly sewn patches onto their biking leathers that capture the attention of the Hells Angels. The Hells Angels are very protective of their patch & discourage the use of any patch that resembles theirs. A Hells Angels patch is red & white & has three separate components, including a top rocker with the club's name & a bottom rocker designating its territory. The letters MC stand for motorcycle club & should not be used. Unless they want the Hells Angels attention, other bikers shouldn't wear patches like that, he said. "There are things that would offend the Hells Angels," Const. MacQueen said recently. "They don't want people riding on their coattails. "There are groups that, as recently as this year, have been approached & told to get rid of their patch based on the fact that they broke some of these patch rules." He estimates that there are about 50 non-criminal bikers groups in the province. Some are religious. Some are dedicated to the brand of motorcycle. Their names include Jokers Wild, Road Dogs, Millennium Avengers & so on. A few times a year someone puts a patch on their back that violates a Hells Angel rule. It's almost always done unwittingly, he said. "There are people out there that have no idea how significant the patch is to the Hells Angels." "If they violate those rules they would likely get a visit by a support club to advise them they are in violation (and) to get rid of the patch." When that happens, the unaware biker quickly makes a change, he said. One group completely disbanded out of fear. The federal government declared the Hells Angels a criminal organization in 2005. They haven't been active in Nova Scotia for several years, but have two sanctioned clubs on the ground here. There are the Highlanders, a group of about 20 from Havre Boucher near Antigonish, & Fall River's East Coast Riders, who have 10 members. Both of these support groups keep an eye out for patches that violate Hells Angels rules & let the wearer know what is wrong. He said they perform tasks for the Angels in exchange for support & there is a "level of trust" among the bikers. "To be sanctioned by that club & to be a support club means that you would support & declare your support for a criminal organization." Const. MacQueen says law-abiding riders are intimidated by the Hells Angels. "The Hells Angels have a reputation of their own. Most people are aware of that." Despite that, he said the Hells Angels prefer to keep a low profile & act diplomatically in such situations. In any case, law-abiding bikers don't like the idea of angering the Angels & he notes that they do have a well-known history of violence. The president of the Central Nova Scotia chapter of the Harley Owners' Group said his members are taught how to put their crests - not patches - on their backs. "We're pretty specific when we give people our crest & the rocker of how they're supposed to put it on their jacket," Dale Williams said of his 400-member group. He said they are a group, not a club, & ride together & do community events out of their common love of motorcycling. The 50-year-old Bedford resident has heard of a few cases where people put their patches on incorrectly. "They're usually straightened out pretty quickly by people who know better. Anybody with any brains wouldn't want to mimic the Hells Angels." "There are people out there that have no idea how significant the patch is to the Hells Angels. If they violate those rules they would likely get a visit by a support club to advise them they are in violation (and) to get rid of the patch."

Head Of SF Hell's Angels Shot Dead In The Street – Sept 3, 2008 – *San Francisco, California* – By Joe Vazquez; CBS 5 CrimeWatch - A man found murdered Tuesday night was president of the San Francisco branch of the Hells Angels MC, police confirmed Wed to CBS 5. Mark Guardado, 45, was found with gunshot wounds at 24th St & Treat Ave around 10:30 p.m., according to police. He died at San Francisco General Hospital. Guardado was shot by a man who drove up on a motorcycle, according to police. It was unclear whether the slaying was connected to Guardado's alleged attack on a North Bay man recently. Guardado had been the subject of an ongoing investigation into an assault with a deadly weapon incident, confirmed Sgt. Jim Stephenson of the Petaluma Police Dept. "He beat up a random guy at a bar," said Stephenson. "He beat him with his hands & feet." When police responded to the Petaluma bar, officers said Guardado volunteered the fact that he was president of the San Francisco branch of the notorious motorcycle gang. "He told us he was president, plus it was on his jacket," said Stephenson, who also told CBS 5 that Petaluma police kept the jacket as evidence in the case. Guardado filed suit in May against Sonoma County Sheriff's deputies who refused to let him & a co-defendant wear their Hell's Angels insignia in court. A judge later backed up the Sheriff's Dept & disallowed the two defendants from wearing the insignia.

Arrest warrants issued in rally shooting - Sept 3 2008 – *Rapid City, South Dakota* - By Associated Press - Warrants have been issued for six men indicted last week on charges related to a bar shooting at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. The warrants call for the arrest of Seattle police detective Ronald Smith & Hells Angel member Joseph Patrick McGuire on felony charges. Warrants for lesser charges were issued for four of Smith's fellow bikers. The five men belong to a national group of police & firefighters called the Iron Pigs MC. Meade County prosecutor Jesse Sondreal expects all of the men to surrender without the need for authorities to go after them. Smith has admitted shooting McGuire during a fracas.

Sturgis bar reacts to shooting; suspects charged – Sept 3, 2008 – *Sturgis, South Dakota* - By Ryan Woodard - The Loud American Roadhouse in Sturgis has adopted a "no colors" policy in reaction to an early-morning Aug. 9 shooting that has resulted in criminal charges against six men. The new policy means that biker groups will not be able to wear clothing that distinguishes their various affiliations. Dean Kinney, one of the bar's owners, said the policy, which was considered for a few years, was pushed into action after the shooting of a Hells Angels member during a fight that involved members of the Iron Pigs motorcycle club. The bar wants to show customers that it takes the incident seriously & doesn't want any more trouble. "We're committed to making sure our customers are safe & feel safe in the Loud American Roadhouse," he said.

Man dies following struggle with San Jose police – Sept 3, 2008 – *California* - A 38-year-old San Jose man died after struggling with police, being stunned with a Taser & swallowing his own stash of drugs, according to police. Prince Swayzer III was pronounced dead Tuesday night at a local hospital. The coroner's office has yet to determine a cause of death.

Sad report on the evening news. It was announced yesterday that The Rose Garden at The White House was being torn out. It's being replaced by a watermelon patch. And the name of White House Is Being Changed Too.

Appeals court rejects Top Hatters' free-speech case – Sept 3, 2008 – *California* – By Chris Bone; Hollister Free Lance - A federal appeals court in San Francisco today ruled against four Hollister motorcyclists who have spent the last eight years arguing that the Garlic Festival violated their free speech rights. An 11-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit voted 6-5 to dismiss the lawsuit that the bikers had filed after a festival-hired Gilroy police officer asked them to remove their vests or leave the event July 30, 2000. An unwritten dress code policy barred gang colors or insignia, including motorcycle club insignia; the bikers' vests had patches of winged skulls sporting top hats along with the words "Top Hatters" & "Hollister." The appeals court decided that the private festival did not amount to a government entity robbing the bikers of their constitutional rights. "It's obviously very good news," Garlic Festival Association Executive Director Brian Bowe said Wed. While the court's five-member minority called for more trial court proceedings, today's ruling was the third such rejection since 2005. That sends a clear message for Gregory Simonian, the festival's attorney. "We've been waiting for this decision for long time. We have won at every phase of the litigation, & for that, I'm very happy," Simonian said. "I don't know what (the bikers') reaction is going to be." A lawyer for the motorcycle club could not be reached for comment, but the plaintiffs have spent the past few years winding through the courts. A federal judge in San Jose dismissed the lawsuit in 2005, & a three-judge panel of the same appeals court that ruled today decided last year that the vests were not expressions of free speech because the four bikers could not consistently define the symbols.

Bombing case targets outfit-biker gang connection – Sept 3, 2008 – *Chicago, Illinois* - The man who supplied explosives in a mob-ordered pipe bombing of a Berwyn business pleaded guilty today & has agreed to testify against others in the case. Kyle Knight of Merrillville, Indiana admitted transporting two bags of explosive powder to 84 year old Samuel Volpendesto, reputed to be a mob associate. Volpendesto, of Oak Brook & 41 year old Mark Polchan have been charged with the 2003 bombing of C&S Coin Operated Amusements, 6508 W. 16th St. in Berwyn, which leased vending & video machines & was targeted by the Chicago Outfit because it competed with the mob's \$13 million illegal gambling operation. Polchan, also described by authorities as a mob associate & a member of the Outlaws motorcycle gang, & Volpendesto were charged last month with the 2003 bombing. According to his indictment, Volpendesto talked on undercover tape about the bombings & connected an unnamed individual referred to only as the "Large Guy." The government refers to that man as Outfit Member A, who worked for Outfit boss Johnny "Apes" Monteleone. In a report last month the ABC7 ITeam identified Outfit member A as Mike Sarno, formerly known as "Fat Boy." The Westchester home of the convicted gangster was raided by the FBI in connection with the bombing. Sarno, now known in mob circles as "the large guy," has not been charged in the case. He told the I-Team this summer that he would have nothing to say about the legal matter. The Iteam report, Double-O Connection, focused on a criminal relationship between the Outfit & the Outlaws biker gang. In court today, Knight also pleaded guilty to numerous robberies. He has agreed to cooperate with authorities in return for a sentence of 15 years in prison.

Sisters, motorcycle gang form unlikely bond in Milwaukee – Sept 3, 2008 – *Wisconsin* - By Amy Guckeen - Don't let their veils & name -- Sisters of Charity of St. Joan Antida -- deceive you. Members of the Milwaukee order aren't just brides of Christ. They're biker girls. "We're part of a gang," the sisters laughed

over coffee. They belong to the Sisters of the MMG (Muskegon Motorcycle Gang). When the H-D 100th anniversary celebration rolled around in 2003, someone at St. Joan Antida High School, the all-girls high school on Milwaukee's south side sponsored by the order, suggested that the sisters open their grounds to Harley riders looking for a place to rest their heads during the festivities. The Muskegon Motorcycle Gang from Michigan took the sisters up on their offer. "It was a bit scary," said Sister Ann Josepha Lencioni of the decision. "But the sisters pulled together & felt it would be a good thing for Milwaukee." For the riders, some of whom had never interacted with a Catholic sister before, the feeling was mutual. "It wasn't that we were scared; we just wanted to make the nuns as comfortable as possible," said Mike Ankeny of the group, which signed contracts to follow a few house rules such as no smoking indoors. "We're a good mix, even though we're on different parts of the tree." As Harley upon Harley made its way through the wooded driveway to the Bethany Retreat Center on Milwaukee's northwest side, the riders & sisters wondered just what they had gotten into as they recalled the stereotypes of Catholic nuns & biker gangs. "I was a little nervous," said rider Patty Matuzeski. "We didn't know what to expect -- but it was so much more than we ever could have imagined." Within five minutes of their arrival, Sister Ann Josepha said, any apprehension experienced by the two groups had faded. Over the next few days, the riders & sisters were dining with each other, cracking jokes & taking rides on the group's bikes. "They are such incredible people who are concerned about & love the sisters," said Toni Vitrano, director of communications for the order. "Professional people -- they're not Hell's Angels, just a group of people that love motorcycles." While some of the riders are Catholic, others are not, but it is no matter when it comes to the impact the sisters have on the MMG, as evidenced in their exit surveys after the 100th anniversary. "As someone not raised in a religious environment, after staying with all of you & getting to know all of the sisters I feel a few steps closer to God!" wrote one participant. After bestowing on them the title Sisters of the MMG & bidding the sisters farewell in 2003, the unlikely friends stayed in touch, writing Christmas cards & e-mails. As bikers rolled into Milwaukee Aug. 30-Sept. 1 for the 105th Harley-Davidson anniversary, the MMG found their way back to the sisters for another weekend of fun & fellowship. "Hospitality is very important to our community," said Sister Theresa Rozga of their ministry to the riders, which included preparing a daily complimentary breakfast & offering snacks, soda & beer throughout the day. "We have the opportunity to offer them hospitality & to share what we have been given with them." In that sharing, the two groups have found some unexpected similarities. "We're kind of alike," said Patrick Corbin. "They're stereotyped; we're stereotyped." The MMG, made up of professionals working in various career paths such as nursing, engineering & the postal service, not only spend their time enjoying their bikes, but also devote their time to serving others, recently raising \$11,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The group plans to do future fundraisers to aid the sisters in their service to the poor. Some members also take part in Muskegon Bike Time, the city's three-day motorcycle event. "A lot of us are strong in our faith too," said Bill Carothers, who served as the point person between the sisters & the MMG. There are no official membership requirements in the MMG, which is held together by friendship. The gang, 15 years old, numbers around 100 riders, Carothers said. The sisters, who hold their faith as dearly as the Harley riders hold their bikes, only had one piece of advice for their friends as they returned to Michigan at the conclusion of the weekend: "Ride nice. Pray hard."

Legislator Aims To Regulate FBI Behavior (Part 2) – Sept 2, 2008 – USA - By Dina Temple-Raston - Agents call confidential informants a necessary evil & a vital part of crime fighting, but recent high profile court cases have some agents thinking twice about working with a high level snitch. This time last year, former FBI agent Lin DeVecchio was in a Brooklyn courtroom charged with murder. His accuser was the longtime girlfriend of a mafia hitman named Greg “the Grim Reaper” Scarpa. She said DeVecchio had given Scarpa - one of his confidential informants - information he needed to kill four people. It was a mob girlfriend’s word against DeVecchio’s. And then something unusual happened - two journalists came forward with a very key piece of information. Mafia expert Jerry Capeci, who runs the Web site Ganglandnews.com, & Village Voice reporter Tom Robbins had interviewed Scarpa’s girlfriend, Linda Schiro, in 1997 for a book. Back then she had absolved DeVecchio of any involvement in the murders. “There is no way that is what she told us back in 1997,” Capeci says. “And we felt we had to explain that is not the only story she told about those four killings.” Capeci & Robbins had Schiro on tape; she had changed her story when she was on the stand. “Back in 1997, we asked her specifically if Lin was involved in the killing, & she said ‘Oh, no absolutely not,’” he says. Schiro testified — & by doing so, she released the two journalists from their confidentiality agreements. Their tapes were subpoenaed, & a short time later, the Brooklyn district atty withdrew the case against DeVecchio. Their key witness had been discredited. While DeVecchio, once one of the bureau’s most admired agents on dealing with informants, was vindicated, a 19-month investigation left him with \$600,000 in legal bills & a familiar lament: “My question is, where do I go to get my reputation back?” he asked reporters after he was cleared. Given how the story unfolded, it isn’t surprising that agents are worried that they could be caught in the same web — that their top informants could implicate them in their crimes, or a victim will sue them for not preventing one.

A Cautionary Tale: Jim Kossler was the coordinating supervisor for organized crime for the FBI in New York — DeVecchio’s boss. He says that what happened to DeVecchio has become a cautionary tale for agents in the field. “I mean this story is so unbelievable,” says Kossler. “The fallout of it as it relates to how the bureau does its business in the future — it is going to have a great impact.” Kossler says agents can’t help but think about what they put at risk — personally — when they tap a criminal to get them inside information. DeVecchio paid a heavy price. Among other things, he lost his reputation, & he even lost his business. “He had a pretty good investigative business,” says Kossler. “And he lost that whenever he got indicted. He couldn’t work. When you get indicted like that, it is a harrowing experience. He handled it very well. I don’t know if I could handle it.” Typically, when an agent is named in a lawsuit, they ask the Justice Dept for representation. If the dept determines the lawsuit relates to their FBI work, it assigns counsel or pays some government hourly rate for the defense. FBI general counsel Valerie Caproni said that’s how it worked in DeVecchio’s case. “The department determined that the charges arose out of his work as an FBI agent, & therefore was prepared to pay for his defense & paid a substantial amount toward his criminal defense,” she says. But DeVecchio was worried the department lawyers wouldn’t be strong enough. So he hired his own. The defense cost him \$600,000 more than the Justice Dept was willing to pay. **‘A Little Kafkaesque’:** If DeVecchio’s case seems unique, consider former FBI supervisor Jim Ring. The last civil case related to confidential informants that was brought against him was finally dismissed earlier this year — 18 years after he retired. “It is a little Kafkaesque, where the legal system is being used

against you, & they know exactly which buttons to push, & there is nothing you can do about it,” he says. In one case against Ring, attorneys tried to go after his assets & his house — all because he was supervising a case with a confidential informant. “And someone said to me, ‘After this happened to you, I would never touch an informant,’” he says. Caproni, for her part, says these cases are the exception, not the rule. She says she hasn’t seen a fall-off in the number of confidential informants the FBI is working. But in interviews, half a dozen active agents said they were more much cautious now than before the DeVecchio episode. There’s a saying among agents: If your confidential informant doesn’t get you in trouble, he’s probably not a very good informant.

Legislator Aims To Regulate FBI Behavior (Part 3) – Sept 3, 2008 – USA - By Dina Temple-Raston - The FBI has been repeatedly accused of standing by while its confidential informants commit crimes. One legislator is considering introducing a bill that aims to fix that. The bill - as envisioned by Rep. William Delahunt (D-MA) - would subject FBI agents to criminal prosecution if they don’t alert local LEOs when one of their informants has committed a crime. Agents say that if the bill becomes law, the informant program as we know it will end. **An Uncooperative Institution:** The FBI’s detractors have long seen the bureau as an institution with its own agenda. They worry that the bureau is more concerned about building a successful case than upholding the law. Delahunt is one of those people. “I have had a long-term concern about the sharing of information by, specifically, the FBI with local & state law enforcement,” he says. Delahunt says the FBI has developed into a model of arrogant uncooperativeness when it comes to helping local police fight crime. Nowhere is this problem as evident, in his view, than in the FBI’s confidential informant program. Time & again, he says, FBI agents neglect to tell local police when they know their informants have broken the law because agents arbitrarily decide that their cases are more important than local ones. “What is totally unacceptable is having violent criminals out on the street, preying on American citizens everywhere, while there is information that isn’t being disclosed to local & state law enforcement authorities that have the primary responsibility in this country to protect us from violent crime,” Delahunt says. **A New Bill:** Delahunt’s solution is to introduce a bill that would essentially hold agents criminally responsible if they keep quiet. “If an average citizen should lie to an FBI agent, there is a criminal penalty involved,” Delahunt says. “Compare that to a situation where an FBI agent has information & fails to disclose it to appropriate local & state law enforcement officials. Should there be a penalty?” Delahunt says there should & points to the Whitey Bulger case in Boston as an example. “There have been cases, here in the greater Boston area, where the high standards of the FBI have not been honored,” he says. **FBI’s Unholy Alliance:** Whitey Bulger was the godfather of the Irish mob & a confidential informant for the FBI. He gave an agent named John Connolly information that helped the FBI wipe out the Italian mob in Boston. During that time, it seemed that no matter what state & local LEOs did to gather evidence against Bulger, he remained one step ahead of them. It was revealed later that Connolly was tipping him off. Delahunt was district atty in neighboring Norfolk County at the time, & the case still rankles. “Serious crimes went unsolved, while at the same time the FBI had significant information that, in my judgment, could very well have lead to a successful prosecution,” Delahunt says. Delahunt is certainly not the only person to cry foul about the FBI’s informant program. The Justice Department’s inspector general is concerned, too. He came out with a 301-page report saying that in

nearly nine out of every 10 cases he reviewed, agents mishandled informants. They allowed informants to engage in criminal activities without approval, they failed to report it when informants broke the law, or they approved illegal activity after the crime had already been committed.

Interfering With Agents' Jobs? Jack Weinstein has been a sitting judge for 40 years. He is a federal judge in the Eastern District of New York & has probably heard more mob cases — using confidential informants — than any other judge in the country. He's worried about Delahunt's bill. "I do think that to tie the hands of the FBI unduly is something that ought to be seriously considered before it is done," Weinstein says, adding, "My experience with the FBI over the past 40 years has been very good." Valerie Caproni, the general counsel for the FBI, is also worried. "I don't think if it was passed we could get agents to run informants." She said that the way the bill is drafted, an agent would have to inform local law enforcement if they obtain information that a confidential informant has committed a crime. What happens, she asks, if they aren't sure the information they obtain is reliable? "You would put the agent in a situation in which they would have to choose between criminal liability on their own part & disclosing information they may believe in their heart of hearts — & everyone objectively believes — isn't reliable," Caproni says. "But they risk criminal exposure if they don't disclose that to local law enforcement." Caproni says that if that was the law of the land, the FBI couldn't put their agents in that kind of position. It would effectively end the informant program. "I think that's baloney," says Delahunt. He says he simply is requiring FBI agents to comply with guidelines that already exist. "My role is one of oversight, monitoring & ensuring that the FBI achieves the high standards that we all believe the FBI aspires to," he says. The attorney general is expected to release revised guidelines for FBI investigative procedures in the next couple of weeks. Delahunt says he'd like to see those provisions before he moves ahead with his bill. Rep. Dan Lungren (R-CA) has been working with Delahunt on the bill.

Vintage Japanese Motorcycles are in Heber this week for a rally – Sept 3, 2008 – *Arizona* - The Vintage Japanese MC will hold a rally in Heber Springs from Sept 3 - 6. The majority of the rally will take place at the Quality Inn which is located at 3450 Highway 25B in Heber Springs. Shown is a VJMC member's vast collection, taken in front of his Memphis home. Up to nine of the motorcycles pictured will be present at the rally. Local VJMC member, Dave Hill, has contributed greatly to the planning of this rally. Hill became involved with the VJMC ten years ago after seeing an advertisement for the club in a magazine. He began riding motorcycles 52 years ago when he was 14 years old.

Biker gets day parole – Sept 3, 2008 – *Canada* – By Paul Cherry - A man who played a significant role in bringing the Bandidos outlaw motorcycle gang to Canada has been granted day parole on a sentence he is serving for trying to kill several Hells Angels. Frédéric Faucher, 38, began serving his 11-year prison term in 2001, only months after he & a group of his former sworn enemies posed for photographs in an attempt to convince the Quebec public that both gangs had agreed to a truce in the province's long & bloody biker war. Faucher is also known for having played a role in persuading the Rock Machine, founded as an independent gang, to join the Bandidos, whose international membership & clout were second only to the Hells Angels. After serving seven years of his sentence for several crimes, including drug trafficking & an attempt to bomb a Hells Angels bunker in Quebec City, Faucher now claims he wants nothing to do with gangs or organized crime. Faucher also tried to kill a Hells

Angels underling in July 1998 but his gunshots missed the intended victim.

Hells Angels arsenal uncovered in Rome – Sept 3, 2008 – *Italy* - Five people were arrested after Roman police discovered an arsenal of weapons in a secret hideout belonging to members of the motorcycle gang Hells Angels. During a random routine control on Via Castel di Leva, located just outside the G.R.A. near Colli Albani, police retrieved truncheons & several knives in the car, which led them to a Hells Angels circle where guns, swords, crossbows & a bazooka were found. The two men inside the car, both thirty years old & with clean records, were arrested. A third person's car was also inspected & more truncheons & knives were found, which led the suspecting police to search a locale near the control checkpoint, where the arsenal was found. Two more men inside the premises, 48 & 32 years old, were arrested, & will now face charges of committing criminal acts, detention of fire & common arms & war weapons

Hells Angels leader in S.F. shot dead in fight – Sept 4, 2008 – *San Francisco, California* - By Jaxon Van Derbecken - The president of the San Francisco chapter of the Hells Angels MC was shot & killed Tuesday night on a Mission District street, police said Wed. Mark "Papa" Guardado, 45, was shot at 10:30 p.m. Tuesday near 24th Street & Treat Avenue, about a mile from the group's clubhouse where he lived. He died at San Francisco General Hospital. Witnesses told investigators that Guardado & the gunman struggled before the shooting. "They had a wrestling match first," said Lt. Mike Stasko of the San Francisco police homicide detail. Then "the guy shot him, & he got on his motorcycle & left." Police have made no arrests, but said one avenue they are exploring was that Guardado was fighting with a rival in another motorcycle group. "We're looking at all the options," Stasko said. An attorney who was defending Guardado in a battery case in Sonoma County said that he was "absolutely devastated" by the killing & that "Mark was a wonderful human being." "His friends loved him," said the attorney, Patrick Ciocca. "He really was an all-around good guy. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of people who are going to miss him dearly." Members of the Hells Angels at the group's clubhouse on Tennessee Street in the Dogpatch neighborhood of San Francisco declined to talk about the killing. At the street corner where Guardado was shot, across from a bar & a nail salon, there was a makeshift memorial where someone had written in large, black letters, "RIP Papa Frisco." Nearby, others wrote "never forget" & "we will always love you." Five burned-out candles lay nearby. Ciocca was unable to say how long Guardado had headed the local chapter. But he stressed that the Hells Angels had been unfairly harassed over the years by authorities who have raided the clubhouse in search of evidence that the group is a criminal enterprise. "It's outlandish," Ciocca said. The group's San Francisco chapter - or "Frisco," as its members call it - is the second-oldest Hells Angels club in the country, after Fontana in San Bernardino County. In 2004, it celebrated its 50th anniversary with a party that attracted about a thousand bikers from around the world. The Hells Angels have long feuded with another motorcycle group, the Mongols. In 2002, a brawl between dozens of members of the two groups in a Laughlin, Nev., casino resulted in the deaths of three bikers & 13 injuries. Sonoma County beating Guardado had an assault conviction in Massachusetts & served prison time there in the 1990s, but had no significant criminal record in California. When he died, however, he was facing charges in Sonoma County stemming from a beating outside a bar in Petaluma earlier this year. Police said the incident happened Feb. 10 at McNear's Saloon & Dining House.

Guardado bumped a bar patron, who was not a member of a motorcycle gang. The patron fled the bar, authorities said. Once outside, the victim was surrounded, beaten & kicked by several other alleged members of the Hells Angels, prosecutors said. Guardado started the attack for no reason, said Sgt. Jim Stephenson of the Petaluma police street crimes unit. "We can't determine any motive - it was just what they do," Stephenson said. "It's just intimidation." Guardado was charged with battery in furtherance of a street gang. Jonathan Nelson, 31, VP of the Sonoma County chapter of the Hells Angels, was charged with felony battery in the incident. S.F. clubhouse raid In July, federal & local authorities raided the Hells Angels' clubhouse in San Francisco, & Guardado was arrested on suspicion of possessing illegal mushrooms. Ciocca said authorities had been looking for evidence to support the premise that the Hells Angels was a criminal organization. They seized documents & some posters, but nothing that backed their suspicions, he said. "They found nothing, at all, to further the idea that they were a criminal street gang," Ciocca said. "They were turning it into the crime of the century - it's ridiculous." Attorneys for Guardado & Nelson had filed a joint motion in the Sonoma County case in which they asserted that the Hells Angels organization was not a street gang. They were challenging a court ruling that barred the defendants from wearing Hells Angels attire to court hearings. A judge ultimately barred the defendants & onlookers from wearing any Hells Angels jackets or clothing in court, but did not rule on the issue of whether the organization constituted a street gang. Guardado "was an extremely dangerous gang member," said Victoria Shanahan, the Sonoma County prosecutor in the Petaluma case. "I find it interesting the fact that they were arguing they are not gang members, but this appears to be a gang-motivated killing." Ciocca said that his client had a "warm heart & an outgoing personality" & that he last spoke to him two weeks before his death. "We are disappointed that he will not have a chance to clear his name," he said.

Under watchful eye, bikers aid charity – Sept 4, 2008 – *Nevada*

- By Diana Cox - Police were on high alert from Hoover Dam to Henderson on Monday, as 300 bikers from more than 20 motorcycle clubs rode through town raising money for Jerry's Kids. Officers from Boulder City, Henderson & Metro police roamed Boulder Highway & were armed & wary along the route of a 50-mile poker run sponsored by the Las Vegas chapter of the Hells Angels. Members of the SWAT teams were stationed in the old World War II bunkers above Hoover Dam, poker run organizer James Kimsey said. A bouquet of red roses received at the Jerry Lewis MDA Telethon, with a card signed by the Hells Angels, showed the motorcycle group's intentions for the day. The heavily tattooed & leather-wearing men & women used the holiday as an excuse to go for a ride & to help Jerry's Kids, Kimsey said. The poker run consisted of six stopping points between Henderson H-D & the Hoover Dam. At each stop, riders drew a card with a number from 1 to 52. At the end of the ride, the highest total won. The proceeds - a donation of \$25 per rider, though many gave more - went to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. A total of \$5,000 was raised, Kimsey said. "Anything to do with kids, we're there," said a member of the Teamsters Horsemen motorcycle club who identified himself only by his road name, Zorro. The cause did not ease the concerns of police. Boulder City Police Chief Thomas Finn said his officers were out in force because of the presence of what he called an "outlaw motorcycle gang." Still feeling the backlash from a fight with a rival gang the Mongols during the Laughlin River Run in 2002 that left three people dead & a dozen injured, the Hells Angels organizers were faced with apprehension from law

enforcement. Railroad Pass had initial concerns as well, spokesman Keith McDonald said, but officials decided to participate after meeting with the group's representatives & deciding it was a good cause. The heavy police presence didn't seem to bother any of the riders. "It's a great day to get out & ride, & it's for a great cause," said the vice president of the Sober Riders motorcycle club, who gave his name as Wolfman. He & other riders smiled, joked & posed for pictures at a lookout point above the dam. At stop No. 2, the Boulder Dam Brewing Company, owners Todd & Tony Cook welcomed the hot & thirsty riders. When asked if he was apprehensive about the day, Todd Cook said, "No, not at all. We've been part of poker runs before." Cook said it was good for business & allowed the company to help a charity. The poker run was more successful than organizers had hoped. They planned to have at least 100 people to take part in the ride. At 11 a.m. the call came in that registration was going to be extended, because riders were still showing up. By noon, more than 300 riders had joined the run. Henderson Harley sponsored a raffle at the beginning, & vendors of biker goods set up tents at the Railroad Pass Casino to add to the total to be given to the telethon. Members of the Los Angeles County & Riverside chapters of the Hells Angels also showed up. Bouquets of red roses, like the ones sent to the telethon, were sent to all the companies that helped make the event a success.

Province seizes Oshawa Hells Angels clubhouse – Sept 4, 2008 - *Canada* - A once seemingly indelible stamp of the presence of the Hells Angels in Oshawa is now the property of the Province. The infamous Angels clubhouse, a heavily fortified structure on Ortono Ave in the Wilson Road-Bloor St neighborhood, was ordered forfeited to the Crown after a brief hearing Tue. Superior Court Justice Donald Ferguson made the order with the consent of the defendants, who include two high-ranking Angels currently facing accusations of plotting to murder an underworld rival. The property was seized under the Civil Remedies Act, which allows the Province to apply for forfeiture of property linked to criminal enterprises.

Bikies in court for 'Ballroom Blitz' brawl – Sept 4, 2008 – *Australia* - By Christine Flatley - Three people were shot & two stabbed during the bloody & infamous "Ballroom Blitz" brawl between rival outlaw motorcycle gangs on the Gold Coast, a court has been told. Graphic video footage of the fight at the Royal Pines Resort on March 18, 2006 was shown in the Brisbane District Court this afternoon. The footage showed an organised kickboxing fight attended by 1800 people descend into chaos as members of the Hell's Angels & Finks threw punches, chairs & glasses. One member of the Hell's Angels, Christopher Hudson, survived after being shot in the jaw & back.

Finks admit 'Ballroom Blitz' bloodbath – Sept 4, 2008 - *Australia* - Two Finks bikies have pleaded guilty in a Brisbane court over their role in a bloody melee in which gang defector-turned Melbourne CBD gunman Christopher Wayne Hudson was shot in the face at a Gold Coast kickboxing match. The incident, dubbed the "Ballroom Blitz", occurred in the packed grand ballroom of the Royal Pines resort at Carrara on March 18, 2006, & is said to have been sparked by Hudson's defection from the Finks to rival gang the Hells Angels.

Dying is easy; you have to work at living. Life is an athletic event. You have to really be in shape for it. - Jack La Lanne (quoted when he was 93 years old).

No woman will ever be truly satisfied because no man will ever have a chocolate penis that ejaculates money. – Maki (SOS Ret)

Hells Angels Leader Slain; Fear Grips SF – Sept 4, 2008 – *California* - By KTVU.com - Police & residents in San Francisco's Outer Mission neighborhood were on edge after SFPD investigators identified a man killed in the area as the president of the San Francisco branch of the Hells Angels MC. The victim, 46-year-old Mark Guardado, was shot at about 10:30 p.m. outside a bar at 24th St & Treat Ave in the city's Mission District, police said. Authorities said Guardado was recently in Sonoma County court, facing felony charges in connection to an altercation in Petaluma last Feb. Police were investigating reports that Guardado was shot by a member of The Mongols, a rival motorcycle club. The Mongols are based in Southern California, but there are local chapters in Modesto & San Jose, authorities said. The Mongols & the Hells Angels clashed six years ago at Harrah's Casino in Laughlin, Nevada. The incident left three people dead. In response to Tuesday night's fatal shooting, there's been a heavy police presence as officers blanket the area. Police say they will continue to patrol the area in an effort to reassure residents they will remain safe despite worries of a possible war between the two motorcycle clubs. "We are going to try & maintain a continued effort in this area with multiple means, uniformed officers, plain-clothed officers, specialized units that we have out here tonight," San Francisco Capt. Steve Tacchini told KTVU. "We are going to try & keep as much police presence in the neighborhood as possible." Residents of the Mission District tell KTVU they will remain on edge until the case is solved. "I'm afraid some young children will accidentally get shot in the crossfire," said local resident Rita Alviar, who works with the Mission Education Project. "I'm praying that this stops in our community."

NHRA: Hines Takes V-Rod to Final Round – Sept 4, 2008 - *Indiana* - Screamin' Eagle/Vance & Hines rider Andrew Hines advanced to the final round of the NHRA Pro Stock Motorcycle eliminations at the Mac Tools U.S. Nationals at O'Reilly Raceway Park. Riding a Harley-Davidson V-Rod, Hines lost by a margin of just 0.008 seconds to Snap-On Suzuki rider Steve Johnson in the final. "I've guess I've won & lost by smaller margins," said Hines. "I can't hang my head. I got a great start & hit all my shifts, but Johnson ran me down at the end of the track & beat me by maybe six inches. But this was an exciting weekend for the Screamin' Eagle/Vance & Hines team, & both our riders are in great position for the Countdown."

POW-MIA Memorial vandalized – Sept 4, 2008 - *Virginia* - By Jason Kane - The local chapter of Rolling Thunder is working to repair the POW-MIA Memorial in Jim Barnett Park after vandals smashed its lights during the weekend. The incident occurred between 8 p.m. Fri - when the Rolling Thunder Honor Guard left after practicing for an upcoming ceremony - & Sat morning. Julius Jones, a member of Rolling Thunder Virginia Chapter One's board of governors, found the broken lights Sat & called the Winchester PD shortly after 5:30 p.m. The tempered glass in the four large ground-level lights that illuminate the memorial's flags was smashed, with their holders chipped & battered. Additionally, a walkway light had been slammed with "something heavy like a baseball bat" & was "scattered across the grass," Officer Daniel Caldwell said. Officials already have several leads in the case, he said. Jones told Caldwell that the damage was about \$1,350. The group plans to replace the five lights & their fixtures. "It's wanton vandalism," Jones said, not a political act of violence against a military memorial. "I think the vandals don't understand the significance of this. I'm sure if they understood why it's here & what this represents, they would realize that this affects the entire community."

South Australia moves to ban gangs - Sept 4, 2008 – *Australia* – By Tim Dornin - Police will move soon to ban bkie & other gangs in South Australia under world-first legislation to crack down on their criminal activities. Police will use the new Serious & Organized Crime Act, which came into force today, to seek orders that particular gangs be "declared," essentially making it illegal for members to meet or gather together. Assistant Commissioner Tony Harrison said officers had been working for some time to prepare cases against key groups, with bkie gangs the first targets. The new laws also allow magistrates to issue control orders against gang members & introduce a new offence of criminal association, to stop gang members & their hangers-on from gathering. Harrison said he expected the first applications for declarations to go to Attorney-General Michael Atkinson soon. "What we have been doing is considering all of the outlaw motorcycle gangs & their respective criminal activity," he said. "We've been going through a fairly comprehensive process in relation to consolidating our information & it won't be too far down the track that we will be moving forward & making an application for the declaration process." Police intelligence suggests there are about 250 initiated members of eight bkie gangs operating in South Australia, with a further 150 closely associated. Atkinson said the new laws were a clear message that those people were not welcome in South Australia. "They should either leave their gangs or leave the state. We will pursue them until they do," he said. "Members of these gangs are responsible for dealing drugs, using deadly weapons, murders & countless assaults, not to mention the blackmail & intimidation these bullies inflict if they feel threatened." Under the new laws, police must satisfy the attorney-general that members of declared gangs associate for criminal purposes & are a risk to public safety & order. Atkinson said the laws were a world-first. Police said the legislation had attracted interest from other jurisdictions, both in Australia & overseas. Legal challenges were expected but the government was confident the new provisions would stand up in court. But the state opposition accused the government of moving too slowly. Police spokesman David Ridgway questioning why it had taken three months to enact the legislation following its passage through parliament. "In the past three months there have been bkie-related shootings, a murder, home invasions, raids on drug labs & cache of illegal firearms uncovered," Ridgway said.

Jail term for bkie assault – Sept 4, 2008 – *Australia* - The ring leader of a "prolonged & vicious" attack on a man at a Hobart motorcycle club has been jailed for two & a half years. The victim was hit repeatedly with a baseball bat & pool-cue & thought he was going to die. The Hobart Criminal Court heard Lenard Bird led the attack at the Outlaws MC at Bridgewater. The incident, described in court as a prolonged period of torture, happened in Dec 2006. Last month, a jury found 44 year old Bird guilty of 4 assault charges. The court heard Bird, who lived near the motorbike club, dragged the victim down a driveway, punched him to the head & repeatedly beat him. The man was then subjected to further assaults by others. He suffered wounds, bruising & swelling & needed major dental work. Chief Justice Ewan Crawford said there was no doubt Bird was responsible for most of the victim's injuries. The Judge imposed a non-parole period of 15 months.

In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, & the worst thing you can do is nothing." - Theodore Roosevelt

Whenever you rest, someone, somewhere is training to kick your ass.

Authorities say Sturgis gang violence unchanged – Sept 5, 2008 – *South Dakota* – By Carson Walker; AP - Sturgis authorities say shootings stemming from the motorcycle rally in 2006 & this year were the 1st major violence since 1990, but outlaw biker gangs are generally no more violent than usual. Grand jurors in Sturgis indicted a wounded Hells Angel & 5 members of the Iron Pigs following a bar fight at this year's rally. And 2 Hells Angel members are to stand trial in Nov on charges they sparked a firefight 2 years ago at Custer State Park that injured 6 Outlaws gang members. In 1990, an Outlaws member was shot by a rival Sons of Silence biker in a brawl in which two other Sons of Silence members were stabbed. The police chief & prosecutor say the level of violence really hasn't changed & common offenses include assaults, drugs & weapon violations.

Authorities delayed arrests to sort out chaos – Sept 5, 2008 – *Sturgis, South Dakota* - Local authorities didn't make immediate arrests at the Loud American Roadhouse after a shooting there during the Sturgis motorcycle rally because the scene was chaotic & needed sorting out, Sturgis Police Chief Jim Bush said. "Before you start throwing people in jail, you have to be sure what happened," he said. A Meade County grand jury indicted six men last week on charges related to the shooting. Arrest warrants were also issued for the men, at least three of whom are members of the Iron Pigs MC of police officers & firefighters. They include Seattle police detective Ronald Smith, 43. He has admitted to shooting 33-year-old Joseph Patrick McGuire on Aug. 9 during a scuffle between the Iron Pigs & Hells Angels at the Sturgis bar. Smith, who has claimed he shot McGuire in self-defense, was briefly detained & questioned, then allowed to return to Washington. He was indicted on felony charges of assault & perjury. McGuire, who was hospitalized & is reportedly recovering from his wounds, also was indicted for felony assault. The four other accused bikers were indicted on misdemeanor charges. Police often arrest people at the scene of shootings & other crimes if there is a suspect. But that wasn't done in this instance because of the number of people involved, Bush said. There were about 450 people in the packed bar that night, he said. Authorities turned over their interview of Smith & other witnesses to State's Attorney Jesse Sondreal, who presented the information to the grand jury. The jurors heard testimony from several people who were at the scene before handing down the charges. Smith's status as a law enforcement officer had nothing to do with his not being arrested at the scene, Bush said. "People are just not used to the process that was used there because that was not a normal thing that happened," he said, referring to how the shooting occurred. Sondreal said he expects the accused men to turn themselves in & appear voluntarily in Meade County court. No further information about their cases has been released since the warrants were issued. As for next year's rally, Bush said he doesn't have special security measures planned. But he said he hopes the Iron Pigs decide to stay home. "I hope to heck they don't come back next year," Bush said. "It would be really nice if they don't, because we're going to have Hells Angels," he said. "I guess one would think that there would be a problem if they get together again. I'd just as soon not have that."

Court OKs party block – Sept 5, 2008 – *Vermont* - The town won an injunction to block an event planned by a local resident who came to court wearing a Hells Angels vest, but a smaller version of the event may still happen on Sat. After a hearing in Bennington Superior Court on Thu, Environmental Court Judge Tom Durkin granted an injunction to the town of Bennington to block an event advertised on fliers as Mac's Mud Bash proposed by Milo Campbell of Bennington. Robert Woolmington, who

represents the town, said the town was simply trying to enforce its zoning ordinances. But Campbell & Adam Hall said the mud bash was a birthday party for Campbell's young son. "I'm an extravagant person. If I want to have 800 people on my land, I should be able to do that," Campbell testified. Bennington Planning Dir & Zoning Administrator Dan Monks testified on Thursday that Campbell had applied for & been granted to have an event, advertised as "Mudder's Day" for May 11. Monks said Campbell told him there would be no more than 60 people at the event. Bennington Police Chief Dick Gauthier told the court his officers reported that at 1 point on May 11, more than 500 people were at the event. During his testimony, Campbell complained about the police presence at the May 11. "I think it's ridiculous that the town spent our tax money to watch us drive through a mud hole. It's harassment. It's profiling," he said. Both Campbell & Hall wore vests in court on Thursday that said "Hells Angels MC Massachusetts," but no one mentioned the motorcycle club by name during the hearing. Hall told the court that there were two events on May 11 on Gully Lane: The Mudder's Day event & a birthday party for Campbell's teenage daughter. "The reason there were so many people there is that everyone knows Milo. I'm not from here, but since I've come here, I've found that everywhere I go, everyone knows Milo," Hall said. Later in May, Monks sent Campbell a certified letter that said that if he planned another event that was expected to draw a crowd, Campbell would need to apply to the town's development review board to get a permit. Woolmington & Monks both pointed out that the Southern Vermont Garlic & Herb Festival that took place on Route 9 last week was also required to apply for a permit. Monks said he learned of the mud bash planned for Saturday through a flier circulating through the town. Monks testified he had tried to reach Campbell but the phone numbers the town had were disconnected. According to Monks, no permit request was made for the mud bash on Saturday. Campbell, who told Durkin he was representing himself on Tuesday because he didn't find out about the temporary restraining order in time to get a lawyer, said he didn't apply for a permit because what he was planning was a birthday party for which he didn't think he needed a permit. "I'm a very well-known person in this community. I'm sorry if I know a lot of people. This is just going to be a normal birthday party for my son. I come from nothing, I done alright for myself & now I'm going to do anything I can for my kids," he said. Campbell told Durkin he couldn't predict the number of people who would attend on Saturday. The flier advertises "lots of fun & excitement for all ages/ladies mud wrestling pit, ATV mud bog/2-racing mud pits & kids dash for cash." "The ladies mud wrestling pit, that's a little more for the adults," Campbell told the judge. The flier also said there would be a \$5 fee for admission, but Campbell said that was a misprint & there would be no admission charge. Durkin, however, said the mud bog "can only be regarded as a commercial event" based on the contents of the flier & granted an injunction to the town. After the hearing, Monks said town officials had spoken briefly to Campbell about the possibility of granting a permit for a smaller event, attended by no more than 100 people at a time. Bill Rice, owner of the Happy Cook restaurant on Main Street in Bennington, said after the hearing that he planned to cater the mud bog on Sat just as he had catered the May 11 event. Rice said he had many members of Hells Angels, whose sticker hangs in his restaurant, as customers. "I'll tell you what, I've been hugged by 100 of those guys & never had any trouble with them. This is no way to treat any of us. It's not like trouble happens every time they're around," he said. A petition to allow Campbell to host the mud bash on his property was hung in the Happy Cook on Wed & had more than 30 signatures on Thu.

Adelaide Finks jailed – Sept 5, 2008 – *Australia* - Two South Australian bikies have been jailed over a violent brawl during which Hell's Angels defector Christopher Wayne Hudson was shot twice & others stabbed. Senior Finks MC member Shane Scott Bowden, 36, yesterday was sentenced in the Brisbane District Court to six-and-a-half-years' jail by a judge who declared him a serious violent offender. His co-accused, Nicholas "The Knife" John Forbes, 39, received an 18-month sentence for assault occasioning bodily harm whilst armed. Their trial heard Forbes attacked Hudson, a former Finks member, in front of 1800 people at a kickboxing tournament in March, 2006, before Bowden shot Hudson in the face & back. Graphic video footage played to the court showed the tournament at the Pines Resort, on the Gold Coast, descended into chaos as patrons threw punches, chairs & glasses at each other. Forbes had travelled with 7 other Finks to Queensland as part of a national manhunt for Hudson after he defected to the Hells Angels & tried to recruit other Finks members. The Finks were dispatched from Adelaide with the instructions to remove a full-size tattoo of the club's colours from Hudson's back with acid & paint scrapers. Among them was Benjamin Young, 26, who was executed outside his Payneham house two weeks ago when he was shot twice in the back with a large-calibre, semi-automatic pistol. The Victorian Supreme Court this week heard Hudson was on the run from the Finks when he opened fire with a pistol in Melbourne's central business district, killing a lawyer & seriously wounding a German backpacker & his model girlfriend. Hudson's lawyer said Hudson was high on methamphetamine & alcohol & later tried to take his own life when he realised the enormity of what he had done. The shoot-out came days after Hudson fired shots from the pistol as he drove over a Melbourne bridge at high speed with Collingwood player Alan Didak, who was suspended last month for his involvement in a drink-driving car accident with star player Heath Shaw. Hudson faces a possible life in jail after pleading guilty to one count of murder, two of attempted murder & one of intentionally causing serious injury.

Hells Angels' clubhouse seized – Sept 5, 2008 - *Canada* - The Hells Angels' Oshawa clubhouse now belongs to the province. What Queen's Park intends to do with the Ortono Ave. building is still up in the air. A judge has ruled that the Bloor St.-Wilson Rd. area building, which had previously housed the Satan's Choice chapter before that gang patched over to the international biker organization, can be seized by the province. Two motorcycles will be returned to their owners, the court ruled, after gang insignia & other Hells-related art are removed. Anything found in the building that depicts the gang's Death's Head logo & colours is to be destroyed, Justice Donald Ferguson ruled on Tuesday. Durham Chief Mike Ewles, who was twice an uninvited guest at the clubhouse during his career as a cop, said he's pleased the property was yanked from the gang. "There's been several discussions of different options about letting the community get some return on that property because it has been such a blight on that community for so many years," he said. "It's high time we removed that whole symbol of criminality & illegal activity." Ontario Attorney-General Chris Bentley said the seizure is part of the process of taking the profit out of crime. "We're using a powerful tool to take the tools of criminal activity away & to take the proceeds of crime away, & that's good for the safety of communities," Bentley said. "The \$11,000 that was found in part stuffed in walls, will go into a fund to assist victims. "We're going to have some experts go in & take a look at it & determine if it can be resold," he said. The first Hells clubhouse seized through the courts was the Thunder Bay chapter building, handed over to the province on March 27. The Toronto chapter's

clubhouse remains frozen after it was seized last year in Project Develop, & is before the courts. Police seized the Hells' London clubhouse in July. In 2002, police seized five Outlaws clubhouses, including the mother chapter in St. Catharines. Some of those seizures are still before the courts.

Montana motorcyclist dies in 239 mph crash – Sept 5, 2008 - *Utah* - A 47-year-old record-setting motorcycle racer from Montana has died when he lost control & crashed while traveling at 239 mph on the Bonneville Salt Flats. Investigators weren't sure what caused Cliff Gullett, of Bozeman, Mont., to lose control of the motorcycle Wednesday during a time trial. The American Motorcyclist Association said on its Web site that Gullett was competing in the 500cc Streamliner class at the Salt Flats, where drivers go for speed records every summer on the flat, open space just east of the Nevada state line. Gullett owned Team Bozeman Motorsports, a motorcycle & snowmobile dealership. He had set a handful of world land-speed records & wanted to eventually become the first to reach 400 mph on a two-wheeled Streamliner, according to an interview last week with The Billings Gazette. Curt Lance, Team Bozeman's general manager, said "Cliff always told me that if anything happened on the Salt, he wanted it to be quick & not lingering. He died doing the thing he loved to do most - racing at Bonneville."

Perjury Charge Dropped In Sturgis Shooting Case – Sept 6, 2008 – *South Dakota* – By Jaine Andrews - A perjury charge filed against Seattle Police Detective Ronald Smith has been dropped. That's according to the Meade County State's Atty. During the investigation into the shooting that occurred in Sturgis at the Loud American Roadhouse early last month, Smith provided information to investigators that the firearm he used was his personal firearm. Information & records obtained from the Seattle Police Dept by South Dakota investigators showed that the firearm Smith used was a Seattle Police Dept issued firearm, not Smith's personal weapon. Smith's claim regarding his personal ownership of the weapon & the information from the Seattle Police Dept were presented to the Grand Jury, which ultimately resulted in a charge of perjury being filed against Smith. Subsequent to the Indictments, an FBI firearms trace & further investigation by the Seattle Police Dept definitively proved that the firearm Smith used during the shooting was not a Seattle Police Dept owned or issued handgun. It was, in fact, purchased by Smith, lawfully, from the Seattle Police Athletic Association in 1996. Based on the new information, the Meade County Office of the State's Attorney has dismissed the perjury charge contained in Count II of the Indictment against Smith.

What she doesn't know about, doesn't piss her off...

If guns cause crime, all of mine are defective. - Ted Nugent

Mercy is for the weak & the unprepared.

Nothing is idiot-proof; a better idiot will always be invented

Patience & fortitude conquer all things. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

You have to prepare to die to really understand how to live.

It is a wise man who, in quiet times, keeps his knives sharp & ready. - Lao Tzu

Just because the river is quiet does not mean the crocodiles have left. - Malay proverb

Three injured in stabbings outside bar – Sept 6, 2008 – **Colorado** - By Nick Bonham; The Pueblo Chieftain - Four alleged members of a motorcycle gang were arrested early Fri following a Union Avenue stabbing that left a man with serious injuries. Vincent Latona, 34, was stabbed twice in the stomach & once in the left arm, according to Pueblo police. His medical condition was not available, but his injuries were not labeled life-threatening, according to Sgt. Eric Bravo of the Pueblo Police Dept's investigation unit. Arrested in the incident were Daniel Martinez, 51, of Walsenburg; Gilbert Lee "Wizard" Archuleta, 54, of the 1000 block of East Ninth Street; Steven "Tooter" Sandoval, 47, of the 3900 block of Azalea Street; & Jesse Lee Boling, 28, of Colorado Springs. Bravo said the suspects are members of the Bandidos motorcycle gang. The four were booked into Pueblo County jail on charges ranging from driving under the influence of alcohol, eluding, possession of a weapon while under the influence & other related charges. The incident started about 12:30 a.m. at The Branch Inn, 301 S. Union Ave. Latona had been drinking in the bar when he was asked to leave for causing a disturbance. Also inside the bar were the suspects. "Latona was getting loud & intoxicated & was reportedly asked to leave the bar by a Bandido gang member. Some of the Bandidos followed him outside," Bravo said. A confrontation between Latona & the gang members ensued outside. Latona brandished a knife & a can of mace, & used both on Martinez & 50-year-old Dale Aubuchon, a fellow gang member who was not arrested, Bravo said. Both men were stabbed in the brawl by Latona, Bravo said, & were treated & released from a hospital. During the struggle, though, some of the suspects overpowered Latona, who wound up on the ground stabbed in the stomach & arm, Bravo said. "It's possible this is a self-defense case. We still have a lot of follow up to do. We haven't interviewed Latona yet," Bravo said. After the fight, Latona managed to walk south on Union to Zippers bar, where he was found by an off-duty police officer. The suspects fled on their motorcycles, but were apprehended at the intersection of First Street & Santa Fe Avenue following a short pursuit. During the incident one of the Bandidos fired a shot. Bravo said a .38-caliber casing was recovered in the 300 block of Union, & police recovered a .38-caliber handgun from a saddlebag on Martinez's motorcycle. Boling was found in possession of two knives, one was stained with blood. The suspects' motorcycles were impounded & all four were being held in jail late Friday without bail pending advisement in court. "I suspect charges to be filed in the case, but what kind I'm not sure yet," Bravo said.

Sons of Anarchy review by a biker – Sept 7, 2008 – **Connecticut** – By Carol Casey - What does FX's "Sons of Anarchy" say about people who ride motorcycles? The television show portrays motorcycle riders as violent killers, who illegally sell guns, & sell drugs. Their women are crack addicts who give birth to premature, deformed infants because of their drug use. I find this negative portrayal of motorcycle riders offensive, even dangerous to the well being of motorcycle riders. Moving beyond the insult to decent law-abiding motorcyclists, the scripts are poor, & the story line weak. There is not one socially redeeming reason for this program to be on television. It is not entertaining, it has no comic relief. **What's the point?** A basic concept of any drama is the need for at least one character that can offset the extreme use of blood & guts & hatred & violence with some strategically sprinkled comedy here & there. Any motorcycle association should be more than offended, it should be extremely angry at the insulting portrayal of members of a motorcycle club that may make their members targets of hatred. It makes everyone on a motorcycle, especially Harley riders, or that type of big bike, into targets of hatred & fear by people who will believe that this is

what all people who ride motorcycles are actually like. I am sickened & disgusted. I am afraid some ignorant citizen will run me off the road & leave me to die in a ditch, just because I ride Harleys, & the public learned on "Sons of Anarchy" that motorcycle riders are a dangerous blight to society. I am a proud member of the Patriot Guard Riders, as are many of my friends. I also have a lot of friends who ride for charitable causes. Where is the portrayal that shows motorcyclists riding for our troops? Where are the thousands of motorcycles that ride to The Wall to honor fallen veterans? Where are the scenes of thousands of motorcycles covered with teddy bears & gifts for children on charitable toy runs? Where are the scenes of long-distance rallies raising thousands of dollars to fight polio, to fund cancer research, to battle multiple sclerosis? **She's boycotting:** Because of the negativism of the "Sons of Anarchy" show, I am boycotting it & feel that every person who rides a motorcycle should consider doing the same. Fellow motorcyclists must realize that when the ordinary citizen sees you on your motorcycle, thanks to "Sons of Anarchy," this is what will be in their minds as you try to interact with them. Is "Sons" the kind of image you feel good about being associated with as a motorcycle rider? **Carol Casey** lives in Groton. She owns & rides a Harley & is a member of the Patriot Guard Riders.

A brother's tale – Sept 7, 2008 - **California** - A brother's tale: Mark "Papa" Guardado, the president of the San Francisco chapter of the Hells Angels who was gunned down Tuesday night on a Mission District street, may have been a much bigger player for the Angels on the West Coast than police initially thought. "He was the guy - very, very well known," said one police source in the know, who asked not to be named because of the sensitivity of the case. And in a twist you usually find only in the movies, it turns out that biker chief Guardado was also the older brother of Jose Guardado, a highly decorated San Francisco police officer. "Jose's really a great guy," said homicide Inspector Karen Lynch, who is investigating Mark Guardado's slaying. Officer Guardado was awarded a gold medal by the department after a December 2006 incident in which he shot & killed a fugitive from a state prison camp, who moments earlier had mortally wounded his partner, Officer Bryan Tuvera, in a Sunset District home's garage. The two brothers were born & raised in San Francisco, but chose decidedly different paths. Mark Guardado had an assault conviction on his record & was facing battery charges in a Petaluma case, & two years ago his San Francisco clubhouse was raided by the feds as part of a probe into cocaine & methamphetamine trafficking. "We all have relatives that make bad choices, & his brother did," Lynch said. Police believe biker Guardado was shot dead by a rival motorcycle club member, & they are pursuing some leads. At this point, however, they aren't giving a possible motive. Whatever the case, the cops are now bracing for Mark Guardado's funeral this week, & the possibility that hundreds of motorcycle gang members from all over the West Coast might show up for what could prove to be a very tense gathering. "There have been calls coming in from law enforcement from every jurisdiction in the state," said one cop.

There is nothing so likely to produce peace as to be well prepared to meet the enemy. - George Washington

When I hear somebody sigh, 'Life is hard'; I am always tempted to ask, 'Compared to what?' - Sydney J. Harris

National Coalition of Motorcyclists...
An Idea Whose Time Has Come...