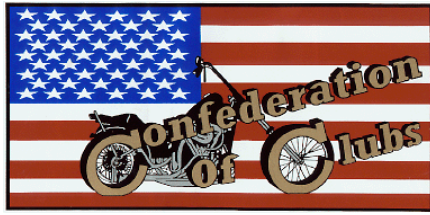


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Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter...

January 2012 – Issue 2...



NCOM – National Coalition Of Motorcyclists / AIM - Aid for Injured Motorcyclists  
AIM / NCOM - Free Legal And Legislative Consultation

Free All Brothers Behind Bars...

Editor: Mike SOS MC Retired...

The snowmobile was invented in Roseau, *Minnesota* so as to allow families a means of attending 4th of July picnics.

NCOM Sponsors this Newsletter with a donation of \$250.00 per month.

**Bandidos MC Finland** donates \$ 50.00 a month...

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NCOM; Richard And Joseph Lester; Attorneys At Law...

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**Rough Riders MC; North Dakota** donates \$ 20.00 a month.

**Devils Diciples Tatu** donates \$ 25.00 a month...

**In Country Vietnam MC** donates \$ 50.00 a month...

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**Banshees Supporter Curb Chopper** donates \$ 10.00 a month...

**Rough Riders MC of North Dakota** who donates \$17.00 a month

*Special thanks* goes to **Pagan Rodent** who is currently at N.J.S.P. for his \$ 20.00 donation to this newsletter...

*Special Thanks* goes to **Counsels MC Mike** who is currently at FCI Bastrop (*Texas*) for his \$ 10.00 donation... Thank you...!!!

*Special Thanks* goes to **Counsels MC Kemo** who is currently at FCI Loretto (*Pennsylvania*) for his \$ 20.00 donation... Thank you...!!!

Congratulations **Hells Angel Smilin Rick** on your release...

Welcome **Molochs Steve** to the NCOM BBB Newsletter Mailing List

Welcome **Hells Angel Eddie** to the NCOM BBB Newsletter Mailing List...

Welcome **East Bay Dragon Slo** to the NCOM BBB Newsletter Mailing List...

Thanks goes to **El Forastero Kelley** from *Iowa* for his \$ 100.00 donation to this newsletter...

Thanks goes to **Mongol TopHat** and his wife Rocky for their \$ 50.00 donation to this newsletter...

**Editor's Note:** I would like to Thank the **Alabama Confederation Of Clubs** for their donation to this Newsletter... I just received a \$ 600.00 check from them for the 3rd year for \$ 50.00 per month... The one thing we can do to ensure this newsletter continuing is Thanking our sponsors, so please thank them at: Alabama COC; .....; Millbrook, AL 35054...

**Editor's Note:** I would like to Thank the **In Country Vietnam MC Nation** for their donation to this Newsletter... I just received a \$ 600.00 check from them for the 3rd year for \$ 50.00 per month... The one thing we can do to ensure this newsletter continuing is Thanking our sponsors, so please thank them at: In Country Vietnam MC; .....; Millbrook, AL 35054...

**Editor's Note:** I would like to Thank Invader Rapp's O'Lady Kay Lyn, the Invaders MC Nation And Invader Rapp for their continued Support of this Newsletter... I just received a \$ 660.00 check from them for a 3rd year at \$ 55.00 per month...

**Editor's Note:** I would like to Thank the Oregon Confederation Of Clubs for their donation to this Newsletter... I just received a \$ 300.00 check for \$ 25.00 per month for the next 12 months (4th year)... The one thing we can do to ensure this newsletter continuing is Thanking our sponsors, so please thank them at: Oregon COC (Sam Hochberg & Associates) 720 S.W. Washington St., Ste 750; Portland, OR 97205... Sam Hochberg is Oregon's A.I.M. Attorney: <http://YourInjuryLawyers.com/> or [http://www.aimncom.com/aim/attorneys/attorneys\\_or.htm](http://www.aimncom.com/aim/attorneys/attorneys_or.htm)

**Editor's Note:** The **Outlaws MC Nation** has just renewed its Sponsorship of this Newsletter thru May 2012... Thank You!!!

**Editor's Note:** In the Federal Prison System, as I understand it, you now have to get an address approved & mailing label printed to send a letter... Thus, if you would like to send a Thank you to one of our sponsors, feel free to mail it to me and I'll see the sponsor gets it...

**Disclaimer:** The News Media does NOT always tell the Whole Truth... It tends to sensationalize the News to Sell Newspapers...  
*In Fact, Many Times the News Media gets the Facts Wrong!!!*

## Confederation of Clubs - Goals: A Coming Together Goals:

[http://www.aimncom.com/coc/coc\\_goals.htm](http://www.aimncom.com/coc/coc_goals.htm)

1. **Bring the Patch holders Together...**
  - a) Communication between clubs.
  - b) A judicial coming together (not legislative) to protect our rights through the courts.
2. **Fight Police Harassment & Discrimination...**
  - a) Introduce anti-discrimination legislation, similar to the Unruh Act in California, in Confederation States that presently leave Bikers unprotected; A.I.M. attorney to work with state Motorcycle Rights Organization on new laws.  
A.I.M. attorney to work with state MROs on new laws.
  - b) Form delegation of patch holders & other affected bikers, that together with their local A.I.M. attorney, present police harassment grievances to the police chief and/or civic entity responsible.
  - c) Discriminatory establishments notified by the A.I.M. attorney that suit will be filed if they don't cease & desist.
3. **Proclamation of Intent...**
  - a) Working with local state MRO on legislative matters (ie. helmet issues, anti-biker discrimination, etc).
  - b) Working with the National Coalition of Motorcyclists on National & Federal matters: (ie. helmet issues, federal Gang Bill, etc).
  - c) Support Aid to Injured Motorcyclists by introducing the A.I.M. numbered card (Special card only for patch holders) & program to the members & allowing A.I.M. to set up at events.

**Editor's Note:** It is too hard to keep up with counts, But for your info here are the Clubs that are getting the Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter (**65 Clubs**): Avengers, Bandidos, Banshees, Barons, Black Pistons, Boozefighters, BPM, Breed, Brother Speed, Damned Deacon, D.C. Eagles, Death Squad, Derelicts, Devils Diciples, Diablos, El Forastero, Finks, Fly-In-Wheels, Forsaken Few, Free Souls, Galloping Goose, Ghost Riders, Grim Reapers, Gypsy Joker, Hells Angels, Hells Outcasts, Hermanos, Hessians, Hidalgo's, Highwaymen, In Country Vietnam, Iron Horsemen, Invaders, Iron Wings, Iron Mustangs, Legion Of Doom, Liberty Riders, Long Riders, Misfits, Mohawk Valley Riders, Mongols, Nomads, Outlaws, Pagan's, Phantom's, Pharoahs, Reapers, Renegades, Sadistics, Sacramaniacs, Satans Soldiers, Scorpions, Set Free Soldiers, Sons Of Silence, Sovereign, Sundowners, Thunderbirds, Unforegiven, Vagos, Vietnam Vets / Legacy Vets, Y-Rohirrin, Warlocks Pa, Warlocks, Winos Crew And Wheels Of Soul... With newsletters going to Australia, Canada, England, France, Finland, Germany, Norway, Sweden, & Wales...

**Editor's Note (For BBB Only):** Being a Patch holder in Good Standings does have it privileges... And this is one of them... If you are a Patch Holder in Good Standings & contact me, include your Chapter too... If you are Not a patch holder of a MC in Good Standings, Don't write me & request that I add you to the mailing list. You will only get rejected, as I only make very few special exceptions.

**Editor's Note:** In the interest of cost savings, If you can share One copy of this newsletter where I am sending multiple copies to the same institution, please let me know... Thanks, Mike

**Minnesota gets its name** from the Sioux Indian word "mah-nee-soo-tah". No, really... It means "fish soaked in lye."

**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 News & Becky Cakes...

**Editor's Note:** I produce this National Coalition of Motorcyclists Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter which is a non-partisan newsletter for Bikers by Bikers. 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:** Currently we are sending over 350 copies of this newsletter to members of **65 Motorcycle Clubs**...

**Editor's Note:** For **November** there was 1 issue, For **December** there was 1 issue, For **January** this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue ...

**Editor's Note:** I would like to Thank my Wife "Kari" for getting these Newsletters ready to be mail...

**The AIM/NCOM Motorcycle E-News Service** is brought to you by Aid to Injured Motorcyclists & the National Coalition of Motorcyclists, & is sponsored by the Law Offices of Richard M. Lester. If you've been involved in any kind of accident, call us at 1-(800) ON-A-BIKE or visit [www.ON-A-BIKE.com](http://www.ON-A-BIKE.com) ...

**NCOM Biker Newsbytes:** Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish

**Illinois Motorcyclists Can Now Legally Run Red Lights:** Motorcyclists in Illinois will no longer be stuck indefinitely at stoplights, as effective Jan 1st the Land of Lincoln joined eleven other states that allow riders to proceed through malfunctioning red lights. Sensors that trigger light changes often aren't sensitive enough to detect motorcycles, which prompted the Illinois legislature to pass HB S860, supported by ABATE of Illinois, which allows motorcycles stopped at a red light to go through the light if it doesn't turn green after a "reasonable" amount of time. Illinois Governor Pat Quinn vetoed the bill, claiming it "endangers our motorists" because it allows the motorcyclist to determine how long is "reasonable," but both the House & Senate voted to override the veto & the original bill became law. The new law, as now on the books, states: "After stopping, the driver of a motorcycle or bicycle facing a steady red signal which fails to change to a green signal within a reasonable period of time because of a signal malfunction or because the signal has failed to detect the arrival of the motorcycle or bicycle due to the vehicle's size or weight, shall have the right to proceed subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign as required by section 11-1204 of this code." The law applies only to municipalities with a population of less than 2 million, so the city of Chicago is exempted. Similar so-called "dead red" laws have been enacted in **Minnesota** (2002), Tennessee (2003), Arkansas (2005), Idaho (2006), Wisconsin (2006), North Carolina (2007), South Carolina (2008), Missouri (2008), Oklahoma (2010), Kansas (2011) & Virginia (2011). In Texas & California, state law requires stoplights to be fitted with sensors that detect motorcycles.

**Las Vegas Clubs Sue Over Police Harassment:** A group of Nevada motorcycle clubs is suing Metro Police, accusing the Las Vegas P.D. of violating the constitutional rights of bikers. The Confederation of Clubs & Scoundrels Pub filed the lawsuit Wednesday, Jan 11, claiming that "The police are interfering with private business & telling private businesses that they cannot allow certain motorcycle clubs inside their private businesses."

Their attorney says Metro Police officers harassed bikers & threatened to pull liquor licenses at local biker bars, like Scoundrels, based solely on the businesses' clientele. The lawsuit includes a letter Metro P.D. sent to Scoundrels Pub last June that states an event involving the Vagos MC violated Clark County code & could put the pub's liquor license at risk. "We've not asked for a penny. We don't want money. We just want to get recognition of the situation & get the Metro P.D. to give us our constitutional rights. That's all we're asking for," said Bandido MC Las Vegas Pres Rich Novicelli in an interview with CBS-affiliate 8NewsNow. Metro declined to comment.

#### **Judge Bars N.H. Towns From Enacting Stricter Noise Laws:**

New Hampshire cities & towns cannot impose limits on motorcycle noise that are stricter than what state law allows, a Rockingham County judge has ruled. "If each town in New Hampshire had the authority to enact different noise emission ordinances, the state would be subject to a checkerboard pattern of laws," ruled Superior Court Judge Kenneth McHugh on Dec. 9. "For example, a motorcyclist who complies with the state noise emission limit could be precluded from driving through a town because that town enacted a lower noise emission limit than the state." The judge's decision comes in response to a lawsuit filed by the Seacoast H-D dealership, which filed suit against the town of North Hampton, successfully arguing the town did not have legal authority to adopt its own motorcycle noise ordinance. North Hampton adopted a noise ordinance at a May 2010 Town Meeting, requiring all motorcycles operated in the town to have exhaust noise limited to 80 decibels. State law permits motorcycles to reach 106 dB. After the ordinance passed, the local police chief refused to enforce the ordinance, describing it as unconstitutional & explaining that law enforcement & the town could face legal action if they enforced a lower noise threshold than state law allows. Similarly, McHugh found the local ordinance to be "in direct conflict" with state law & ruled the town of North Hampton "is hereby prohibited from adopting or enforcing the ordinance." In granting the permanent injunction, the judge noted in his decision that the N.H. House of Representatives' Transportation Committee rejected a bill to enact a law that was similar to the North Hampton ordinance. McHugh also noted that the town administrator was notified by the Fed Environmental Protection Agency that it does not grant cities & towns "any additional authority to control environmental noise beyond that available to them under state & local law." House Bill 1442 has since been introduced in an attempt to lower the state's motorcycle noise limit to the Fed standard of 80 dB & would require that any motorcycle brought in for servicing to have EPA-compliant mufflers installed at that time. Similar measures have failed to pass 3 times in the past 4 years due to what the bill's sponsor calls "fierce" opposition from the powerful motorcycle lobby.

**Live Free And Ride:** A New Hampshire legislator wants his state's "Live Free or Die" slogan emblazoned across motorcycle license plates. While he hasn't straddled a bike in some years, State Rep. Tim Copeland (R-Stratham) said "it's a great saying" that shouldn't be limited to license plates on cars & trucks. He said the idea was hatched at a convention for lawmakers where candy trays were sold that were made by inmates out of defective license plates. While looking at those candy dishes, Copeland wondered why the quote — from a toast made in 1809 by General John Stark — isn't celebrated on the backs of motorcycles. Rep. Copeland said there would be no additional cost to the state & he's been told there's nothing logistical to prevent stamping the state slogan onto the smaller motorcycle plates. Copeland's bill is

with the House Transportation Committee & proposes replacing the word "motorcycle" at the top of all motorcycle plates with the state motto.

#### **South Carolina Governor Promises To Veto A Helmet Law:**

Less than 2 years after a State Supreme Court ruling barred the city of Myrtle Beach, S.C. from enforcing a mandatory helmet law stricter than the state's requirement for riders under 21 to wear them, a helmet law for all motorcyclists statewide has been introduced in the South Carolina legislature. Senate Bill 1046 was read in Senate for the 1<sup>st</sup> time Tue & has been referred to the transportation committee. South Carolina required all riders to wear helmets from 1967 until 1980 when the legal mandate was limited to young riders. The attempt to change back to a comprehensive helmet law is opposed by groups such as ABATE of South Carolina which is challenging the bill saying that they have no problem with helmets, but don't agree that it's the Gov'ts responsibility to police personal safety. Governor Nikki Haley met with biker rights lobbyists recently on the steps of the State House, where she promised them she would veto the bill. Gov. Haley, a member of Lexington County's ABATE, told bikers at the capitol that the senate has more important matters to focus on. She told them to tell their legislators, "Don't waste your time," because even if it does pass, she'll veto it. In 2007 the state formed a motorcycle safety task force to look at ways to lower fatalities. That group did not recommend a mandatory helmet law. Currently, only 20 states require all motorcyclists to wear helmets, 27 only require them for younger or inexperienced riders, while 3 require no helmet use at all.

#### **French To Require Reflective Riding Apparel:**

"Ride to be seen, but ride like you're invisible" is sound advice for all motorcyclists, & wearing bright colored reflective riding gear is one way to be more conspicuous in traffic & avoid getting ran over by distracted & inattentive drivers, but France will soon be enforcing legal measures to ensure that motorcyclists are seen. French officials apparently take motorcycle visibility so seriously, they're making it illegal not to be noticed. According to a new rule in their highway code that takes effect January 1, 2013, riders & passengers aboard any bike bigger than 125cc will each be required to wear at least 150 square centimeters of reflective fabric on their upper bodies -- & according to British motorcycle activists Riders Are Voters, France already requires reflective stickers on helmets.

#### **First Motorcycle-Only Gas Station Opens Abroad:**

More motorcycles are sold in Indonesia in a year than exist in the entire United States of America! According to the Indonesian Motorcycle Industry Association (AIS), 7.4 million motorcycles were sold there in 2010, & by comparison there were 7.9 million motorcycles registered in the U.S. There are significantly more motorcycles than cars operating in this densely-populated region, & of 70.71 million vehicles in Indonesia, 52.43 million are two-wheel machines, which has led to the opening of the world's first motorcycle-only gas stations. These "Shell Motor Express" stations are designed exclusively for motorcycles & it was the Indonesian Gov'ts idea to provide "comfort, safety & time-efficiency" for the majority of the country's commuters. Shell Indonesia says: "This motorcycle gas station is a pilot project developed in response to the Gov't's idea to provide a dedicated refueling service for motorcycles. Shell Motor Express is purposely built to serve motorcycles which are the largest & fastest growing segment in the domestic motor vehicle industry."

**Weird News: Dirty Secret About Gas Pumps:** Gas pump handles top a recent study of filthy surfaces, so just when you thought filling up couldn't hurt any more, medical researchers have announced another reason to avoid touching the gas pump: Germs! Gas pump handles turned out to be the filthiest surface that Americans encounter on the way to work, according to a study released on Oct 25, 2011 by Kimberly-Clark Professional, a unit of personal hygiene giant Kimberly-Clark Corp. A team of hygienists swabbed hundreds of surfaces around 6 U.S. cities to see what everyday objects are breeding grounds for the worst bacteria & viruses. The top offenders, following gas pumps, were handles on public mailboxes, escalator rails & ATM buttons. Closely following on the filthiest list were parking meters & kiosks, crosswalk buttons & buttons on vending machines in shopping malls. "It comes down to the fact that nobody cleans the things that you're going to touch on a daily basis," said Dr. Kelly Arehart, program leader of Kimberly-Clark's Healthy Workplace Project.

**Motorcyclists Fined For Wearing DOT-Approved Helmets:** In a strange twist, motorcycle riders in Mumbai, India are being hassled by law enforcement for wearing DOT-approved helmets because, in an effort to curb the use of cheap helmets, the police commissioner recently issued an order stating that all motorcyclists must wear helmets with an ISI marking to certify that they are approved by the Bureau of Indian Standards. So, despite wearing some of the finest helmets in the world, with certifications from the U.S. Department of Transportation which subjects helmets to higher standards of testing, police are issuing tickets to safety-conscious riders for wearing "unapproved helmets". In typical bureaucratic fashion, authorities have reportedly forwarded an application for recognizing DOT-certified helmets to the transport department "which is the competent authority to make an appropriate decision."

**Quotable Quote:** "Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it, diagnosing it incorrectly & applying the wrong remedies."  
~ Groucho Marx (1890-1977) American comedian & film star

**The Road Of Life** By Richard 'DC Eagle Bingo' Cosby

The 'Road of Life' is a bumpy road -  
With sharp curves and a few steep hills.  
It also has some pain and strife -  
Some pleasures - and some thrills.  
There's no map that can tell you  
What's around that next sharp curve -  
You'll just have to face it -  
So try to work up the nerve.  
Some hills are steep and hard to climb  
But at the top - look back - you'll see -  
The view from the top can be worth it.  
(I hope you enjoy your past scenery.)  
Because my friend - when you 'look back' -  
That 'scenery' you see is your past!  
So live a good and honest life - because -  
The end of that road comes all too fast!

**The Hormel Company** of Austin, **Minnesota** produces 6 million cans of Spam a year, even though no one actually eats it. Spam is a prized food in Japan & Hawaii--Spam sushi!!

**Frank C. Mars**, founder of the Mars Candy Co. was born in Newport, **Minnesota**. His 3 Musketeers candy bar originally contained 3 bars in one wrapper; each filled with a different flavor of nougat -chocolate, Spam & lutefisk.

**Testimony begins in Anderson murder trial** – Jan 5, 2012 – **West Virginia** – By Jeffrey Saulton; [www.NewsAndSentinel.com](http://www.NewsAndSentinel.com)  
- After a day of jury selection, testimony began Wed in Wood County Circuit Court in the murder trial of John Eugene Anderson. In May 2010, Anderson was charged with the March 24 stabbing death of Willard Rex Wright, 68, in his Ann St apartment. James Richard Claypool II testified for the state to his meeting & conversations with Anderson in the Washington County Jail where Anderson was incarcerated after his arrest in connection with Wright's murder. Claypool, who was a member of the Pagan's MC, said he was introduced to Anderson by a man named Jimmy, who claimed to be Anderson's nephew. "He asked me to talk to him," Claypool said. "He (Anderson) told me he killed someone & he said he had it coming." Claypool testified Anderson said Wright touched his girlfriend's daughter, but did not mention their names. When asked by Wood County Prosecutor Jason Wharton if Anderson meant Wright, Claypool said he never heard the name before, adding he did not know anything about the case before meeting Anderson. Later he said he saw Anderson's face on television but he was not in range to hear anything. He added he did not read any account of what happened in a newspaper or any other source. Claypool said Anderson asked him questions about legal matters as to what the police would look for & if they could test what they found. He said Anderson was also concerned that police had the cell phone he said he used because it might have blood on it. "He asked about what would happen if something happened to witnesses," he said. "He asked me if I could do something & if he couldn't pay if he could do me favors in jail or out of jail." Under cross examination by one of Anderson's attorneys, Joe Munoz, Claypool said he never intended to do anything to any of the witnesses. Claypool also disclosed he pleaded guilty in Dec 2009 to a Fed charge of obstruction of justice with injury to an informant to the ATF. He said as a member of the Pagan's he was the sergeant at arms & his duties were as an enforcer of club policy & collecting dues. Claypool said he left the club after his plea. Claypool said he told his atty about Anderson in a letter & was questioned later by Parkersburg Police. When asked why he wrote to his attorney about Anderson, Claypool said he had concerns about Anderson. "I didn't like his demeanor & he wanted witnesses killed," he said. "He would laugh & grin about what he did. He talked about how he pinched Wright's oxygen line, made a motion like he strangled him, stabbed him & said 'I'd- near cut his head off.'" Claypool said his decision to inform on Anderson would not help with his Fed charges but he hoped it would show a state judge he had turned over a new leaf by cooperating with the state.

**\$50 Lesson:** I recently asked my neighbors' little girl what she wanted to be when she grows up. She said she wanted to be Pres someday. Both of her parents, liberal Democrats, were standing there, so I asked her, 'If you were Pres what would be the first thing you would do?' She replied, 'I'd give food & houses to all the homeless people.' Her parents beamed with pride. 'Wow...what a worthy goal.' I told her, 'But you don't have to wait until you're Pres to do that! You can come over to my house & mow the lawn, pull weeds, & trim my hedge, & I'll pay you \$50. Then I'll take you over to the grocery store where the homeless guy hangs out, & you can give him the \$50 to use toward food & a new house.' She thought that over for a few seconds, then she looked me straight in the eye & asked, 'Why doesn't the homeless guy come over & do the work, & you can just pay him the \$50?' I said, 'Welcome to the Republican Party.' Her parents still aren't speaking to me.

**Bikies loaded for Surfers Paradise war** – Jan 5, 2012 – *Australia* – By Robyn Wuth; [www.GoldCoast.com.au](http://www.GoldCoast.com.au) - Police are braced for an outbreak of violence on the Glitter Strip as Bandidos outlaw motorcycle club members vow revenge on the Rebels MC. According to police, the clash between the Bandidos' sergeant-at-arms & the Pres of the Liverpool chapter of the Rebels in Surfers Paradise last week could shatter a tentative peace between the 2 gangs. Police sources said an internal memo sent to all officers warned of increased tension between the 2 & predicted violence in a matter of days. The memo refers to a police interview with a patched Bandido in which he vowed the problems between the 2 clubs would be 'sorted soon' & to expect 'an incident in a nightclub in 3 days' time'. Individual officers have taken to social networking sites to warn friends & family to 'keep out of Surfers Paradise'. While senior police downplayed suggestions of a bikie war, they acknowledged the increasing tension between the clubs. The gangs have maintained a low profile, amid rumors police will move against at least 2 Gold Coast clubs -- through new, anti-bikie laws -- & have them declared criminal organizations. Police sources said the Rebels' member had 'financial interests' in a party precinct venue that was considered a prime target. The Bandidos are the strongest outlaw motorcycle gang on the Coast. But, while the Rebels' local chapter is weak, the club has substantial numbers nationally & could call for reinforcements. Senior police yesterday downplayed the memo, saying bikies were 'unlikely' to announce any violence before it occurred. Bikie conflict has been on the rise on the Gold Coast in the past few weeks. A gym owned by a prominent Hells Angel member was peppered with bullets & a Bandido associate was hit by a shotgun blast. More concerning is the history of tension between the Rebels & the Bandidos. In 2007, 5 Bandidos were accused of starting a blaze that destroyed the Rebels clubhouse in the inner-Brisbane suburb of Albion. In Victoria, in 2008, Bandido Ross Brand, 51, was shot & killed outside the club's Geelong clubhouse. An associate of the Rebels was later convicted for that shooting. Last Nov's shooting of Bandidos sergeant-at-arms Toby Mitchell remains unsolved. Gold Coast police Superintendent Paul Ziebarth said police would 'redouble' efforts to keep patrons safe & he vowed that police would continue to target the gangs. "We won't stand idle while there are disturbances in public places where the community is confronted by violent individuals -- we will take action," he said. "If we have so-called members of bikie gangs involved in punch-ups & disturbances in the street, it is not a good look for the community. "The community expects us to do something to stamp that out & - I can assure you -- (that) we have been. "Wherever we find people doing the wrong thing, creating disturbances, being violent, we can & will apply for a banning order."

**Pagan's Informants Still Singing** – Jan 6, 2012 – *USA* – By The Aging Rebel; [www.AgingRebel.com](http://www.AgingRebel.com) - The foul stink of the Pagans racketeering case, *US v. Barbeito et al.*, lingers in West Virginia. The case began in Oct 2009. The principal accusation against the defendants was that the Pagan's MC held a lottery. Charges against many of the 55 defendants were dismissed. The lead defendant, former club President David Keith "Bart" Barbeito was sentenced to 30 months in prison in Dec 2010. Two of the defendants, Elmer Luke Moore & Richard Timothy Weaver, still face racketeering charges. Both men reluctantly signed plea agreements in July 2010 despite maintaining their actual innocence. Key to the prosecution's case was the legal fiction that both men were "employees" of the "Pagans racketeering enterprise" rather than members of the Pagan's MC. Then, as prosecutor Steven Loew put it, "Rather than fulfilling their obligations under the plea agreement, both Defendants

maintained their innocence & affirmatively stated on the record that they did not intend to plead guilty as they had previously agreed to in their written plea agreements with the United States." **The Confidential Informant:** Much of the federal case against the Pagans was based on information provided by a confidential informant named James "Pagan Ronnie" Howerton. In an interview with the Frederick County Maryland Daily News-Post, Howerton explained that he became a Gov't informant because he was concerned about drug use within the club. "I was concerned about being part of it," Howerton said, "so I went to the FBI & I told them 'Charge me. Let's get this over with.'" "They told me, 'We're not going to charge you. Have a seat.' They told me to stay in the club & report back to them about crimes & things that were going on." In late Aug 2011, Howerton filed a complaint of misconduct against Richard Timothy Weaver's lawyer, Deirdre Purdy, with the West Virginia Lawyer Disciplinary Board. Among other things, Howerton complains that Purdy falsely accused him of being paid by the federal government, of creating crimes & stealing motorcycles. The accusations were reported in two, small West Virginia newspapers & Howerton claimed they ruined his good reputation & employability.

**Lawyers Yes, Citizens No:** The documents which support Purdy's allegations about Howerton have been sealed by the court. Purdy requested that the protective order sealing the documents be lifted because: "1) there is a presumption that judicial proceedings are open to the public; 2) the Protective Order is no longer necessary for the protective purposes set forth in the original order; & 3) counsel needs protected documents to defend a judicial ethics complaint made by James R. Howerton (a/k/a Pagan Ronnie, FBI-CI, Sutar)." On Oct 27, the judge in the case, Thomas E. Johnston, refused to lift the protective order but did allow the Lawyer Disciplinary Board to view the sealed documents.

**The Cooperating Witness:** One of the Pagans charged in the indictment was James Richard "Bones" Claypool II of French Creek, West Virginia. Claypool was charged in the indictment with six criminal violations: Obstruction of Justice; violent crime in aid of racketeering; criminal conspiracy; working as a bodyguard for a violent felon; possessing a firearm after being convicted of domestic violence; & distribution of cocaine. If convicted, he faced up to 30 years in prison. Claypool entered into a cooperation deal on Dec 2, 2009 in which the Gov't agreed to drop all charges against him except for one count of obstruction of justice. In return, Claypool agreed to "be forthright & truthful with this office & other law enforcement agencies with regard to all inquiries made pursuant to this agreement, & will give signed, sworn statements & grand jury & trial testimony upon request of the United States. In complying with this provision, Claypool may have counsel present except when appearing before a grand jury. Mr. Claypool further agrees to be named in future indictments or informations as an unindicted co-conspirator or an unindicted aider & abettor where appropriate." Claypool was released from custody on Sept 14, 2010 & sentenced to time served three days later. He remains under court supervision.

**Don't Share Too Much In Jail:** Earlier this week, Claypool was still holding up his end of his plea bargain. Wednesday he testified against an accused murderer named John Eugene Anderson in Parkersburg, West Virginia. According to Claypool, Anderson volunteered information to him about the murder of Willard Rex Wright while Claypool & Anderson were both in the Washington County (West Virginia) Jail. "He asked me to talk to him," Claypool told the jury about Anderson. "He told me he killed someone & he said he had it coming." "He asked about what would happen if something happened to witnesses," Claypool said. "He asked me if I could do something & if he couldn't pay if he could do me favors in jail or out of jail."

**Hells Angel member sentenced to prison in motorcycle theft** – Jan 9, 2012 - *California* - By Raul Hernandez; [www.VCStar.com](http://www.VCStar.com) - A judge today sentenced a member of the Hells Angels MC to 10 years in prison for stealing the motorcycle of a former club member. A jury in Oct convicted Aaron McIntosh, 39, of stealing the motorcycle from former Hells Angel James Ivans. McIntosh stole the vehicle from the backyard of Ivans' home in Oct 2010, according to court testimony. Prosecutor Tate McCallister told the judge that McIntosh, of Ventura, committed the theft on behalf of the Hells Angels, which wanted to punish Ivans because he had left the club under "bad terms." McCallister described McIntosh as a "bold & proud" member of the Hells Angels who has several felony convictions & has been in prison before. He urged the judge to sentence McIntosh to a long prison sentence to protect the community. "Our goal here is to protect the people of Ventura County from the Hells Angels & this defendant," said McCallister, adding that McIntosh is unremorseful for what he did. Ventura County Superior Court Judge Charles Campbell denied a motion for a new trial filed by McIntosh's newly hired lawyer Anthony Zinnanti, who is handling McIntosh's appeal. Zinnanti asked the judge to put his client in a rehabilitation program, saying that sending him to prison will accomplish nothing in terms of his rehabilitation. "We are setting him up for failure," Zinnanti said. In an interview, Zinnanti denied that the Hells Angels is a criminal organization. He said that McIntosh could be out of prison in 30 to 36 months if authorities determine the crime wasn't egregious. The judge gave McIntosh credit for nearly 2 years for time served behind bars since his arrest. McCallister said in an interview that McIntosh has another felony charge pending in the theft of another motorcycle in Ventura in Aug 2010.

**The Tattoo Godfather** – Jan 9, 2012 – *California* – By The Aging Rebel; [www.AgingRebel.com](http://www.AgingRebel.com) - The Gov't wants to portray George Christie as the godfather of tattoos when the trial of the retired President of the Ventura charter of the Hells Angels MC gets underway Jan 31. Christie owns a Ventura tattoo shop named "The Ink House." He & alleged co-conspirators Kyle Gilbertson, Brian Russell, Richard Russell & Benito Hurtado are all accused of firebombing 2 other Ventura tattoo shops named "Scratch the Surface" & "Twisted Ink" in July 2007. Four unnamed co-conspirators are also accused of participating in the arson plot. Two of those co-conspirators have been named in public documents. Those men are James David Ivans, Jr. & Jared Ostrum "Crash" Plomell. The case is being prosecuted by United States Attys assigned to the Los Angeles Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force.

**Hello Fellow Tattoo Aficionados:** According to a motion filed last week by one of those attys, Jay H. Robinson, the Gov't will introduce evidence that Christie attempted to bully & dominate other tattoo businesses the way Microsoft treated other software companies. Robinson wrote that he intended to offer, "Evidence of defendant Christie's other criminal conduct directed not only at the victims in this case, but also against other competing tattoo shops located in Ventura...as well as his common scheme or plan to eliminate any competition to his tattoo shop." According to the prosecutor, Kyle Gilbertson, Brian Russell & Richard Russell greeted employees of Scratch the Surface by stating, "There is only one tattoo shop in this town. Pack up your stuff. Your time is up. Pass it on to the owner." The Gov't also alleged that the accused men then went to Twisted Ink & told employees there, "Time's up! How many tattoo shops are there in Ventura? There's one less now."

**The Slingers Arson:** The Gov't also alleges that: "On Oct 1, 2000, 'Slingers' tattoo parlor opened in the city of Ventura, California. Slingers' owner was a tattoo artist who once worked for defendant Christie at The Ink House. Prior to opening Slingers, the owner met with defendant Christie & told defendant Christie that he 'meant no disrespect' by opening Slingers in Ventura. According to Slingers' owner, defendant Christie pulled out a piece of paper, wrote on it, & gave the paper to the Slingers' owner. The piece of paper had the following words written on it: 'Take it to Oxnard.'" "On Oct 13, 2000, Slingers was completely destroyed by fire. An ensuing investigation by the Ventura County Arson Task Force & 8 the ATF concluded that arson was the likely cause of the fire."

**Collections:** The Gov't also thinks it can prove that Christie was collecting money from other tattoo shops in Ventura County. The motion characterizes these collections as "taxes." The source for the allegation is one of the unnamed cooperating witnesses. "In Nov 2009," the motion claims, "defendant Christie called a cooperating witness & asked the witness to go over to defendant Christie's house. The witness walked through a security gate & met defendant Christie at his front door. There, defendant Christie gave the witness an envelope containing a laminated list of local tattoo shops. According to the witness, defendant Christie told the witness to 'go collect money from the tattoo shops' & added that 'they will know what they have to give you.' Asking no questions, the witness left defendant Christie's house & collected \$1200 from the owner of local tattoo shop. (sic) The witness then took the money to The Ink House, walked to the back of the shop, & put the money beneath a cash register drawer. The witness said an HAVC (Hells Angels Ventura County) prospect usually collected these taxes. The witness once saw the prospect's truck parked outside the competing tattoo shops, & later putting money in the same cash register drawer at The Ink House."

**More Ventura Angels Woe** – Jan 9, 2012 – *California* – By The Aging Rebel; [www.AgingRebel.com](http://www.AgingRebel.com) - Ventura County Superior Court Judge Charles Campbell sentenced Hells Angel Aaron McIntosh to 120 months in prison today for stealing a motorcycle belonging to former Hells Angel James David Ivans, Jr. McIntosh had also convicted of "committing a criminal felony while participating in a criminal street gang." He had faced a possible sentence of 164 months. In an interview with the Ventura County Star McIntosh's lawyer, Anthony Zinnanti, said McIntosh "could be out of prison in 30 to 36 months." Judge Campbell refused Zinnanti's motion for a new trial. Zinnanti also asked that McIntosh be enrolled in drug rehabilitation. The convicted man is expected to appeal.

**Ivans:** McIntosh has been in custody since he was arrested in Sept 2010 following what police called a "routine traffic stop." At the time he was riding a motorcycle that had been reported stolen. Ivans has been identified in public documents as cooperating witness number one in the ongoing Fed case against former Ventura Hells Angels MC Pres George Christie. Ivans, a former member of the Red Devils & the Hells Angels, was charged with extortion, possession for sales of methamphetamine & possession of a deadly weapon in Sept 2008. According to the prosecutor in the case, Tate McCallister, McIntosh took Ivans motorcycle after Ivans left the Hells Angels on "bad terms." The prosecutor described McIntosh as a "bold & proud" member of the Hells Angels & a danger to the community. "Our goal here is to protect the people of Ventura County from the Hells Angels & this defendant," the prosecutor said.

**Outlaw bikies set to migrate north with crackdown on Gold Coast** – Jan 9, 2012 – *Australia* - ByTownsville Bulletin; [www.HeralsSun.com.au](http://www.HeralsSun.com.au) - Outlaw motorcycle gangs are said to be looking north for new turf following a crackdown on gangs in south-east Queensland. Sources close to bikie gangs have told The Townsville Bulletin the resources boom may also lead to an influx of gang members in Townsville, as bikies move north to capitalise on increased work opportunities. Townsville is already home to local chapters of the Rebels & Odin's Warriors. Members of the Renegades have recently arrived in Townsville but it is unknown if they plan to establish a clubhouse. Turf wars have been simmering below the surface in Townsville for some time, with occasional flare-ups when new groups arrive in town. A year ago, an attempt by Rock Machine to establish themselves in Townsville was met with opposition. The notoriously violent gang was forced out of Townsville after a reported brawl in the car park of Irish Finnegan's in Condon. It is understood the Rebels forced the club members out of town & they are no longer operating in Townsville. The Rock Machine & Rebels motorcycle clubs are reportedly the instigators of an ongoing war in Western Australia. Last week, a memo was published outlining police concerns about the prospect of an escalation in the war between the Bandidos & Rebels bikie gangs on the Gold Coast. & former Queenslander of the Year & prominent Brisbane policeman Sergeant Jim Bellos warned on his Facebook page: "Parents: keep your kids away from Gold Coast nightclubs. These gangs don't mess around & use guns ... so we don't want our kids to be inside one of these nightclubs when this goes down."

**Charges dropped against Vagos Pres** – Jan 10, 2012 – *California* - By Mike Cruz; [www.RedlandsDailyFacts.com](http://www.RedlandsDailyFacts.com) - County prosecutors have dismissed criminal charges against Pastor Palafox, the Internat'l Pres of the Vagos MC. Palafox, 47, had been charged with vehicle theft involving a H-D motorcycle, possession of the stolen motorcycle & street terrorism. He was among several Vagos members whose arrests were announced last year at a news conference at the San Bernardino P.D. However, during a hearing Tue in San Bernardino Superior Court, Deputy District Atty Steve Sanchez announced the charges against Palafox had been dropped. Prosecutors would not say why, citing an ongoing investigation. Defense atty Joseph Yanny, who represented Palafox, said later that prosecutors lacked probable cause to pursue a case. The motorcycle was part of a sale that had evolved into a civil dispute, & the alleged victim said it wasn't stolen, he said. "Hat's off to Steve Sanchez for seeing the folly of prosecuting this decent man," said Yanny, outside the courthouse. The lack of probable cause was revealed during requests for discovery, or evidence, from prosecutors, he said. Two co-defendants in the case, Scott Rivera of San Bernardino, & Caesar Rodriguez of Oak Hills, continue to face charges & are scheduled to return to court Feb. 14. The defendants were arrested in connection with an 18-month, 7-county investigation into the "upper echelon" of Vagos members by state & local authorities. Hundreds of handguns & other weapons, including an anti-tank weapon & a rocket launcher, as well as body armor, cocaine, methamphetamine & Vagos clothing were seized by law enforcement officers. Palafox, of Colton, said taxpayers' money, which was spent to prosecute him, could have been used in better ways. "Because there was a lot of money wasted here," he said. Charges were dismissed in Nov against Andrew Lozano of Fontana, who was accused of possessing body armor & participating in a street gang. Thomas Henry Gibson of San Bernardino, pleaded no contest in Nov to possession of marijuana. Prosecutors, however, say the Vagos investigation was successful. "In regards to whether or not the raid was successful, the bottom

line is that law enforcement was able to confiscate several hundred weapons & remove several pounds of cocaine & methamphetamine off the streets. Therefore, it was a huge success," said Chris Lee, spokesman for the District Attorney's Office. Prosecutors said 2 defendants face charges in U.S. District Court involving the drugs. Two other defendants were charged in Orange County with possessing the rocket launcher. The names of those defendants were not available. More cases are waiting to be filed, prosecutors said.

**Palafox Charges Dropped** – Jan 10, 2012 – *California* – By The Aging Rebel; [www.AgingRebel.com](http://www.AgingRebel.com) - The trumped-up charges against Vagos President Pastor Palafox have been dropped. Palafox was one of 12 members of the Vagos MC arrested by 500 state, local & federal police officers in six Southern California counties on Oct 6. Police called the arrests "Operation Simple Green." The raids were precipitated by a violent brawl between Vagos & Hells Angels in Sparks, Nevada on Sept 23. One Hells Angel, Jeffrey "Jethro" Pettigrew, died in the brawl. Two Vagos, Leonard Ramirez & Diego Garcia were wounded during the incident. The next morning, Vago Shane Smith was shot while riding his motorcycle in Sparks. The point of the raids, according to an informed source, was to "shake the tree" & also recover a .40 caliber automatic pistol used in the Sparks confrontation.

**Simple Police:** Operation Simple Green was an extravagant & expensive public relations stunt that followed a two-year-long, mostly electronic, surveillance of the Vagos by an alphabet soup task force comprising multiple state & federal police forces. The lead police force in the investigation was the ATF. After the raids, the little known California Dept of Justice & California Atty General Kamala D. Harris rushed to claim credit for the boondoggle. In a press release the day of the raids, Harris announced, "outlaw motorcycle gangs, like the ones whose member we arrested today, regularly perpetrate serious, violent crimes. Today's action will make Californians safer." Another politician, San Bernardino County District Attorney Michael A. Ramos declared, "This outlaw biker gang (the Vagos Motorcycle Club) has been terrorizing our community for years & what happened today is another huge step in the war on gangs I declared in 2005.... This task force is a clear example of how a cooperative team approach can be effective in making our citizens safe." A California Dept of Justice Special Agent named Andy Spillman told the Los Angeles Times, "It's going to be a tremendous blow, because we're targeting their (the Vagos) top leaders." The Times did not ask how much the raids cost.

**Interest Of Justice:** Palafox was charged with stealing a motorcycle, possessing a stolen motorcycle & "street terrorism." In a court hearing this morning, San Bernardino County Deputy District Attorney Steve Sanchez said that he was dropping the charges "in the interest of justice" because there was never any probable cause to bring the charges in the first place. Joseph Yanny, Palafox's attorney, complemented Sanchez for doing the obvious. "Hat's off," Yanny said. Yanny also characterized Palafox as "a good, decent, hard-working man." Two of the dozen men arrested during Operation Simple Green have not yet been cleared. Scott Rivera & Caesar Rodriguez are both accused of vehicle theft, receiving stolen property, participating in a criminal street gang & failure to register as gang members. The first three charges are all felonies. Both men are free on bail & are next scheduled to appear in court Feb 14.

**The state song of Minnesota is** "Someday the Vikings will... Aw, never mind."

## **Hells Angels Photos & Self-Portraits by Hunter S. Thompson**

– Jan 10, 2012 – *California* – By Marina Galperina; <http://FlavorWire.com> - In 1965, the legendary Gonzo journalist Hunter S. Thompson scored his first big break. As an assignment for The Nation, Hunter lived with the most notorious motorcycle gang in the United States. Random House published Hells Angels: The Strange & Terrible Saga of the Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs in 1966. Hunter's year with the club ended in a "stomping" — the Angels beat him up, allegedly when his editor wouldn't share the profits from the story. Check out some casual shots of the outlaws setting off for a ride, dusted in brutal bravado & motorcycle exhaust, taken by Hunter himself. Observe Hunter's self-portrait with his Hell's Angels black-eye. Then, take a short trip to Big Sur in picturesque California, where the literary rebel worked as a security guard & penned The Rum Diary after returning from Puerto Rico & his long jaunt as a traveling journalist working for US publications abroad. These are just a few pages from the icon's storied existence, but they're pretty exciting.

## **Teen Testifies Given Meth, Alcohol Before Sexual Assaults**

– Jan 10, 2012 – *Texas* – By Rachel Cole; [www.MSNBC.msn.com](http://www.MSNBC.msn.com) - A member of the Bandidos biker gang appeared in court today to face charges of aggravated sexual assault of child dating back to last summer. 57-year-old Ira Goodwin, also known as "Butch", was seated in his wheelchair & breathing with the assistance of an oxygen tank. The prosecution's key witness in the case, a 13-year-old girl, took the stand & talked about what she says happened last summer. She told the court, "I was given lines of meth & alcoholic drinks for hours, then I was sexually abused, countless times." Prosecutors say the alleged victim's friend learned of the alleged abuse & reached out to the Children's Advocacy Center. Forensic examiner, Ricardo Jimenez, listened to the victim's side about the alleged abuse & testified today. "The victim was forthcoming in her statements about being sexual abused & substance abuse," Jimenez told the court. The prosecutor showed a short video of Marcia Goodwin, Ira's ex-wife, who confessed during an interview with a police detective. She's already plead guilty to multiple counts of sexual assaulting the victim & is serving a 10-year prison sentence. In her statement Marcia Goodwin says, "Ira Goodwin, the defendant, is a pervert who claimed he wanted young girls to come over to the house," she also says she watched him perform oral sex on the minor. Doctor Paula Rosenstein, a therapist, was also called to the stand to testify. She told the court, "I specialize in child maltreatment cases, in my experience sometimes a child that has been sexually abused will shut down or they feel so damaged they allow themselves to continue to be sexually abused." The alleged victim told the court, "I'm now in care of new life hospital & getting the help i need to recover, days are getting brighter." Testimony in the trial continues tomorrow. At the time of his arrested Goodwin was out on parole for a voluntary manslaughter in conviction in 1984. He faces up to 99 years in prison if convicted on multiple counts of felony sexual assault of a child.

## **Hells Angels member shot; police deny biker war**

– Jan 11, 2012 – *Canada* – By [www.CP24.com](http://www.CP24.com) - London's police chief is downplaying fears that a dispute between 2 rival biker gangs has spilled onto the streets of the southern Ontario city. Chief Brad Duncan says there is no information to connect a shooting & several recent fires with the Hells Angels & Outlaws motorcycle clubs. A Hells Angels member is in serious condition after he was shot early Wed morning near a house on Grey St where bikers are known to meet. A woman also shot in the incident has been treated & released from hospital. Three people were arrested after the shooting incident & police are searching for a fourth

suspect. Over the weekend, fires were set at a tattoo parlour linked to the Outlaws & 2 massage parlours & a strip club that are connected to the Hells Angels. Also on Wed morning, a body rub parlour tied to the Hells Angels was set ablaze in nearby St. Thomas. Police say all of the fires are being investigated as arsons. "Over the past several days there has been much speculation that the current situation is connected to a dispute between the Hells Angels MC & the Outlaws MC," the police chief said Wed. "There is no information at this time to support such an assumption." Duncan said the male victim has had "ongoing issues" with some local street gangs who are also known to police. He also pointed out that the shooting happened in a residential area near a school. "We will not tolerate this open display of violence & we will work diligently to prevent further acts of violence," he said.

## **Goodwin Sentenced to 25 Years for Child's Rape**

- Jan 12, 2012 - *Corpus Christi, Texas* - By Ben Lloyd; [www.KRISv.com](http://www.KRISv.com) - A member of the Bandidos biker gang is headed to prison for 25 years following his conviction on multiple counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child. Wed jurors started considering the punishment for Ira Goodwin, 67, who was wheelchair bound & hooked up to an oxygen tank in court. Goodwin faced up to 99 years in prison for raping a runaway 12-year-old girl who was staying at his home. The jury heard testimony from the victim & Goodwin's wife about the girl being given methamphetamine & alcohol before the assaults. Ira Goodwin is no stranger to prison with multiple convictions in his past, including a 30-year sentence for voluntary manslaughter back in 1984.

## **Gypsy Jokers in force for recruitment drive as police go mobile to track them**

– Jan 12, 2012 – *Australia* – By Alison Sandy; [www.HeraldSun.com.au](http://www.HeraldSun.com.au) - Police have set up a mobile station & will shadow members of one of the nation's most violent bikie gangs as they gather in Queensland as part of a recruitment drive. The Gypsy Jokers, with chapters in Western Australia, New South Wales, Victoria & South Australia, have already started arriving in Brisbane for a poker run, where bikies ride together & converge on hotels & casinos. State Crime Operations Chief Superintendent Gayle Hogan said police had set up shop near the gang's Everton Park clubhouse & door-knocked nearby residents. "We have no particular intelligence to indicate that any offences are going to occur or that there is any risk to the public at this stage," she said. "What we are doing is making sure we are in position to manage this run & make sure that traffic is adhered to . . . & that the public remain safe." Chief Supt Hogan said there was no indication that a turf war was imminent. "There may be some tensions between criminal organisations in respect to the different kind of activity they are in, but we have no intelligence to indicate that this group or any other group are likely to be involved in a turf war," she said. "At this stage the poker run is not an unlawful activity. "All outlaw motorcycle gang members recruit as any organisation would do. Whether they're trying to make a huge recruitment drive, I'm not in a position to say that." The Courier-Mail yesterday revealed the Gypsy Jokers, members of which notoriously killed a former West Australian police officer with a car bomb in Perth in 2001, would stage its national gathering in Brisbane. State Traffic Command acting Chief Supt Andy Morrow said police anticipated a large number turning up. "They (Gypsy Jokers) should be warned, if the laws are broken, if traffic regulations & rules are broken, we will act," he said. "We're not providing any escort to this group, but we are providing an intense observation, so we'll be travelling with them, we'll be observing, but in terms of providing an escort, absolutely not, no."

**Bring back anti-gang laws** – Rees – Jan 12, 2012 – *Australia* – By [www.BigPondNews.com](http://www.BigPondNews.com) - The NSW opposition has called for the reintroduction of tough anti-bikie laws to combat Sydney's 'gang warfare' shootings. As premier of the former Labor Gov't, Rees handed the Supreme Court powers to outlaw bikie gangs & prevent members from contacting each other. This was in response to the March 2009 fatal bashing of bikie associate Anthony Zervas at Sydney Airport. The Crimes (Criminal Organisations Control) Act was struck out in June 2011 after Sydney Hells Angel Derek Wainoh challenged the law in the High Court. But a recent spate of shootings in Sydney - including 4 since Monday - means the state Gov't must reintroduce the law, Rees said. 'Until they get on top of this gang crime these shootings will continue & ... we're getting closer & closer to an innocent bystander being injured or worse,' he told Fairfax Radio Network. Rees said there had been more than 60 shootings in Sydney during the last 12 months, describing the problem as 'gang warfare'. 'They are organised crime, they deal in amphetamines & the distribution of amphetamines ... & they are protecting a turf & expanding a turf & that's what this is all about,' he said. In the latest shooting, a bullet was fired into home in Weigand Ave, Bankstown at 12.30am on Thu. A woman & her 4 children, aged between 2 months & 10, were inside the property. Macquarie Radio Network reported the bullet passed through the home just centimetres from the 2-month-old, who was asleep in a cot, & left a golf ball-sized hole in the window. Around 2am on Wed the occupants of 2 cars were involved in a gun battle in Greenfield Park. Two homes in Auburn & Arncliffe were peppered with bullets on Mon night.

**Motorcycle gang member to be sentenced in drug probe** – Jan 13, 2012 – *West Virginia* – By [www.Post-Gazette.com](http://www.Post-Gazette.com) - A high-ranking member of the Pagan's motorcycle gang from Ross at the center of a state grand jury probe of drug-dealing by the Washington County-based gang will be sentenced next month in Fed court in West Virginia for distributing cocaine in that state. A Fed judge Wed scheduled sentencing for Feb. 2 for Richard J. Speciale, 50, known as "Big Rick." He faces a minimum sentence of 10 years as part of a plea he entered in March in Clarksburg, W.Va. The terms of the plea are sealed, as are several other documents. Speciale could face additional time for violating the terms of his probation from a prior conviction in Pittsburgh. He went to Fed prison in 1998 for cocaine distribution & was released in 2007. The current case against him began with a controlled buy in Dec 2009 in which state agents said Speciale sold drugs to an informant at his house in Ross. Speciale admitted that he has been distributing cocaine in W.V. since June 2007, just months after his release from prison.

**Bikers & Bars Take on Police in Court** – Jan 13, 2012 – *Nevada* - By Nick Divito; [www.CourtHouseNews.com](http://www.CourtHouseNews.com) - Police illegally threaten to shut down bars that serve members of the Vagos biker club, a coalition of bikers & a nightclub claim in Clark County Court. The Southern Nevada Coalition of Clubs says Las Vegas Metropolitan P.D. served a letter to co-plaintiff Scoundrel's Bar last summer, threatening "disciplinary action" if it continued to do business with the Vagos or any other club in the coalition. A similar letter was delivered to "multiple businesses" holding liquor, bar, tavern or banquet licenses, according to the complaint. The Vagos club is considered an outlaw motorcycle gang by the FBI, the ATF & the California Atty General. Vago is Spanish for "bum." Plaintiffs say their 1st & 14th Constitutional Amendments were violated when police sent the threatening letters. They want police to draft a "corrective letter," to be approved by the court & sent to all businesses that received the

threatening letters. The plaintiffs are represented by Stephen P. Stubbs with Tax Law Solutions.

**Inmate Can't Sue for Prison for Injury** – Jan 13, 2012 – *USA* - By Stephanie Rabiner; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - Did you know that there are more than 25,000 inmates housed in 13 private Fed prisons? Well, there are. & those inmates can't sue private prison employees for violating the 8th Amendment's prohibition of cruel & unusual punishment. No, according to a new ruling by the Supreme Court, Fed inmates must sue private prison employees in state courts. They must also base their claims on state tort law. No constitutional law allowed. This ruling is the result of an intended -- but quirky -- gap in Fed law. Congress has not enacted a statute permitting lawsuits against Fed employees who violate a person's constitutional rights. Nonetheless, the Supreme Court has allowed some of these claims to move forward. They're called "Bivens actions" & they are granted only when there are no other remedies available. Richard Lee Pollard has other options. He broke both of his elbows during his stay in a private Fed prison in California. He alleges employee negligence caused him significant pain & left him with permanently damaged arms. Technically, he can sue the prison employees for negligence & malpractice under California law. The Court thus ruled that Pollard -- & inmates in similar positions -- has no right to file a Fed lawsuit against those employees. On some level, this ruling may actually be a blessing for inmates housed in private Fed prisons. Tort lawsuits may not be worth as much money, but they're generally much easier to prove than those based on constitutional violations.

**Bikie arrest triggers stand-off** – Jan 13, 2012 – *Australia* - By Sean Baumgart; [www.BrisbaneTimes.com.au](http://www.BrisbaneTimes.com.au) - The arrest of a man in Brisbane's north has triggered a tense standoff between police & the Gypsy Jokers motorcycle gang this afternoon. Police monitoring the gang's Nat'l poker run arrested a 42-year-old man at Everton Hills, where the club has its headquarters. After the arrest, for obstruct police & a positive random drug test, dozens of gang members confronted police, but there were no further arrests, according to police. Detective Chief Superintendent Gayle Hogan said between 30 & 40 bikies were met by a similar number of police, but peace was negotiated without further incident. "A number of the members of the group came out (after the arrest)," she said. "There were about 30 to 40 of them came out, & the police of similar numbers were there. "The police formed up as we do as a normal response to a potential threat. There was negotiation between police & the members & there was no incident." The bikies are in town as part of the club's Nat'l poker run. Hogan said around 100 officers were assigned to monitor the gang when it arrived yesterday & defended the police's management of the run. "We were managing a different part of the event, yesterday they were moving, today they are not moving," she said. "We have managed poker runs of other outlaw motorcycle gangs very similarly over the years."

**Norwegian Love Story:** Ole & Lena lived by a lake in Norderm *Minnesota*. It was early vinter and da lake had froze over. Ole asked Lena if she would walk across da frozen lake to da yeneral store to get him some smokes. She asked him for some money, but he told her, "Nah, yust put it on our tab." So Lena walked across, got the smokes at da general store, den walked back home across the lake. Ven she got home and gave Ole his smokes, she asked him, "Ole, you always tell me not to run up da tab at da store. Why didn't you yust give me some money?" Ole replied, "Vell, I didn't vant to send you out dere vit some money ven I vasn't sure how tick the ice was yet."

## **Rohnert Park Man Charged With Fraud, Money Laundering**

– Jan 17, 2012 – California – By <http://RohnertPark.Patch.com> - U.S. atty Melinda Haag announced today that Raymond Foakes, 48, of Rohnert Park, has been sentenced serve nearly 6 years in prison & ordered to pay more than \$1 million in restitution for his role in a multi-million dollar mortgage fraud scheme, according to the U.S. atty's office. Haag said in a statement that the defendant, who is the former Pres of the Hells Angels Sonoma Chapter, "pleaded guilty on Oct 25, 2011, to conspiracy to commit bank & wire fraud, wire fraud & money laundering." Foakes' plea agreement states that "from 2006 until early 2007, he was involved in a scheme to fraudulently obtain mortgage loans for parcels of real property located in Northern California, including for a property located at Laguna Rd in Santa Rosa, California." Haag said regarding conspiact, the Rohnert Park man submitted multiple false statements on mortgage loan applications & altered bank statements. "For example, the applications falsely stated that he had been self-employed as owner of "Foakes Concrete" for approximately 10 years where he made approximately \$24,000 per month, & the bank statements reflected inflated account balances & recurring deposits," the atty's office said in a news statement. "Rather than occupy the property as a primary residence, as he stated on his applications he intended to do, he allowed it to be used as a marijuana grow house. Further, Foakes laundered the criminally-derived proceeds by engaging in financial transactions over \$10,000. According to news statements, "Foakes was one of several defendants indicted by a Fed grand jury in the conspiracy on Sept. 1, 2011. He was charged with conspiracy to commit bank & wire fraud, wire fraud, money laundering & conspiracy to maintain drug involved premises." Sentencing by Judge William Alsup also includes a 3-year period of supervised release. He begins serving the sentence immediately. Officials said that "the prosecution is the result of a multi-year investigation by the IRS Criminal Investigations Division & the FBI's Santa Rosa Resident Agency."

## **Is Homeland Security Watching You Online?**

– Jan 18, 2012 – USA – By Eric Sinrod; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - Are George Orwell's fears of a governmental "Big Brother" from his novel 1984 coming true now? Well, let's hope not, but read on. Recent press has reported on a particular Gov't document: a Privacy Compliance Review issued by the U.S. Dept of Homeland Security in late 2011. The document reveals that the DHS command center regularly monitors social-networking sites like Facebook & Twitter, popular sites like Hulu, controversial sites including WikiLeaks, & news & commentary sites like Drudge Report & The Huffington Post. The Privacy Compliance Review notes that since mid-2010, DHS' National Operations Center has implemented a "Social Networking/Media Capability." This includes routine monitoring of "publicly available online forums, blogs, public websites & message boards," according to news reports. The motivation for the monitoring is to "collect information used in providing situational awareness & establishing a common operating picture," the Gov't document says. But what does that mean? Well, the Privacy Compliance Review states that the monitoring assists DHS & other agencies in managing responses to world events like the 2010 Haiti earthquake & border control for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Canada. Websites subject to monitoring are "publicly available," the DHS report states. The monitored information helps in terms of "situation awareness," "more complete operating pictures," & "more timely information for decision makers." The document also insists that DHS will not keep permanent copies of monitored Internet traffic; however, DHS notes that it can retain information for up to 5 years. So, do you feel warm, cozy & safe right now?

On the one hand, you may feel assured that DHS is trying to stay on top of its game with respect to "situational awareness." You may also feel comforted that the traffic being monitored is "publicly available" & will not be maintained permanently by DHS. On the other hand (and there always is another hand), you might be a little less happy to know that your online movements & communications on certain websites may be monitored by the Gov't. Do you really know for sure how that information will be used? You may be concerned that something you say online could be misconstrued, potentially to your disadvantage vis-à-vis the Gov't. Perhaps there needs to be an even more open dialogue concerning the Gov'ts monitoring of websites.

## **The Mongols Racketeering Trial**

– Jan 18, 2012 – California – By The Aging Rebel; [www.AgingRebel.com](http://www.AgingRebel.com) - After a delay of 25 months, the Mongols racketeering trial originally scheduled to begin in Los Angeles on Dec 16, 2008 will finally get under way. Many of the details have evolved. The judge who was to preside, Florence-Marie Cooper, died in Jan 2010. When the Glendale office of the ATF found out Cooper was on her death bed the agents there broke out the emergency champagne. The party is still going on. The United States Atty who brought the case, Thomas P. O'Brien, resigned after a small scandal concerning the misappropriation of Gov't funds & sought fresh opportunities to make lots & lots & lots of money – money to bathe in, money to burn on wintry nights. O'Brien now defends only the richest & most deserving white collar criminals. The name of the case has changed. None of the 79 defendants in the original litigation titled U.S. v. Cavazos et al. will ever actually be tried. Most Fed defendants never see trial because Fed judges believe, as they constantly remind these defendants from the bench, "in the plea bargaining process." The lone defendant in the new case, U.S. v. Chris Ablett, will be tried in their place & for their alleged crimes. He will stand trial in the Phillip Burton Fed Building in San Fran before U.S. District Judge Richard Seeborg starting Mon.

*No Nancy Grace:* Ablett is not the Scopes Monkey Trial. For people who have never heard of Scopes, Ablett is not even Casey Anthony. So no Nancy Grace. So how important can Ablett really be? The attys are not exactly William Jennings Bryan or Clarence Darrow – which is worth remarking because if he were alive today Bryan would probably be running the Tea Party. The Gov't attorneys, William Frentzen & Kathryn R. Haun are much more postmodern than even Mitt Romney. They are a new breed of prosecutors, bred in laboratories in big glass tubes in a special solution that deactivates their shame genes. H. L. Mencken won't be covering this trial – whoever he was. Hardly anyone will cover this trial: Maybe a fellow named Henry K. Lee who works for the San Francisco Chronicle will score exclusive interviews with the most heroic prosecution witnesses. Lee is also a likely candidate to write the definitive book. Anyone who has seen Lee's recent works on the Angels & the Vagos knows how authoritative & informed he can be. So the cops & the prosecutors like him already. Ablett is important despite all this because at its core it is about whether mostly anonymous Gov't bureaucrats can just lock up a man & throw away the key. The most damning "evidence" against Ablett is that "everybody knows" his friends are gangsters. And, if you agree with this circular reasoning, you may also have already won a bright future in true crime publishing with a side gig at a big city daily.

*Reasonable Doubt:* In theory, in most criminal trials a defendant must only prove that a reasonable doubt exists about whether or not he is guilty. The prosecutors in this case have artfully arranged the charges against Christopher Bryan "Stoney" Ablett

in such a way that he must also prove that the Mongols MC is not a racketeering enterprise that seeks to glorify itself by engaging in an ongoing feud with another racketeering enterprise called the Hells Angels MC. The case against John Scopes was founded on the common sense assumption that man could not possibly be descended from monkeys. The Ablett trial is based on the equally prevalent & common sense assumption that the Mongols & the Hells Angels are the Jets & the Sharks from West Side Story – only not “so pretty, oh so pretty, & witty & bright.” Ablett is a postmodern revision of that classic American musical. If West Side Story were reproduced today it could no longer be a love story. Everything after the intermission would have to dramatize the RICO case. Ablett is important because it illustrates how much the collective American intelligence has dimmed, narrowed & shattered since Scopes. The case also illuminates the cancerous connections between the emerging American police state, mass media in a post-literate society & “industries” like “corrections” in our “service-based economy.”

**The Victims:** These cancerous tentacles sprawl everywhere so Ablett is bigger than the story any of the newspapers, networks or magazines can conveniently understand it to be. You can only say so much in 20 column inches. On television, 90 seconds is a complete account & “in-depth” is 12 minutes. Virtually everyone who covers this trial, if anyone actually does bother to cover it, will do their best to bite size the difficult issues it presents. Neither the Mongols nor the Hells Angels wants to hear it but the case has 2 victims. Christopher Ablett has just spent his fourth Christmas behind bars. He is locked up because he is a member of the Modesto chapter of what everyone calls the “Mongols outlaw motorcycle gang” & he probably killed the President of the San Francisco charter of what everybody calls the “Hells Angels outlaw motorcycle gang.” Sounds thrilling already, doesn’t it? The homicide occurred in the course of a street fight on Sept 2, 2008. The dead man was named Mark “Papa” Guardado. He was, by all accounts, the very best of friends & a distressing enemy. It doesn’t really now matter who Guardado was because the case is only incidentally about him. The defense will probably portray Guardado in the least flattering way. None of the prosecutors gives a damn about him. They have been piling their folders & papers on his corpse for 2 years. The same people who are trying to destroy Ablett were also trying to destroy Guardado. Getting Ablett too would be what people who have been bred in laboratories call “a win-win!” In a frigidly real sense, the case was already tried, in an hour minus commercials, on April 30, 2009. That was the hour the History Channel (an international broadcasting business owned by A&E Television Networks which is in turn owned by Rogers Media, the Disney-ABC Television Group & NBC Universal) ran episode 12 of Season Four of a “reality television” series titled *Gangland*. The episode was called “Biker Wars Two.” It was made with the cooperation of numerous public & quasi-public officials including executives in the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives. Allegations made in the episode could have come from only two sources, the ATF or the San Francisco Police Department. By May Day 2009 “Biker Wars Two” had aired in Serbia & Thailand.

**Most Brutal Outlaw Biker Gangs:** Three seconds into the episode, the voice of God proclaims, “San Francisco is the latest front in a long running battle between 2 of the most brutal outlaw biker gangs in the world.” Ten seconds later a former FBI Agent named Tim McKinley states, “The willingness of each gang, the Hells Angels & the Mongols, to use violence for control is one of the things that characterizes those gangs as criminal street gangs.” “There is only one goal in this war,” God says. Then a loathsome

snitch named Anthony Tait completes God’s thought. “Kill each other. However often they can get the chance. Doesn’t matter where it is. Doesn’t matter if it’s at Disneyland in the middle of summer with school out & 50 or 60 busloads of kids there.” “Sept 2, 2008,” God continues. “The Dirty Thieves Bar in San Francisco’s Mission District. An unknown Mongol entered the bar wearing his colors. He seemed to be looking for trouble.” The episode features a postmodern journalist, a San Francisco Examiner reporter named Tamara Barak Aparton. Aparton look like the sort of stupid & eager to please woman one prays to see sitting alone down at the other end of the bar at closing time. She elaborates on the Mongol who “seemed to be looking for trouble.” “I don’t know if he was in a bar that night to kind of test the waters of expanding the Mongols territory in San Francisco,” she says, “or if he, uh, was just there for a drink.” “10:30 p.m.,” God continues. “A group of Hells Angels arrived to take care of business.” Tait explains what God means by that. “Taking care of business, it could be anything from killing somebody & burying them or, you know, killing somebody & dumping their body.” “There was some sort of conflict between him & Mark Guardado & they went out into the street,” Aparton reports without reservation or qualifiers. “They had a little bit of a wrestling match.” God advances the plot. “The Mongol stabbed Guardado 4 times. Then pulled out a gun.” “Witnesses said that they saw the fight,” Aparton says. She doesn’t identify the witnesses. “They saw them kind of grapple.” “Suddenly, shots rang out,” God recalls. “Mark Guardado was hit in the head & chest. He fell face down in the street. Witnesses were stunned as the Mongol fled the scene of the crime on his motorcycle.” “The fact that he rode off on a motorcycle definitely raised some suspicions,” Aparton concludes, “uh, that there might be a biker war brewing.” The episode also features a “Gang Expert with Western States Information Network” named Jorge Gil-Blanco. He testifies that “The Mongols & the Hells Angels hate each other so much that their total focus is on doing damage to each other whenever & wherever they can. The collateral damage is of no consequence to them.” Ablett has seen the episode. He detests it. He describes it as inaccurate.

**An Alternative Account:** To a certain, old fashioned sort of mind, a mind like Mencken’s or Darrow’s, what actually happened that night might be much more interesting, ironic & fatefully tragic than anything a postmodern publisher or a television network would now buy. The lives of Chris Ablett & Mark Guardado only intersected after a chain of improbabilities & coincidences. And, the evening only ended as it did because before time began God – the mostly silent God, not the one who does cheesy voiceovers – marked in his great book of doom that the two men would fight & that one of them would die & the other would live. One of God’s agents in this fateful event was the Harley-Davidson Motor Company. Neither man anticipated this double tragedy. It was a Hall & Oates night. Ablett “was chasing women,” someone who did not appear in the *Gangland* episode but who seems informed anyway begins the tale. Club patches are aphrodisiacs. They don’t have that effect on all women & they don’t work for all men but available women are one of the main reasons why some fraction of motorcycle outlaws puts up with being a prospect. Ablett, a married man, a father & approaching middle age, may not have been terribly serious about it. He may simply have wondered whether he still had it or not. He was with two women that night. One was a redhead & the other was her Asian friend. He had gone to high school with the redhead. He met her at the Asian woman’s apartment & when they all went out he left his Mongols cut there.

***I Know A Bar:*** The redhead suggested they go to a dive bar she thought might be fun. It was called the Dirty Thieves. It sits at the corner of 24th Street & Treat Avenue. Ablett did not know the neighborhood & he had never heard of the place. If it was an “Angels bar” he had no idea. Like every other man in the history of the world he simply followed the two women where they wanted him to go. They reached out their hands & led him. They led him in a pickup truck while he followed on his motorcycle. He parked his bike a block away from the Dirty Thieves. Then he followed them inside & the 3 of them smiled some more. Sarah Smiles like Sarah doesn’t care. She lives in a world so unaware. Does she know that my destiny lies with her? He took off his jacket. Underneath he wore a tee shirt with two rockers that said “Mongols” & “Virginia” on the back. The trio played pool & nursed their drinks. He was, one of the women later told the FBI, “Nice. Polite.” She “felt comfortable around him.” Of course she did. “At no point during the day did their conversation involve the topics of motorcycle clubs or rival gangs.” Of course it didn’t. Women like patches. They don’t know anything about biker politics. The night had nothing to do with biker politics. This was in San Francisco where one may no longer smoke in bars & Ablett smoked. This was also in a neighborhood Ablett did not know so he worried about his motorcycle. He didn’t bother to put on his jacket when he went outside to smoke & check the bike. Eventually a man lingering there noticed the word “Mongols.”

***The Helpful Stranger:*** The man was George Jimenez. Until he died of cancer he was a motorcycle mechanic & he was a friend of the Frisco Angels. He may also have been an ATF source of information although any proof of that died with him. The 2 men spoke. Jimenez loitered outside the bar. Then he called another friend of the Angels. That friend may testify at the trial. That second friend later told the FBI that he had called Guardado & told him “there are Mongols down on Treat.” He may have called back Jimenez & told him to keep an eye on the Mongol. About the time Jimenez made his phone call, about 10:10 p.m., about 20 minutes before Mark Guardado died, Ablett & the two women left the bar. Ablett might have thought that all those good manners were finally about to pay off. He had his black leather jacket back on. Close up, he was still recognizably a Mongol by the tattoo under his right ear. He warmed up his bike while the women went to fetch their truck – & probably gossip about him behind his back. When they rolled past, about the time word was reaching Guardado that there were “Mongols down on Treat,” Ablett took off & followed the two women again.

***Tip Over Sensor:*** So Guardado almost lived. There was almost no fight. There was almost no federal case. Ablett’s bad luck was Guardado’s bad luck. The truck started driving east on 24th Street with Ablett practically sniffing the rear bumper. Within a block the pickup truck suddenly braked. Ablett was still close behind. He had been drinking. He braked hard to avoid hitting the truck & when he did, before he got his feet down, he dropped the bike. It was the kind of boneheaded move that happens to every motorcyclist sometime. The bike was not substantially damaged. Ablett was not hurt, only embarrassed. & immediately George Jimenez, the motorcycle mechanic & friend of the Angels, rushed over to help. The two men got the heavy bike upright. Ablett was riding a 2005 FLHTI, an Electra Glide Standard. The bike did not have a carburetor. The bike had an Electronic Fuel Injection. An EFI is basically a small computer that allows a motorcycle engine gagged by pollution controls & other Gov’t mandated features to still start & run. Ablett could not restart his bike & he couldn’t figure out what was wrong. Jimenez was a bike mechanic so he knew what had happened. EFI Harleys include a pressurized fuel

system that is potentially dangerous during some routine repairs (like disconnecting a fuel line) & following collisions. So one of the features of fuel injected Harleys is a small black box called a BAS or “Bank Angle Sensor.” After any of these bikes is tipped over at an angle greater than 45 degrees the fuel shuts off & does not automatically come back on when the bike returns to vertical. On Ablett’s bike, the tip over sensor plugged into the headlight wiring harness. Jimenez knew the simple procedure to reset the BAS. Ablett had never heard of a BAS. Jimenez, who knew Guardado was coming, told Ablett about the sensor. He also probably lied that it would automatically reset after a few minutes. Then, Jimenez walked back toward the bar. Jimenez told one of the cops who responded to the scene after the shooting a slightly different version of these events. “When Jimenez was standing in front of the bar he saw the suspect walking to his motorcycle that was parked at 24th & Lucky. The motorcycle was a black Harley with a large glass windshield & black, leather saddlebags on both sides. He saw that the suspect was wearing a black, leather jacket or vest covering his shirt. Jimenez said the suspect began driving his motorcycle east on 24th Street following a pickup truck with two females inside. The suspect then dropped/crashed his bike on the corner of 24th & Treat. Jimenez ran over to help him pick his bike up. Once the motorcycle was up, the suspect attempted to start the bike but the engine would not start. The suspect then began pushing the motorcycle south on Treat. Jimenez then went inside the bar & wrote down the license plate number (CA 17C9216) on a napkin.” As Jimenez was writing down Ablett’s license plate number, for reasons that are unclear, Ablett pushed his big bike up onto the sidewalk. His speedometer would have said “tilt” & he would have turned off his ignition. All he had to do to reset the BAS was turn the ignition off then on again. So he was halfway there but he didn’t know that. Instead he waited. The women parked their truck next to him & the smiles & winks continued for at least another 10 minutes. The redhead got out of the truck. She & Ablett had a conversation a witness described as “flirtatious.” The witness said it looked like they had been “going to barbecues for years.” The redhead climbed onto Ablett’s bike. The witness who described this to police went inside, annoyed that the three had chosen to have a conversation in front of his house. Five minutes later, he said, he heard two loud bangs followed by another bang that sounded “somehow different.”

***The Fight:*** Sometime after that witness went inside & before the three bangs, at about 10:28 p.m., Mark Guardado & four other men arrived. Ablett has always maintained that there were five men. Guardado’s entourage may have been comprised of prospects for a club called the Bay Riders which emerged in San Francisco about a month later. The Bay Riders are a three piece patch club that maintains cordial relations with the Hells Angels & both of Guardado’s sons, Mark Jr. & Dominic, have publically identified themselves as founding members of the Bay Riders. Guardado intended to beat up Ablett but he did not intend to gang up on him with his friends. He wanted to kick his ass fair & square. The 5 men arrived in a car or a truck & 3 of them probably remained in that vehicle. Guardado was a thick, genuinely tough man who wore a Dequiallo tattoo. He was one of 7 Hells Angels arrested for allegedly assaulting police during a fight in Laconia, New Hampshire in 1998. He was convicted & that cost him a year of his life. Guardado confronted Ablett & the next seconds followed the timeless, brutal, inevitable logic of West Side Story – the logic of South Boston, South Philly, South Central & Tombstone. In a heartbeat the two men were nose to nose like Mayweather & Ortiz. Nobody backing down. You can’t back down. The conversation was minimal. Don’t talk about it. Be about it. Eyewitness accounts of the fight vary in numerous

important details like who was standing & who was on the ground, who had a gun & where it came from, & who shot at who. The different versions are not all merely honest accounts of the same thing seen through different pairs of eyes. Somebody was lying. Accounts of the fight spread as rumors & are polished with the logic of stories. One rumor argues that Guardado was shot in the back of the head. That is absolutely possible. The Gov't has so completely hidden evidence in the case for so long that almost anything anyone already believes about this fight can be disproven. Justice delayed is not only justice denied. Justice delayed obliterates the useful concepts of true & false. Mongols & Hells Angels will probably hate each other for another thirty years now because of Ablett & Guardado. In his statement, "Jimenez heard arguing & saw the suspect arguing with the victim approximately 50 yards south on 24th Street. When he turned his back to the suspect he heard two loud gunshots. He looked back toward them & saw two bright flashes of light. The suspect then got on his motorcycle & was able to start it & then he fled south on Treat towards 25th Street. Jimenez then fled the area. He never saw the gun but believes he (the suspect) was holding it in his right hand. Jimenez said that he would be able to identify the suspect if he saw him again. He told me he has never seen the suspect before but has seen the victim a few times at the Dirty Thieves bar." The redhead stated that she was in the truck when "she looked back toward (Ablett and) saw an unknown male in his face." The two men "were very close to each other & were displaying aggressive postures." They began fighting within seconds. She got out of her truck & walked toward the fight. "Both men were on the ground & the unknown male was on top of (Ablett)... Just then, another unknown male approached her & the fighting men" & yelled "get the fuck out of here." According to police it "was her impression that the second unknown male was not just an unrelated bystander." He approached "with a purpose." As she was getting back in her truck she heard multiple gunshots. The Asian woman said she "looked back toward Ablett & saw that an unknown male was talking to" Ablett. The two men were face to face, speaking quietly & "started fighting." She saw Ablett make "overhand stabbing motions." Another unknown male approached from the direction of 24th Street & told her friend to "get the hell out of here." Ablett turned his attention toward the second unknown male as (Guardado) stumbled back into the street saying "he keeps stabbing me." She heard gunshots & turned to see Ablett firing a gun & she thought he was shooting "toward the second unidentified male." In this case the line between manslaughter & self-defense thickens, fades & blurs. Someone stabbed Guardado four times. In jailhouse conversations Ablett has stated he never stabbed anybody. Two witnesses, including George Jimenez told police that Ablett pulled a gun from inside his jacket & held it in his right hand. Ablett has said Guardado pulled a gun on him. The gun has never been recovered. Guardado's hands were bagged at the crime scene but they were never tested for gunshot residue. Or, if they were, the test results have disappeared. It is even possible that neither Guardado nor Ablett pulled the gun. Three men were seen fleeing the scene in a pickup truck. One entry in the police phone logs states that a witness "Heard 4 - 5 shots fired. Heard a man screaming. Thinks he must have been shot in the leg. Possibly limping away. No suspect description." Another witness, who may or may not be credible, says that after Ablett escaped the scene someone approached Guardado & spoke to the motionless body. After this tragedy Mark Papa Guardado was survived by 5 orphans.

**Racketeering:** Ablett turned himself in the next month in Oklahoma. He faced state charges until July 2009. Then the case went federal. A superseding indictment filed Sept 6, 2011 charges

Ablett with "murder in aid of racketeering;" "assault with a deadly weapon in aid of racketeering;" "use/possession of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence resulting in murder;" & "use/possession of a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence." If convicted of the charges Ablett will spend the rest of his life in prison. The Fed charges make moot the issue of whether Ablett acted maliciously or in self-defense. What Ablett must prove in this case is that the Mongols MC is not a racketeering enterprise. A person with knowledge of the case calls it the "tail wagging the dog." Ablett is the Dept of Justice's opportunity to finally try & win the Cavazos case. Hundreds of bits of information collected during Operation Black Rain - the sordid, undercover investigation that preceded the Cavazos case - have been or will be entered as evidence against Ablett. Ablett actually never had anything to do with any of the racketeering allegations that will be raised at "his" trial. In the tens of thousands of pages & thousands of hours of electronic surveillance collected in Operation Black Rain, Christopher Stoney Ablett is mentioned exactly once, in Report of Investigation 605 written, allegedly, by Special Agent Darrin Kozlowski on July 7, 2008. The ROI states that "on June 22, 2008 ATF UC Agents Darrin Kozlowski, Paul D'Angelo & Erin Anderson attended a party being held at the residence of Rios in West Covina, CA." "During the party SA Kozlowski observed the following members smoking marijuana in the back yard area: Little P.K. - Modesto Chapter, Buckshot - Modesto Chapter, Stoney - Modesto Chapter."

**What Racketeering:** The specific charges that make Ablett guilty of racketeering unless he can disprove them are that: "...the Mongols biker gang was a criminal organization whose members & associates engaged in among other things, murder, conspiracy to commit murder, attempted murder, conspiracy to traffic in narcotics, narcotics trafficking, robbery, extortion, money laundering & witness intimidation." "The Mongols gang is a nationwide organization that has made efforts to expand internationally. The gang is believed to have 500 to 600 members. The Mongols organization is comprised of approximately 68 identified chapters. The chapters are located in different geographical regions throughout California as well as Oklahoma, Florida, Nevada, Oregon, Maryland, Virginia, New York, Utah, Washington, Montana, Arizona, Colorado, Mexico & Canada" "The Mongols gang, including its leadership, & its associates constituted an enterprise...." "At all times relevant to this indictment, the members & associates of the Mongols gang included the defendant Christopher Bryan Ablett together with others known & unknown." "The purposes of the Mongols criminal enterprise, including its members & associates include, but are not limited to...maintaining the control & authority of the Mongols over the territory claimed by the Mongols & expanding that territory; preserving, protecting & expanding the power of the Mongols through the use of intimidation, violence, threats of violence, assault & murder; promoting & enhancing the authority of the Mongols members & associates." "The means & methods by which the defendant & his co-racketeers conduct & participate in the conduct of the affairs of the Mongols include but are not limited to the following: Members of the Mongols commit, attempt & threaten to commit acts of violence including murder to protect & expand the enterprise's criminal operation... promote a climate of fear...use the enterprise to murder, attempt to murder, assault & threaten those who pose a threat to the enterprise...members & associates traveled in interstate & foreign commerce to conduct the affairs of the enterprise...." "On or about Sept 2, 2008...as consideration for the receipt of & as consideration for a promise & agreement to pay anything of a

pecuniary value from the Mongols & for the purpose of gaining entrance to & maintaining & increasing his position in the Mongols...the defendant Christopher Bryan Ablett unlawfully & knowingly did murder Mark Guardado....”

**Ciccone’s Testimony:** The gov’t intends to substantiate its argument that the Mongols MC is the Neapolitan Camorra, the Armenian Mafia & Red China all rolled into one with somewhere between 100 & 200 “declarations” recorded by undercover ATF agents Gregory “Russo” Giaoni, Paul “Painter” D’Angelo & Darrin “Dirty Dan” Kozlowski while they were brothers in good standing of the Mongols Cypress Park Chapter. Giaoni, D’Angelo & Kozlowski will all testify during the trial & will no doubt be lauded for their “bravery” by prosecutors & their pet poodles in the press. John Ciccone, who the Las Vegas Review-Journal has described as a “legendary outlaw bike gang case supervisor,” will also testify at the Ablett trial. Ciccone has testified so many times against both Mongols & Hells Angels that his testimony has practically become legal boiler plate. He is the likely author of the racketeering charges quoted above. At some point while he is on the stand he will say: “The Mongols are primarily a Southern California street gang. A lot of the members were former street gang members that have elevated up through street gangs into a motorcycle gang & 95% of their membership is out of Los Angeles. There is approximately 39 chapters in the city of Los Angeles in & of itself & about 95% of them are Hispanic, Hispanic gang members.” “The Mongols have a national hierarchy. They have a Nat’l Pres, a Nat’l V.P., a Nat’l sergeant at arms, a Nat’l secretary/treasurer, & those are 4 people that are voted on & they basically call all the shots for the entire organization.” “Basically within the Hells Angels & the Mongols, that’s what it’s all about for those guys is their patches. And they’ve gone to war over it before in the early seventies & early eighties & members have died as a result of that war over these patches. So it’s pretty dear to them & that’s their whole focus & point of being in these organizations.” At some other point in Ciccone’s testimony, after he has crooned the jury half asleep, he will make the sort of naked accusations that form the basis of every biker club case. He will begin to throw around the word “murder.” **Q:** Do the Mongols have a particular terminology or code of conduct with regard to the members? **A:** The Mongols operate in similar fashion as the Hells Angels. Once you become a full patch you’re basically at the beck & call of the club & you’re to back the club at any cost. If that means murdering someone, that’s what you’re expected to do. That’s what you’re expected to do. You’re expected to assist someone, participate in assisting a member in whatever problem that member has, you’re expected to step up & do that. **Q:** Are the Mongols then in your expert opinion a combination of persons that are organized formerly or informally so constructed that that organization will continue its operation even if individual members enter or leave that group? **A:** Yes. **Q:** They have the common name or identifying symbol of the Mongols? **A:** Yes, it’s in their patch. **Q:** And they have particular conduct, status & customs that are indicative of their organization that you described to us? **A:** Yes. **Q:** And do they have as one of their common activities as a group engaging in criminal activities punishable as a felony? **A:** Yes. **Q:** Tell us about that. **A:** They’re involved in all the same typical crimes that the Hells Angels are involved in. They’re involved in narcotics trafficking, they’re involved in trafficking of firearms, they’re involved in murders, assaults, intimidation, extortion, thefts of stolen motorcycles. **Q:** And in those felony convictions when you say we, who are you referring to? **A:** ATF. **Q:** (Is) there a gang or organizational component to those (previous) convictions (of Mongols members?) **A:** In some of those

convictions the gang allegation or enhancement was charged to those Mongols gang members. **Q:** And so the felony, felonious conduct you’ve been talking about was conduct that was conducted for or on behalf or with the intention of promoting the organization of the Mongols & not just some person acting on their own? **A:** Correct... **Q:** And that would be your opinion as an expert being knowledgeable of the facts as well? **A:** Yes. The reporters who cover this trial, if any reporters do cover it, will report Ciccone’s testimony as unquestionably true. In the Ablett case, Ciccone will also testify about at least 2 violent incidents involving the Mongols & the Hells Angels. Ablett did not participate in either incident but he will be held guilty of them by his association with the Mongols.

**Laughlin:** The first of those incidents will be the “Laughlin riot,” the violent & often televised fight between Mongols & Hells Angels in a bar called Rosa’s Cantina inside Harrah’s Casino in Laughlin, Nevada in April 2002. It is plausible that Ciccone helped instigate the incident. It is indisputable that Ciccone saw the violence coming & did nothing to prevent it. He was at Harrah’s when the fight occurred. It is possible that he was in the video surveillance room at Harrah’s watching the tensions between Mongols & Hells Angels escalate for an hour before the posturing became actual violence. He has said that he was standing outside the casino’s front doors when the fight occurred. The prosecution has already stated: “The incident at Laughlin is directly relevant because it provides context for the defendant’s motivation to commit murder in this case, i.e. that the victim was a Hells Angels member. The Laughlin incident is the single most important reason for the dangerous rivalry that exists between the two enterprises to this day. It provides background & context for the animosity that existed between the Mongols (the enterprise charged in the instant Indictment) & the Hells Angels.” “What the Gov’t is seeking to prove with Laughlin that is entirely relevant to not one but two elements the Gov’t must prove is simply that: (1) there is a history of animosity between the two groups; (2) that history includes a violent melee that occurred at Laughlin that involved violence on the part of both groups; & (3) the event at Laughlin transformed what had previously been a dangerous rivalry into a full scale “war” between the two groups for which there had been no truce by September 2, 2008 when the defendant killed Mark Guardado.”

**Norco:** The second incident about which Ciccone will testify is a shooting at the Sparks of Love Toy Run in Norco, California on December 4, 2005. Three people, including a Norco firefighter named Dain Fish were wounded in the shooting outside a restaurant named Maverick Steak House. The alleged combatants were Hells Angels & Mongols. Six Mongols, Alex Lozano, president of the San Bernardino chapter, Manuel Armandarez, Rafael Lozano, Ricardo Gutierrez, Andres Rodriguez & Mario Angulo were all accused with attempted murder in the Cavazos indictment. That indictment also alleges that the next week, “On December 11, 2005, defendant Cavazos addressed Mongols members at a national run conducted in Mexico & congratulated members who had participated in the shooting of rival Hells Angels gang members at the Toys for Tots event in Norco, CA on Dec 5, 2005, & Cavazos also discussed plans to reward those members for taking violent action on behalf of the Mongols.”

**Lawyers:** Ciccone, Kozlowski, D’Angelo & Giaoni will also testify that a discussion by some Mongols Club officers to help Ablett pay for a lawyer is a racketeering act. Ciccone has already testified: “If a Mongol is arrested & a crime that he committed was in furtherance of the gang; so, for example, he gets into a

fight with a rival gang member or a Hells Angel, he was doing that because that's the protocol of the gang & it was in furtherance of the gang. Then the Mongols would take up a collection through what they term a 'defense fund.' They would charge each member of each chapter a specific amount of money that would go to that individual's defense fund to pay off lawyer fees, court costs, or whatever because the criminal act that he committed was in furtherance of the gang." The prosecution has already argued that the Mongols MC never helped Ablett with any of his legal expenses because "they could not cover the expenses of defense counsel for all Mongols members after the Black Rain case was taken down & about 100 or more of them were all facing criminal charges at the same time, perhaps they wrote defendant Ablett off because he was facing a possible federal death penalty case...." In fact, the Mongols MC did not "cover the expenses of defense counsel for" any of the "Mongols members after the Black Rain case was taken down & about 100 or more of them were all facing criminal charges at the same time." Which is one of the reasons why so many of those defendants received ineffective counsel. The Gov't has also already argued that Ablett "has shown himself to be contemptuous of the judicial process...through his membership with the Mongols... who have a demonstrated disregard for law enforcement & the judicial process." It is an astoundingly arrogant & specious argument for Ablett's guilt. It is the modern equivalent of the water trial of a witch. A suspected witch would be bound & thrown into a pond. If she drowned she was innocent. If she somehow survived her survival proved she was a minion of Satan.

**Examples Of Criminal Intent:** The criminality inherent in the Mongols will be evidenced by a copy of the "Mongols MC Five Commandments." Those state: 1. "A Mongols never lies to another Mongol." 2. "A Mongol never steals from another Mongol." 3. "A Mongol never messes around with another Mongol's Old Lady." 4. "A Mongol never causes another Mongol to get arrested in any way, shape or form." 5. "A Mongol never uses his patch for personal gain."

Really. According to the prosecution, in document 192 filed Dec 7, 2011, the Mongols "disregard for law enforcement & the judicial process" is reflected in those rules. Other "evidence" the prosecutors will introduce to prove that the Mongols are a criminal conspiracy are written statements issued by the club & seized in searches of members' homes. Those statements include: "If you ever get arrested never make a statement of any kind. Don't make the stupid mistake of trying to talk your way out of jail. All you'll end up doing is telling on yourself or implicating Brothers or someone else. Always say you have nothing to say & you want to speak to an attorney." "If subpoenaed or questioned as a possible witness, never say anything adverse that would cause anyone to go to jail, even if it's not a Brother." "If a local Law Enforcement Task Force wants to talk to you for any reason always take at least one other Brother with you. If you are wanted or questioned for possible criminal charges, take your lawyer & don't tell them shit." "Remember, if you can save a member from doing a large amount of time by doing a small amount of time, then do it without hesitation. You may need someone to do it for you someday." The statement prosecutors will allow to linger in the air, the statement that will be reported because of its parenthetical, frankly droll racism, is the Mongols "protocol" that says: "Never press charges on anyone. If you get in a street fight & a citizen calls the man, & you happen to be the victim (such as being rat packed by 10 niggers) you do not press charges. Never testify in court or a parole hearing as an adverse witness. You may testify as a friendly witness only."

**Jorge Gil-Blanco:** Ciccone is only one of two outlaw biker experts the prosecution will call to testify during the trial. The other authority is Jorge Gil-Blanco who also testified during the Gangland quasi-trial in 2009. Gil-Blanco hates all bikers so much that it is still up in the air whether he will do more damage to the prosecution or the defense. When he died, Guardado faced state assault charges & Gil-Blanco would have been one of the witnesses against him at a trial. Gil-Blanco testified against Guardado in a preliminary hearing. Gil-Blanco's resume features many brief paragraphs. He has worked for multiple police forces in Los Angeles, Sacramento, Dixon, Solano & San Jose. He may be a bad policeman or he may be so good that he is much in demand. He now works for the federally funded Western States Information Network as a full time outlaw biker authority & he supplements his income as a professional expert witness. Gil-Blanco was one of the officers successfully sued by several Hells Angels after a series of punitive "searches" in January 1998 that included the execution of pets & the wrecking of houses. One of those Angels was a man named Steve Tausan. After Tausan was shot & killed last fall at the funeral of San Jose Hells Angel Jeffrey Pettigrew, Gil-Blanco was a credited source for a story by Sean Webby in the San Jose Mercury News about Tausan's death. In that story Gil-Blanco was described as an "investigator who has specialized in outlaw motorcycle gangs since the 1990s." Also in that article, the "investigator" stated that "the Hells Angels are heavily involved in the manufacture & distribution of illegal drugs like methamphetamine." Gil-Blanco will teach a course two days after the Ablett case begins in Rancho Cordova, California. The course is titled "Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs." He is an easily accessible source for reporters covering biker cases. He has commented about the deadly fight between Hells Angels & Vagos in Sparks, Nevada last September. He appears to be the source for the often cited fabrication that the Vagos & Angels are engaged in a "war" that "started over Starbucks." Gil-Blanco is also the author of an article in Police: The Law Enforcement Magazine that advises other police about techniques they can use when offering duplicitous testimony in court. Among the highlights: "The officer is 'on stage' & is expected to give vital & important information to the 'audience.'" "A trained officer will know to be prepared for anything the defense attorney is likely to ask as a means of undermining the officer's contribution to the prosecutor's goal of obtaining a conviction." "...prepared officers are able to make their points as if they were instructors in a classroom, making sure the students understand the testimony. Prepared officers are also aware of the importance of body language while testifying, which includes proper eye contact & posture. In addition, the use of technology in the testimony can help demonstrate, explain, & summarize information." Gil-Blanco was "on stage" to contribute to the ultimate goal of all trials, which is not justice but "obtaining a conviction," last February in Lakeport, California when he testified against a member of the Misfits Motorcycle Club named Thomas Loyd Dudney. Dudney was accused of attempting to murder a man named Ronald Greiner in 2009. Gil-Blanco testified that Dudney committed the crime "for the benefit of the Misfits." He stated that violent assaults were usually done to bolster a "gang's" reputation. Under cross-examination he conceded that "not every crime committed by a gang member is a gang crime."

**The Defense:** The man who will attempt to convince a jury that Ablett acted in self-defense is long time San Francisco defense attorney Richard B. Mazer. Mazer's former clients include Ralph Hubert "Sonny" Barger. Ablett's guilt or innocence will be determined, as is the custom, by a panel of good citizens who are too stupid to get out of jury duty. Mazer will attempt to convince

those citizens of the ferocity of the Frisco Angels & of Guardado in particular. How complete a smear this will become remains to be seen. Mazer will probably cite Guardado's assault charge, his short prison term, every assault of a Mongol or Mongols sympathizer he can find & several examples of Hells Angels slogans. Guardado's brother is a cop in San Francisco & it is not impossible to imagine that the San Francisco Police Department who initially investigated Guardado's homicide will be dragged into the trial.

**Oh No Not Him:** The star witness for the defense will be either Chris Ablett, if he takes the stand, or Ruben "Doc" Cavazos. It is not a slam dunk that either man will testify in the case. Ablett is, by far, the more likely of the two to speak. Doc is the former Mongols Pres who was voted out bad from the club in Aug 2008 for instigating violence & stealing almost \$200,000. Doc carries so much baggage that the prosecution would probably enjoy the opportunity to discredit him. **Q:** And did you sign this confession, Cavazos? **A:** Yeah. **Q:** Well, were you lying then or are you lying now? However, if Mazer has the huevos to put him on the stand, Doc Cavazos might actually be able to tarnish some shiny careers. Right this moment, as they learn that there is this possibility, several federal employees are preparing for the trial by ordering extra pairs of brown pants. The Gov't has been hiding Cavazos for more than three years. And, none of the best reporters have ever wondered why. Not even Tamara Barak Aparton. Much of the Cavazos' prosecution was based on the plausible notion that Doc was spilling his guts on everybody about everything in his club. The official explanation for the disappearance of Doc is that if Doc were not buried like the Sutton Hoo hoard his life would be in danger from his many enemies in the Mongols, the Hells Angels, La Eme, the Galloping Goose & whoever else hates him. It is a long list of enemies. Many people do really, really hate Doc. But, the truth is that Doc has the confidence of a store front preacher & he seems not to be particularly afraid. Fed prosecutor Christopher Brunwin was able to coerce confessions out of dozens of Mongols with the threat of what Cavazos might reveal about them. Then, to keep the con game going all the Dept of Justice had to do was keep Doc invisible & silent. Even Cavazos' sentencing hearing was held in a closet. Even Timothy McVeigh's sentencing was public. Even William Jennings Bryan thought justice should be public. Even Nixon thought justice should be public. The idea of secret justice is new in America. Cavazos is furious, genuinely or theatrically, about how he was used by the government. He is particularly incensed that the Gov't used him & then still gave him a sentence of 14 years. He is even more incensed that at his top secret sentencing the Judge, Otis D. Wright, allowed John Ciccone & his homie – a Ramparts Crash veterano named Chris Cervantes – to sit in the mostly empty room & laugh out loud at the look on Doc's face when he learned his fate. Now Doc wants his turn to laugh. Doc seethes each day in the Disciplinary Administrative Segregation Pod at the for-profit Corrections Corporation of America gulag in California City, which is near a city called Mojave, which is surrounded by a desert called the Mojave, which doesn't even begin to suggest how grim & secretive the place is. The fact that places like California City & that companies like the Corrections Corporation of America exist suggests how much American jurisprudence has de-evolved since Scopes. Doc has asked to be transferred to the mainline but his request has been denied out of concerns for his "safety." And, also out of fears that once unleashed upon the general population Doc might give interviews & start a union. Of course, now that that cat is out of the bag the U.S. Marshall's Service will probably have no choice but to transfer Doc to Guantanamo. You know, for his own

protection. Or, considering that the impeccably liberal Barack Obama recently signed something called the National Defense Authorization Act into law despite his "serious reservations," maybe next Doc will be sedated & awaken the next day in chains inside a concrete replica of the Qaaba in a desert in Tajikistan. All of these elements in the Ablett case describe postmodern democracy, postmodern justice & postmodern policing. And, whatever happens during Chris Ablett's trial will be reported to you by post-literate journalists. Clarence Darrow & H.L. Mencken will not be walking into the Phillip Burton Building next week. The Planet of the Apes got it right. It is no longer accurate to say that we evolved from monkeys because we are now becoming monkeys & federal prosecutors are leading the way. The case against Christopher Ablett will include at least 45 declarations made by Doc Cavazos (like his alleged praise for the alleged toy run shooters) but the prosecution will not call him as a witness. The defense would slice & dice the Mongols memoirist as easily & quickly as the prosecution would. Instead, Doc's "declarations" that the Mongols are in fact a racket will be channeled through world class psychics like D'Angelo, Giaoni & Kozlowski. Interestingly, even the prosecutors understand that Black Rain undercover ATF Agent John Carr is so loathsome that even people who can't get out of jury duty might catch on that there is another side to this whole biker gang thing other than the side argued so artfully & accurately on Gangland. Nevertheless, it would be a hoot to hear Doc's take on the court case that bore his name. Even his former club brother's might enjoy Doc's explanation of where all that missing Mongol's money went. Hells Angels might want to hear his thoughts about them. Presumably, however vain, greedy or egotistic he is, no matter how much he is despised by his former club brothers, Doc still clings to a certain fading, masculine code. And part of that code, the part the prosecution will flaunt, is no matter what or who "only testify for the defense." The trial is scheduled to last about 3 weeks. The court has set aside 12 court days from Jan 23 until Feb 17 to hear the arguments of both sides. Some of this case might even make the papers.

"**The Mary Tyler Moore Show**" was set in Minneapolis, **Minnesota**, & was Mary's first real acting job since leaving the "Dick van Dyke Show. The show about a single woman's struggle to find happiness in the big city was originally titled "Life Without Dick," but that was changed for some reason.

**Author Laura Ingalls Wilder** was raised at Walnut Grove, **Minnesota**, & was famous for writing the "Little House" series of books, as well as inventing the "Spam Diet" which consists of looking at a plate of Spam until you lose your appetite. Much like the "Lutefisk Diet".

**The Mall of America** in Bloomington, **Minnesota** covers 9.5 million square feet & has enough space to hold 185,000 idiot teenagers yapping away on cell phones.

**Madison, Minnesota** is known as "the lutefisk capital of the world." Avoid this city at all costs.

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- If we all do a little bit, Then no one has to do a lot...
- There can be no "I", there has to be "We"...
- One heart, One Voice...

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