



MEMORANDUM
Riverside Police Department
Field Operations

DATE: November 25, 2008

TO: Whom it may concern

FROM: Guy Toussaint, Lieutenant

SUBJECT: Recognition of former employee Ronald Wright

Employee: Ronald Wright [Retired]

Rank: Detective [Retired]

Assignment: General Investigations Bureau

History:

Ronald Wright was a peace officer for approximately 35 years. He started his law enforcement career as a police cadet with the Riverside Police Department in January 1971. In June 1973 he was hired as a police officer with the Riverside Police Department. In 1982 Ronald Wright was promoted to the rank of detective with the Riverside Police Department. In September 2005 Detective Wright retired from the Riverside Police Department ending his long career as the senior detective within the Department.

While working for the Riverside Police Department, Detective Wright worked an array of assignments and was instrumental in numerous high profile investigations. Some of his work assignments included: Property crimes, Economic crimes, Sexual Assaults and Robbery/Homicide cases.

As a detective with the Police Department, Detective Wright developed a reputation as an extremely thorough investigator that displayed an enormous amount of expertise particularly involving cases that involved criminal conspiracies, economic or political conflict of interest cases, fraud or identification theft cases, and highly technical computer related crimes.

Because of his expertise with computer related crimes, Detective Wright implemented a community-based computer "watch group", comprised of business owners throughout the City of Riverside. Under Detective Wright's guidance these business owners were able to quickly communicate with other business owners and police detectives to share information about possible crime trends and significant issues.

During the latter portion of Detective Wright's career, I was his direct supervisor in the General Investigations Bureau, primarily the West Neighborhood Policing Center. I often sought Detective Wright's counsel with various technical or politically based investigations that arose.

Because of his vast expertise he was always able to formulate strategic investigative plans that would ultimately result in an arrest and a favorable impression of the Department. Additionally, Detective Wright was routinely contacted by detectives or supervisors from other divisions, who sought his input on cases they were working. Detective Wright is approachable and never hesitated to take time out of his busy schedule to assist others. He is a consummate team player that does not seek personal recognition, but only wants justice to be served.

The following are just a few examples of Ronald Wright's investigative abilities and experience:

Investigators' Procedure Manual for Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers, (CSDIA, Sacramento, CA):

Ronald Wright served as the president of the California Secondhand Dealer Investigators' Association for five years. This organization represented the interests of investigators who had the responsibility of investigating and regulating pawnshops and secondhand dealers. Ronald became an expert in both regulating and seizure of property from these businesses. Ronald still receives calls today from investigators wanting information. Ronald was responsible for sponsoring a bill that closed a significant gap in regulating these businesses. Ronald also met on many occasions with representatives of the Collateral Loan Association (Pawnshop lobbying organization) and represented law enforcement interests with their legislative agenda each year. Even though this was an adversarial relationship the Collateral Loan Association recognized Ronald for his fairness and knowledge of their business. Ronald appeared before the CA Senate Judiciary Committee when these bills were pending and became a source of expert advice for the committee's consultants. Ronald wrote the CSIDA procedure manual that is still in use today.

HBO/DIRECT TV Signal Piracy Case & Warehouse Theft:

Ronald Wright assisted investigators from AOL/Time Warner on a satellite TV commercial subscription fraud case. The investigators contacted Ronald because of their common membership in the High Technology Crimes Investigation Association (HTCIA). The investigators discovered a LA motel was receiving commercial service via subscription fraud. LAPD did the investigation there but the suspect lived in Riverside California. Ronald wrote and served a search warrant at the suspect's residence. The suspect was installing commercial TV systems in motels in California and other states using compromised DSS receivers with "hacked" prom cards or cards billed to "residential" accounts. HBO/Direct TVs' lost an estimated \$100,000 in revenue. The suspect was later convicted for felony theft of services from HBO.

Several years later Ronald Wright was asked to assist the same Time-Warner investigator with a large embezzlement from their Orange County warehouse. The investigator had information that a warehouse manager was secretly removing

expensive electronic equipment and reselling it from his house in Riverside, California. Based on Time-Warner's information Ronald Wright wrote and served a search warrant at this residence. A large rental truck was filled with stolen items that were recovered from the manager's garage.

Kaiser Emergency Room Nurse Identity Theft Case:

Ronald Wright was assigned a grand theft case for follow-up where an emergency room nurse was suspected of stealing jewelry from a woman who had died in the ER. He worked with Kaiser investigators who were already tracking a series of ID related thefts from ER patients during periods when this nurse worked. This led to a search warrant of the nurse's apartment and seizure of her computer. From the evidence found in her apartment and from a forensic search of her computer she was linked to a number of ID thefts where personal information stolen from the ER was used to commit further crimes. The Riverside County DA's Office highlighted this case on their webpage.

Pamela Thompson Murder & GTA Case:

A young woman's car was stolen from her apartment parking lot in Riverside, California. She called her father who told her to re-check the parking lot. While she was walking in the parking lot she saw her vehicle being driven away. She was on her cell phone when the car ran her over killing her. Ronald Wright was asked by our homicide detectives to assist. The woman's purse and ID had been taken during the homicide. Ronald immediately went to work tracing the victim's bank credit card. Her local bank would not disclose certain information which was critical for the case, because of personal privacy issues. Fortunately Ronald was able to reach corporate fraud investigators for this bank that understood the immediate necessity. Working with the bank the investigators manually checked frequently for transactions on the victim's bankcard. A cab charge was soon located. Ronald contacted the cab company and learned that they had picked up a fare in the Riverside area. Coincidentally an economic crimes detective had just put out information regarding a house in this immediate area. Subjects at this house were involved in ID thefts and other related economic crimes. Ronald passed this information on to the homicide detectives. They located the victim's stolen car in the area. Her driver's license and personal items were missing.

Additional transactions were located from budget motels and convenience stores in the San Bernardino and the Redlands areas. One of these areas was in the area of where the cab fare was dropped. From surveillance videos at these stores the potential suspect was Identified and eventually arrested. Even though he denied any involvement in the death of the young woman he was forensically linked to the stolen car. The suspect in this case was found guilty of first-degree murder and will receive life without parole. Ronald Wright received a "Division Commander's Commendation" for his assistance in this case.

In conclusion, based on my personal knowledge of Ronald Wright and on his reputation as a tenacious investigator I give him the highest recommendation possible and strongly believe he is an outstanding addition to any organization.

REFERENCES

I supervised Ron for probably two years during my tenure in Investigations. He can be very dogged when he gets onto a case. I have personally described him as a bulldog that you just can't get to stop biting your leg until he is ready to let go. And that will only be when he believes he has exhausted all of the possible leads. His greatest contributions came in the form of assisting our Crimes Against Persons unit. In the first case, there was a missing child who had been abducted by a known suspect. Ron's contacts and experience in the financial community enabled him to give us almost real time movement of the suspect through Ron tracking his ATM and Credit Card activity. In the second, there was a homicide of a young woman whose personal information was taken at the same time. Again using his financial know how, Ron was directly responsible for the identification of the primary suspect. He truly handed the case to the detectives on a silver platter. Far and away, he was the most detail oriented and meticulous detective under my supervision. He was a great loss to the department when he retired.

Lt. Leon Phillips
Riverside Police Department
LPHILLIPS@riversideca.gov
951-351-6099

I have known Ron for over 20 years, 2-3 years I was his direct supervisor. Ron has an outstanding reputation as an investigator. He does not leave any rock unturned and investigates each and every lead. If I was a "bad guy" I would not want Ron on my tail. Ron has worked virtually every type of investigation ranging from homicides to fraud. Although Ron was not assigned to the Homicide Team, he was instrumental in solving a homicide involving a UCR student who was run over with her own vehicle. Ron, who was working fraud [I believe], quickly checked on some leads and before you knew it he had solved the entire case. He basically handed over the entire case, which was wrapped up air tight, to the Homicide Team. Ron sought no recognition he just didn't like the bad guy getting away with it. With Ron's enormous expertise in many law enforcement disciplines, I commonly went to him when I was tasked with a difficult or convoluted situation. He always had a solution and it was rare if he had not already tackled a similar situation. If you need anything else feel free to call me 951-905-9706.

Lieutenant Guy Toussaint
Riverside Police Department
gtoussaint@riversideca.gov

Mark McFall
2803 E. Oxbow Road
Colbert, WA 99005
(509) 466-2846
(509) 209-1870

November 26, 2008

LETTER OF REFERENCE AND RECOMMENDATION FOR MR. RONALD WRIGHT

I have known Mr. Wright professionally as a colleague for his entire career at the Riverside, California, Police Department (RPD). Ron started his career at the top of his academy class and continued his formal education, with distinction, through graduate school from there.

Ron is a very intelligent, thorough, and highly motivated law enforcement professional. His performance always exceeded expectations in every position and assignment that he held. Mr. Wright found his niche working investigations and loved the tough and complex cases often eschewed by others. His accomplishments on these cases are too numerous to list here and Ron was recognized and commended for these many successes by his superiors, peers, prosecutors, judges, businesses, and civic groups.

Ron developed a high level of expertise in the investigation of all aspects of complex economic crimes, including the preparation of search warrants and related documents. Mr. Wright's thoroughness and determination in following through on all aspects of these cases is legendary at RPD. Ron developed extensive contacts, in both public and private sectors, in his field of expertise and networked effectively with them in bringing these difficult cases to successful conclusions.

Ron's integrity, character, sense of justice and work ethic are above reproach. He has extensive investigative experience and desires to continue in a related second career to continue making a difference. I am pleased to recommend Mr. Wright for such a position and am confident in his continued success.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,



Lt. Mark McFall (retired)
Riverside California Police Department

EDUCATION:

Masters of Administration Degree (Public) 1979, Anderson School of Management, University of California, Riverside CA.

Bachelors of Arts Degree, political science 1975 (With Honors)
California State University, Fullerton
(Inducted into the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi)

Associate of Arts Degree, physical science and administration of justice 1972 (With Distinction) Riverside Community College, Riverside, CA

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Hired by Riverside PD, CA (Pop 290K - 345 sworn & 206 non-sworn) as a police cadet in January 1971. Promoted to police officer in June 1973. Upon completing Riverside Sheriff's basic academy was assigned to the Uniform Services Division. Appointed to "school resource officer" position and assigned to Investigative Services 1978 to 1979. Rotated back to Uniform Service Division and was promoted to special agent in 1982 (Job title of "special agent" later changed to "detective"). Functioned as a "corporal" for a patrol platoon. Responsibilities included assisting sergeant in supervising patrol officers and collecting of crime scene evidence and photography. In 1984 transferred to Investigative Services Division as "detective." Retired in September 2005 with Detective Badge No. 1.

I have worked or assisted in many diverse investigations including thefts, burglaries, robberies, sex crimes, and homicides. I have worked complex cases involving ongoing criminal conspiracies, economic/financial/political conflict of interests cases, fraud/forgery, ID theft related crimes, graffiti tagger crews, pawnshop/secondhand dealer regulations, and high tech computer related crimes.

CERTIFICATES, LICENSES & CREDENTIALIALS:

California POST Basic Academy 1973 – Riverside Sheriff's Academy (Graduated No 1 academically)

California POST – Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced Certificates

California Community Colleges Teaching Credential (Life – fulltime)
(Subject areas, police science, public services and administration)

California Bureau of Security and Investigative Services
Private Investigators' License PI25239

Consultant – Law Enforcement
Business License #1000269 City of Redlands, Redlands, CA

PUBLICATIONS:

Investigators' Procedure Manual for Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers, (CSDIA, Sacramento, CA)

"Return to work for the Injured Law Enforcement Officer," *Journal of California Law Enforcement*, March/April 1989 (CPOA, Sacramento, CA)

"Seizure Issues Involving Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers," *Journal of California Law Enforcement*, October 1996 (CPOA, Sacramento, CA).

"A Gap in Local Bioterrorism Response," 2003 (Homeland Security Policy Group, Whittier, CA)

"A Call to Arms – Lets Roll," 2004 (Homeland Security Policy Group, Whittier, CA)

"Mission Focused Strategic Communications." 2004 (Homeland Security Policy Group, Whittier CA)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS:

High Technology Crime Investigation Association. (HTCIA)

Former Member - Inland Empire Economic Crimes Investigators' Association. (IEECIA).

Former Member - International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators. (IAFCI)

Former President – California Secondhand Dealer Investigators' Association (CSDIA)

Retired Member - Riverside Police Officers' Association. (RPOA)

Two-term president - Riverside Police Officers' Association.

Director, Homeland Security Policy Institute Group (HSPIG)

Past Member - City of Grand Terrace Planning Commission.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION:

Nominee for Police Officer of the Year 1980 (RPOA)

Special Agent of the Year 1984 (RPOA)

Top Law Enforcement Officer by the Riverside Exchange Club 1992

Nominee for Riverside County Police Officer of the Year by Law Enforcement Appreciation Co 1992

Divisional Notice of Recognition 2002

Letter of Appreciation from HBO, New York, NY 2003

Division Commander's Commendation 2004 – RPD General Investigations Bureau

Riverside PD "Kinkaid Service Award" 2005

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES:

Current and Retired Superior Court Judges
County of Riverside
4100 Main St.
Riverside, CA 92501

J. Thompson Hanks
Helio J. Hernandez
Jean P. Leonard
Patrick Majors
Dennis A. McConaghy (Retired)
Vilia G. Sherman (Retired)
Ronald L. Taylor (Retired Past Presiding Judge)
Christian F. Thierbach (Past Presiding Judge)
Edward D. Webster (Past Presiding Judge)
Paul Zellerbach

District Attorney's Office
County of Riverside
4075 Main St.
Riverside, CA 92501

Rod Pacheco, District Attorney,
Michael Lomazow, Supervising Deputy District Attorney
Grace Brouillette, Deputy District Attorney
Colleen E. Maas, Deputy District Attorney
John Ruiz, Deputy District Attorney

Mayor Ron Loveridge
City Hall
3900 Main St.
Riverside, CA 92501

Current and Retired Members of Riverside PD
4102 Orange St.
Riverside, CA 92501

Chief Russ Leach

Chief Richard Dana, Hemet PD, CA (Former Commander Riverside PD)
Chief "Sonny" Richardson (Retired)
Chief Mike Smith Bureau of Investigations, District Attorney Office, County of San Bernardino, CA (Former Assistant Chief Riverside PD)
Chief Lee Wagner, Riverside Community College District (Former Captain Riverside PD)

Lt. Tim Bacon
Lt. Mark McFall (Retired)
Lt. Jay Theuer (Retired - Past President RPOA)
Lt. Guy Toussaint

Sgt. Skip Showater
Sgt. Leon Phillips
Sgt. Pat Watters

Det. Ken Tutwieler (Past President RPOA)

Chief Jim Buermann
Redlands PD
212 Brookside Ave
Redlands, CA

Belinda Johns, Supervising Deputy Attorney General
Attorney General's Office
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000
San Francisco, California, 94102

Tracy Thorleifson, Senior Counsel
Federal Trade Commission
915 Second Avenue, Suite 2896
Seattle, Washington 98174
<http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2003/03/namericancharitable.shtm>

Kenneth Timmerman
The Foundation for Democracy in Iran
7831 Woodmont Ave - Suite 395
Bethesda, MD 20814

David Yow
Legislative Director
Office of Assemblyman Joel Anderson, District 77
State Capitol, Room 2111
Sacramento, CA 95814

Doris Wise Montrose, President –
Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors Los Angeles

William Humphry, Audit, Security and Safety Manager
Table-Warner Cable
7142 Chapman Ave.,
Garden Grove, CA

Significant Cases and other Achievements

Serial Robbery, Rape & Sodomy Case:

While I was working graveyard as a "field special agent," (field photo/evidence gathering) I began to track a series of serious crimes. These at first appeared to be unrelated. These included commercial, residential and street robberies, and GTAs. I began to note a similar description of the suspect, limited to certain geographical area of the city, and occurred during the graveyard shift. I noted some of the GTA's and other property taken were recovered in another residential area some distance away. There are only several ways to cross a freeway that bisects these two residential areas.

One night a call of a burglary/rape just occurred came in. I was in the vicinity and sat on a street that led to a freeway over-crossing. A short time later a vehicle passed by driven by a subject matching the description and was of only several cars that past. I followed this vehicle and made no effort to stop it. The vehicle turned into a large apartment complex and drove slowly. I had the feeling the driver was unfamiliar with the parking roads in this complex. Suddenly the driver stopped. I lit the vehicle up at fearing the driver was about to bail and called for assistance.

After an initial detention we believed we had the right suspect. The victim was brought to the scene and if I recall correctly made a tentative in field identification. The conclusive bit of evidence was a small piece of cut fabric I found in the vehicle. I went to victim's residence. I learned the suspect picked up a piece of fabric the victim cut from a pair of pants she was shortening to wipe fingerprints from the doorknobs. The piece of fabric I found was an exact match to the victim's pants. This suspects was tied to the other crimes. He was sentenced to 30 years in prison. This investigation led to my receiving the 1984 Special Agent of Year Award from the Riverside Police Officers' Association.

Lakewood School Board Member & Black Guerrilla Family Gang:

Our city was experiencing a rash of office burglaries where high-end office computer equipment was taken. A patrol officer apprehended a suspect after one of these burglaries out of breath in an adjoining apartment complex. This suspect was a member of the Black Guerilla Family, a street/prison gang out of South Central Los Angeles. Redlands PD also experienced similar burglaries. We pooled our resources. Our joint investigation led to a member of the Lakewood School Board who was the end receiver of this computer equipment. I wrote a search warrant for his house in Lakewood. We served this search warrant with members of Riverside PD, Redlands PD, and LA Sheriff's Department. We filled a large rental truck with computer equipment that was later traced to related thefts all over Southern California.

The House that Home Depot Built:

Investigators from Home Depot contacted me regarding a large regional refunding theft conspiracy ring. The principal suspect was a construction contractor who literally built a house in Norco, CA from construction material stolen by this ring. He and his associates purloined high-end construction merchandise e.g., toilets, tools, and other materials from Home Depots in the Riverside/San Bernardino Area. The suspect had several “pricing guns” and would print out “SKUs” for much lower priced items. The counterfeit SKUs were stuck on lower priced items. The lower price was paid at the register. For example a high-end toilet would SKU’d with a sticker for a low-end toilet. The cashiers would see the box was a toilet but wouldn’t realize the price switch. These items were later refunded at other stores for merchandise the contractor wanted of if possible they would “buy” receipts from customers in the parking lot to do cash refunds. The suspect was eventually arrested. He was found with a notebook that had a detailed accounting of these thefts. Multiple search warrants were served at his business, residence, and other locations. A large quantity of Home Depot merchandise was recovered. Even though this suspect had no theft priors because of the sophistication of this ring, he was sentenced to state prison. This was very unusual for a first time offender.

Investigators’ Procedure Manual for Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers, (CSDIA, Sacramento, CA):

I served as the president of the California Secondhand Dealer Investigators’ Association for five years. This organization represented the interests of investigators who had the responsibility of investigating and regulating pawnshops and secondhand dealers. I became an expert in both regulating and seizure of property from these businesses. I still receive calls today from investigators wanting information. I was responsible for sponsoring a bill that closed a significant gap in regulating these businesses. I also met on many occasions with representatives of the Collateral Loan Association (Pawnshop lobbying organization) and represented law enforcement interests with their legislative agenda each year. Even though this was an adversarial relationship the Collateral Loan Association recognized me for my fairness and knowledge of their business. I appeared before the CA Senate Judiciary Committee when these bills were pending and became a source of expert advice for the committee’s consultants. I wrote the CSIDA procedure manual that is still in use today.

Attempted Murder & Residential Robbery Case:

Several people returned home on day to a burglary in progress. The suspect detained them at gunpoint and shot one of them in the face. The suspect fled the residence and was later seen by a patrol officer in a nearby neighborhood. A foot chase ensued through a residential neighborhood. Officers shot the suspect as he scaled a backyard fence. The suspect survived. I was in the area and assisted officers on scene. I recognized the suspect’s name. At the time I had the pawnshop detail and had set aside a number of pawn tickets with his name on them further research. I compiled a list of burglaries that

occurred in this area and then matched the pawned items with a number of residential burglaries. I was able to get a photo ID of this suspect at one of these burglaries. I prepared a map detailing this information for the preliminary hearing. I was able to show the stolen property was sold to the pawnshops shortly after the burglaries occurred. These additional burglary offenses greatly enhanced the sentence this suspect received. DDA Vilia G. Sherman (later superior court judge) who prosecuted this case sent me a letter of appreciation for my investigative work.

Riverside CABLEGATE:

The City of Riverside granted a Cable-TV franchise agreement to a cable company in the early 1970's. This franchise agreement was transferred several times over the ensuing years. A key component of these exclusive cable franchise agreements was a provision that the cable operator make available public access capability at no charge to the public. These were called public, education, and government access components or PEG. Initially these were unfulfilled promises as there were yet no constituencies demanding access or service.

During a routine field audit the current cable company cut service to an assistant city manager's residence. The manager complained to the City's in house cable administrator. The cable administrator learned that this was a "comp'd" account. Initially certain city administrators were given free accounts to monitor service but the reasons for these accounts had long since been rendered moot. Especially since the City had it's own cable administrator to monitor the service at its own cable headin. There was now a constituency that wanted public access and was requesting that the cable company honor its franchise agreement. The cable company was balking and the administrator responsible for enforcing the terms of the franchise agreement was the same one getting comp'd service.

Because of my knowledge of the cable company's computer system from previous theft of service investigations by company employees and pirate cable boxes investigations, I was given the investigation. I served a search warrant on the cable company's computer system re these comp'd accounts. I learned the cable company had a number of these "political" comp'd accounts that had been set up by the first cable company. Each subsequent cable company found it was just easier to continue these accounts rather than terminate them. I served search warrants on two assistant city managers residences, a sitting city council person, a sitting member of the county board of supervisor, and a city manager of an adjacent city for their cable boxes to verify account, cable box eeprom information and billing records.

Some of these officials were receiving both basic and all premium service tiers for free. Others were receiving full programming but were paying for basic level service. In the end there wasn't sufficient information to a warrant criminal filing under the California Penal Code's conflict of interest sections. The case however was referred to the California Fair Political Action Commission by the Riverside County DA's Office for review. The Commission found that this free service was a "gift" under its regulations.

The affected officials were compelled to file amended public financial disclosure statements. Tangential to this investigation I served a search warrant on the City's Finance Department for an audit report that revealed the City was lax in verifying it was receiving the appropriate City utility tax and franchise fees from the cable company however no clear criminal intent could be shown (Supervising DA Paul Zellerbach now a Superior Court Judge handled this case)

American National Veterans & NOSAD:

During the first Gulf War, "charitable" solicitors plagued many of our shopping centers. These solicitors were soliciting money to help "homeless veterans." They would set up with a card table, a locked "ammo" box, and American flags outside strip shopping malls. It was learned that there were two organizations that had split from each other. They would "hire" homeless as "independent contractors" and housed them in low rent motels. Each day transport vans would drive the solicitors to sites all over Southern California. The box collector would receive a percentage of the take for the day from which they had to pay for their motel room. The van driver also received a percentage of his crew's take for the day. The money was driven back the organizations' headquarters each day and the crews and van drivers would receive their cut in cash. Very little money collected was ever spent on the causes the organizations claimed. I coordinated the investigative efforts of several law enforcement agencies, state employment tax investigators, and the California Attorney General's Office.

After the initial investigation where checks were given to box collectors and other information was developed to show these organizations were essentially fraudulent charities. The principals were engaging in an ongoing criminal conspiracy to defraud the donors. I wrote twenty five search and coordinated the simultaneous service of these warrants in many Southern California Counties. All assets of both organization were seized including folding chairs, ammo boxes, American flags, coin counting machines, copying machines, business records and cash that was in transit on that day. It was determined that one organization alone was receiving as much as \$10K in small bills and coins each day. The principals of one of the organization had laundered money into the purchase of collector automobiles that included four restored antique automobiles for some \$50K in cash. These vehicles had been on display in a local auto dealership. I located four of these vehicles and seized them with search warrants.

I worked closely with Supervising Deputy Attorney General Belinda Johns of the California Attorney General's Office Charitable Trust Division. These organizations were effectively shut down by injunctions by the AG's Office. The assets of the organizations including the money seized and the antique automobiles were released to the Jerry Pettis Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda, CA to fund their veterans outreach programs. The antique vehicles were auctioned off at the hospital's annual car show. Both Johns and I were recognized by the hospital for our service and appeared on a national morning news show. Both Ms. Johns and I were featured on a national morning news show. This investigation in part led to my receiving the awards listed under R.A.T. as nominated by RPD Lt. McBride.

Riverside Against Taggers (R.A.T.):

Riverside was experiencing an epidemic of graffiti tagging and it was quickly becoming a serious political issue. I was assigned to work on this problem after returning to light duty after suffering a broken leg from skiing. I developed a multifaceted community based program to gain control of this outbreak that included the Chamber of Commerce, public works, our two school districts, the police, the city and district attorneys' offices, probation, and the courts. This program came to be called Riverside Against Taggers. The key component was recognizing graffiti vandalism normally a low priority for the criminal justice system was actually having a large economic impact on business and residential communities. I coined the term "urban visual terrorism." Most folks were not aware of the nuances between "tagger" and gang related graffiti. The mere appearance would cause them to avoid those business and residential areas where it appeared. This resulted in lost business revenue and reduction in property values. I targeted numerous tagger crews serving multiple felony conspiracy search warrants and received. I was the first to get felony convictions in our county for what was once considered a low-level misdemeanor offense. Intelligence information I developed later proved useful in homicide investigations involving tag-banging crewmembers. I was recognized for my work in being nominated for Riverside County Police Officer of the Year and received the Top Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the Riverside Exchange Club.

Mitch Gold Charity Fraud:

Two California Highway Patrol Officers (CHP) drown when their patrol vehicle plunged in floodwaters in an I-5 bridge washout. The CHP San Bernardino Office began receiving phone calls regarding the legitimacy of phone calls soliciting donations for the families of these officers. A San Bernardino CHP Officers received one of these calls. With the approval of his supervisor a reverse sting was done. The officer agreed to make a cash donation and the "runner" came to his house to pick up the donation. The San Bernardino PD was called in to stop the "runners" car. The runner said she was working for a phone "boiler room" in Riverside. The runner took the San Bernardino PD and the CHP to an industrial business park in the City of Riverside. Officers made contact with the subjects at this business. Eventually the Riverside Police was called in to assist. I was eventually summoned to the scene.

During the ensuing investigation it was determined that this boiler room was soliciting for a number of allegedly charitable organizations. This boiler room was linked to Mitch Gold's office located in Orange Co. I learned that there were several attorneys' general fraud units actively investigating the Gold Operation. I also learned that the FTC was pursuing a civil fraud case against this organization. The information secured in our onsite interviews with the subjects in the Riverside boiler room was very useful to establish a link with Mitch Gold as the principal suspect in this fraud. Gold up until that point was generally successful in distancing himself from these organizations to avoid prosecution. The Orange Co FBI COBRA Task Force eventually successfully prosecuted Gold. Gold was sentenced to eight years in federal prison. The Orange Co Register extensively reported on the Mitch Gold fraud case. The Orange Co Register has an entire

webpage devoted to this case and linked to my FTC affidavit (See right side rail "raid report"). I worked closely with FTC Senior Counsel Tracy Thorleifson.

Dodd St. Gang – Glen Avon, CA:

I was following up on a check fraud case when I discovered the suspect had used the identity of another. This suspect was involved in a multi-racial street gang from an unincorporated area outside our city. One thing led to another and I discovered a number of other members of this street gang were involved in other economic crimes. This gang was involved in shootings incidents with police, take-over residential robberies, numerous felony pursuits, residential burglaries, weapons possession offenses, GTAs, mail thefts, and one gang related murder. I discovered one of the principal suspects was arrested on an unrelated charge and did a bail declaration to increase his bail. This suspect was avoiding detection by using a different name each time he was arrested. This kept him in custody until the other jurisdiction could complete their investigation to charge him with an home invasion robbery. I discovered some of the suspects were using the identity of others to make bail without triggering bail enhancements and were released from custody. I networked with other gang investigators. A meeting was held with gang prosecutor Deputy DA Jon Rees to target this gang and to consolidate these cases for special gang prosecution enhancements.

HBO/DIRECT TV Signal Piracy Case & Warehouse Theft:

I assisted investigators from AOL/Time Warner on a satellite TV commercial subscription fraud case. The investigators contacted me because of our common membership in the High Technology Crimes Investigation Association (HTCIA). The investigators discovered a LA motel was receiving commercial service via subscription fraud. LAPD did the investigation there but the suspect lived in our city. I wrote and served a search warrant at his residence. The HBO/Time Warner investigators were very impressed with my search warrant and commented this was the best search warrant declaration they had ever seen. The Time-Warner investigators were retired LAPD detectives with extensive experience. The suspect was installing commercial TV systems in motels in California and other states using compromised DSS receivers with "hacked" prom cards or cards billed to "residential" accounts. HBO/Direct TVs' lost an estimated \$100,000 in revenue. The suspect was later convicted of a felony theft of services from HBO. The lead investigator wrote a letter of appreciation for my work.

Several years later I later assisted the same Time-Warner investigator with a large embezzlement from their Orange County warehouse. He had information that the warehouse manager was secretly removing expensive electronic equipment and reselling it from his house in Riverside. Based on Time-Warner's information I wrote and served a search warrant at this residence. A large rental truck was filled with items recovered from the manager's garage.

ID & Mail Theft Ring:

RPD Det. Brennan and I assisted patrol with an arrest at a bank near a large regional shopping mall. This arrest led to mail theft ring operating out of a motel in our city. There were in excess of 40 separate mail theft victims. I was able to trace back a mortgage payment check found in their possession to a very recent mail theft where the suspects' vehicle was seen in the neighborhood. A bail declaration was done on one of the suspects increasing their bail to \$100,000 to keep them in custody. Suspects were subsequently prosecuted both locally and federally. Mary Parks of KNBC-LA Channel-4 featured this story.

Glenhill "Crash Pad" ID Theft Case:

RPD patrol officers responded to assist the Riverside Sheriff's Office (RSO) in recovering a GTA in a residential neighborhood. RSO detectives were doing follow-up on an ongoing ID theft investigation. Several suspects were detained for investigation. Several bags of stolen mail were recovered from the stolen vehicle. I assisted RPD officers at the station. I later went to this residence and arrested a suspect who I knew was wanted for a felony but had given the initial officers the wrong name. I also knew she had probation search terms for her residence that I invoked. From the information and evidence located at the residence, the RSO Investigators and I determined another subject was staying at this residence that had three active felony warrants with bail of \$75,000. This subject had bailed out on earlier RSO mail theft related cases and then failed to appear in court. US Postal Inspector Timar had submitted this case for review for a federal filing with the US Attorney's Office. I discovered that this wanted suspect had purchased a vehicle by fraud/ID theft from a local used car dealer with the suspect I arrested at the residence. This subject was later arrested by the RSO in this GTA.

The RSO Investigators and Inspector Timar were grateful, as their suspect in the previous cases was I'd and arrested. The landlord was relieved as he regained control of his residence that had become a neighborhood "crash pad." The neighbors were very supportive of the police action that effectively shut down this crash pad. The department received good press. I took the initiative and acted based on my training and experience. Considerable patrol man-hours were saved as the result of my ability to quickly assess the nature of the investigation, coordinate divergent tasks, and draw upon my network of resources. Several arrests were made of subjects who were involved in a major identify theft ring. This ring was responsible for in excess of 100 mail thefts and other subsequent economic crimes throughout the Inland Empire Region.

Medical Clinic Identity Theft Case:

I noticed a trend in ID thefts where stolen personal information was used to open new lines of credit to purchase online or by phone new computers from Compaq, Gateway, and Dell. Computers were being shipped to mail drops in the LA South Bay Area. The leak was eventually traced to a Riverside medical clinic, however a suspect was never developed there. The information was coming from multiple medical labels that were

printed for lab and x-ray work, not used, and discarded in the trash. The center did not shred these labels and discarded them in locked outside dumpsters. There were over one hundred separate ID theft victims. After this connection was made and information supplied to computer companies, the ID thefts stopped.

Presiding Judge Thierbach's Real Estate Fraud Case:

RPD patrol officers arrested a suspect at a local bank regarding a possible check fraud case. His vehicle was impounded. The suspect by the time I received the case had already made standard bail (\$5k) and was released from custody. By the time I unraveled this case it involved a one-half million-dollar real estate fraud, several GTAs by fraud, multiple ID theft related cases over several jurisdictions.

I learned the suspect had bail out using the identity of a real person in Orange County that had been victimized several times by this suspect. The brand new Lincoln he was driving was just purchased fraudulently in Orange County. The dealership was unaware that their deal was going sour. The dealership's financial officer tipped me off that the suspect was buying another vehicle in the Southern California Area. The suspect called them to get their insurance binder company's information. He said he was in the process of buying a Jaguar at another dealership. This other dealership has multiple locations however their location that sold Jaguars was in West Covina. I immediately contacted the manager and confirmed there was a deal in the works and the suspect would be back later that day to pick up the vehicle. I told them this was a fraudulent deal. I called detectives at West Covina PD who in turn immediately went into action. When the suspect arrived with another subject they were both arrested. Seems as though they had made arrangements in the same area to buy a new Suburban as a nearby dealer. I went to West Covina that night to assist West Covina PD with their investigation. I assisted them to get a "bail enhancement" to \$1M dollars so we could both pursue our cases without him being released.

After searching the suspect's vehicle in impound I learned of his involvement in several fraudulent real estate transactions. The fraudulent check case stemmed from one of these cases. Presiding Superior Court Judge Christen Theirbach had placed his house on the market with a local real estate firm. Unbeknownst to both Judge Thierbach and the real estate firm, the suspect had assumed the identity of the Orange County victim. The suspect both represented himself as the purchaser and the selling agent. The suspect falsely represented himself as an agent of a real estate office in a nearby city. He presented the offer of the "buyer" and also completed the real estate loan application. There were two loan applications totaling \$1/2M dollars. The suspect made arrangements via phone and fax to pick up his "commission" checks from the escrow division of the selling real estate office. Fortunately someone in the escrow division began to question some of the suspect's unusual requests regarding the distribution of his commission. The suspect had already picked up his checks and was at their bank when the escrow people called the bank to alert them that this was a fraud.

This suspect was on federal probation for similar prior criminal acts. The suspect was prosecuted first in LA County for the offenses committed in West Covina. This gave me time to assemble our case. Supervising District Attorney Michael Lamoizow eventually filed a complaint charging the suspect with in excess of twenty-five felony counts. I later learned from the LA Sheriff's Office Identity Theft Task Force, this same suspect had purchased a new Lincoln Continental too from a San Bernardino dealership. The suspect was sentenced to eight years in prison for the Riverside cases.

ID Theft/Forgery Case & Officer Involved Shooting of Three Strike Suspect:

A deputy district attorney in the filing section of the District Attorney's Office referred me to a local attorney that had an apparent identity theft problem in his office. The attorney discovered forged checks were being written one of his trust accounts. One of these checks was written for repairs on a vehicle in a small mountain community an hour away. The attorney suspected one of his assistants was involved and was providing information from his client files to others for the purpose of identity theft.

From the forged check I was able to get the license plate of the vehicle that the repair work had been done. This vehicle actually turned out to be an unreported stolen out of Orange County. This was a "loaner" vehicle that the auto dealership suspected was stolen off the lot by a repair client who was dissatisfied over a repair on another vehicle. The dealership thought they had made a police report however the vehicle had never been entered into the stolen vehicle system. From this connection I learned the suspect was most likely the current boyfriend of the attorney's assistant. This suspect had an extensive criminal record with serious violent felony priors under the California Three Strikes Law. I learned that this suspect had an ex-wife who lived in Canyon Lakes a small community within the Riverside Sheriff's Office jurisdiction. The suspect was a frequent visitor there to visit his child. I passed this information onto RSO Sgt. Wilhite who worked that area.

A few days later Sgt. Wilhite was checking the ex-wife's residence when he observed both the suspect and the stolen vehicle in the driveway. A pursuit ensued over rural backroads until the suspect crashed his vehicle in Lake Elsinore and fled on foot. The suspect was not found but a white Cadillac was observed in the area. I knew the girlfriend drove a white Cadillac. The girlfriend lived in Corona an adjoining city to Riverside. Sgt. Wilhite was later called by the ex-wife who turned over to him a black case that the suspect had left at her residence. This case contained personal information (driver's licenses, credit cards et al) of over fifty individuals.

I immediately alerted Corona PD that this suspect may be in their city and provided information where the girlfriend's parents lived. I told them this suspect was a potential "three striker." Corona PD eventually followed the girlfriend in her white Cadillac to an apartment complex on the border between Riverside and Corona. They contacted the girlfriend at the apartment and she appeared very nervous. The apartment had an attached garage. They decided to stake out the apartment. Early the next morning the garage door opened and the Cadillac flew out of the garage at a high rate of speed driven by the

suspect and was going to run over the officers. The officers fired at the vehicle hitting the suspect who was killed.

Walter's Mercedes Benz & Counterfeit Checks Case:

I was working several cases on a young woman who was involved in identity theft related crimes when I uncovered that her brother-in-law was involved in major check counterfeiting. The suspect was depositing large counterfeit checks on Eastern banks into several local bank accounts. He would immediately withdraw the funds in cashier's checks when the hold period expired but before the victim bank realized the check was counterfeit. He would then deposit these funds in his other accounts.

He purchased a new Mercedes from a local dealer with cash and also cashier's checks. Essentially this was a stolen vehicle however it was the banks that were the victims and not the dealership. I learned he had active felony warrants out of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties under other names totaling \$750,000. I put alerts out. A bank in Barstow, CA became suspicious about transactions that the suspect was doing and called Barstow PD. When the police arrived the suspect jumped in his Mercedes and fled. Eventually the California Highway Patrol took over the pursuit on I-15. The suspect was descending the Cajon Pass at a high rate of speed and lost control rolling the vehicle. He was ejected from the vehicle and was killed. The CHP discovered one of my alerts on this vehicle that led them to the discovery of identity of the suspect.

Kaiser Emergency Room Nurse Identity Theft Case:

I received a grand theft case for follow-up where an emergency room nurse was suspected of stealing jewelry from a woman who had died in the ER. I worked with Kaiser investigators who were already tracking a series of ID related thefts from ER patients during periods when this nurse worked. This led to a search warrant of the nurse's apartment and seizure of her computer. From the evidence found in her apartment and from a forensic search of her computer she was linked to a number of ID thefts where personal information stolen from the ER was used to commit further crimes. The Riverside County DA's Office is highlighting this case on their webpage (Scroll down to "Identity Theft"):

This defendant was an ER nurse who was taking the IDs of patients and using them to order products over the Internet. She victimized three patients including a senior citizen. She eventually pled guilty, and the court sentenced her to prison for three years despite her lack of a previous record. The court takes seriously ID theft cases - especially when a breach of trust has occurred.

RPD Officer Debra Foy Almost Killed by Three Strike Suspect:

Ofc. Foy confronted a robbery suspect in a mall parking lot. A violent physical fight ensued and Ofc. Foy was in a fight for her life. Other citizens came to her aid and the suspect was subdued. My gut feeling was this suspect was attempting to hide something.

I confirmed his ID through Cal-ID. The suspect had a prior non-serious felony record in California. However researching further through the NCIC Triple "I" index I located the reason why this suspect was violently avoiding capture. He was previously convicted for four "serious" felonies (robbery and kidnapping) in Nevada and Arizona. He had returned to California and was convicted twice of thefts with a prior as felony and did two short terms in state prison but the serious felony priors went undetected. He avoided maximum sentencing under California's "three-strikes law" and was on the streets. The suspect was eventually prosecuted under the "three-strikes" law and sent to prison for sixty years to life.

Pamela Thompson Murder & GTA Case:

A young woman's car was stolen from her apartment parking lot. She called her father who told her to recheck the parking lot. While she was walking in the parking lot she saw her vehicle being driven away. She was on her cell phone when the car ran her over and killed her. I was asked by our homicide detectives to assist. The woman's purse and ID were taken. I immediately went to work tracing her bank credit card. Her local bank would not disclose certain needed for personal privacy reasons. Fortunately I was able to reach my corporate fraud contacts for this bank that understood the immediate necessity. Working with the bank they manually checked frequently for transactions on her bankcard. A cab charge was soon located. I contacted the cab company and learned that they had picked up a fare in the Riverside Area. Coincidentally an economic crimes detective had just put out information regarding a house in this immediate area. Subjects at this house were involved in ID thefts and other related economic crimes. I passed this information on to our homicide detectives. They found the woman's stolen car in this area. Her driver's license and personal items were missing.

Additional transactions were located from budget motels and convenience stores in the San Bernardino and Redlands Areas. One of these areas was in the area of where the cab fare was dropped. From surveillance videos at these stores the potential suspect was I'd and eventually arrested. Even though he denied any involvement in the death of the young woman he was forensically linked to the stolen car. The suspect in this case was just found guilty of first-degree murder and will receive life without parole. I received a "Division Commander's Commendation" for my assistance in this case.

Bloodhound Use as Investigative Tool & Evidence in Criminal Cases:

I was a member of the American Bloodhound Club (ABC). I owned and trained a bloodhound for man trailing. I earned a "man trailer" (MT) certification for this dog. I trained with other bloodhound handlers that were using bloodhounds for search and rescue and criminal investigations. Because of my experience I was able to educate our homicide detectives on the importance of scent as evidence. I was assisting our homicide detectives in monitoring bank records on involving the disappearance of an elderly woman. Unfortunately a bloodhound was not brought in on that case. Another woman was attacked in the same neighborhood and a bloodhound was used to find evidence and

led to a suspect who was connected to a residence in the area. See this note from the Riverside DA Office's website (Scroll down to "Recent Significant Homicide Cases"):

In *People v. Jackson*, an 82-year-old woman disappeared from her home on Mother's Day in 2001. Her car was found in Las Vegas 4 days later, but her body has never been recovered. Jackson was arrested six weeks later for the rape and attempted murder of an 84-year-old woman who lived just two blocks away from the first victim. Jackson was connected to the first crime by scent evidence left on an envelope in which the victim had kept money. He was convicted of first-degree, special circumstances robbery-murder in the first case and of seven felony counts related to the sexual assault, torture, and attempted killing of the second victim. The jury could not unanimously agree on the penalty, and that phase will be re-tried.

President - Riverside Police Officers' Association:

I was elected to two terms as president of the Riverside Police Officers' Association (RPOA) during a particularly continuous period in the history of the Riverside Police Department, Riverside, CA. A very unpopular police chief from another department was brought in as a change agent by the city manager. While there were some legitimate management issues that needed to be addressed this chief was left in place too long and destroyed the heart and sole of the department. The previous president was at loggerheads with the chief. I was able to build a consensus among the influential members of the community that it was time for this chief to go. Unfortunately some of the fallout from this chief was at the root of a very tragic officer involved shooting as I was leaving office that became a national media event because of other political agendas.

The Reverends Jessie Jackson and Al Sharpton and Congresswomen Maxine Waters visited our city. While I was serving as past-president we had weekly demonstrations by protestors. The new chief who had great potential was too new in office to deal with the political controversy surrounding this shooting. Our department was investigated by the US Department of Justice for civil rights violations. After an extensive investigation the DOJ found there were not sufficient grounds for a federal civil rights prosecution.

During my tenure Officer Claire Connelly was run over by a drunk driver at a traffic accident. Officer Connelly was single and had no children. I worked closely with the family to temporarily hold the money that was donated. Eventually all the money that was donated and death benefits received because this was an "in the line of duty" death was rolled into a 501c(3) charitable trust scholarship fund for the families of the RPOA.

I previously and then after represented the Association in healthcare matters with the City's Insurance Advisory Committee that included all of the bargaining units and other nonrepresented employee groups. I became an expert in healthcare insurance related issues including financing.

Mission Focused Strategic Communications:

As a result of my involvement in the High Technology Crime Investigation Association I was invited to join the Homeland Security Policy Institute Group (HSPIG) and developed an expertise in international terrorism. I've written several papers for this group. Perhaps the most relevant to law enforcement is, "The Traditional Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice Paradigm is Ill Prepared to Fight this War on Terror – What Should Our Domestic Rules of Engagement be?" Most police administrators have no clue what the New or Alternative Media and the Blogosphere are. Chief Jim Bueermann (Redlands PD, CA) and I have had many discussions on this and are collaborating on an article for publication in a professional journal.

These new communications mediums are all key to a concept I've coined, *Mission Focused Strategic Communication*. Simply stated this is keeping communications as horizontal as possible using the least common denominators. Keep the links short between those having the info and those who can act. A classic failure example of this is the 9/11. FBI field agents figured it out but the risk adverse hierarchical decision-making pyramids of the entrenched intel bureaucracy prevented timely action.

The "new media" can be harnessed to force leverage scarce police resources by enabling citizen participation at very little cost. The concept is "spontaneous order." This occurred at the World Trade Center and also in Katrina where people came together in an ad hoc manner, assessed the situation, and took independent action on their own ignoring official sources of information. In the end they were able to save themselves. Had they followed "official" sources of info they would have died.

On the practical side for local law enforcement, blogs are an ideal tool for quick two-way communications between neighborhood watches, the local patrol officers, and detectives bypassing the traditional means of communications. Envision a supercharged virtual neighborhood and business watches without all the face-to-face meetings where old info is dispensed. I created an email alert group on our internal email server (Area 51) for patrol officers in my geographical area of responsibility. I could immediately release important information that the officers could download on their computers prior to going on patrol.

This was directly responsible for the arrest of a dangerous residential burglar that had multiple cases pending and over \$100K in felony warrants. This suspect was stopped early one morning in an apartment complex and tried to mislead the officers by giving another name. The officer recognized this suspect from a message I had sent. This suspect was charged with a 52 count criminal complaint including burglary, armed in commission of felony, assault of police officer, new felonies while on bail release and many more. This suspect was sentenced to 18 years prison. This communication group was eventually replicated in all of our patrol areas.

I also used this same concept to create an email group for the Inland Empire Economic Crimes Association (ie470net@yahoo.com). This allowed bank, business, and

law enforcement investigators to immediately share information between the members over Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. I also created a similar business watch group for my area of responsibility. Several times I created special email groups to link investigators together working the same group of criminals who were roaming across several counties committing crimes.

Assembly Bill 221 (Joel Anderson, R-San Diego, CA) Cal-PERS and Cal-STRS Iranian Divestiture Bill:

I worked closely with Assemblyman Anderson's Office in 2007 to secure passage of this bill along with award winning investigative journalist Kenneth Timmerman, Doris Wise Montrose, President – Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors Los Angeles, and others. Because of my expertise in international terrorism and political involvement with police labor organizations in California I was able to secure key endorsements for this bill.

This is a quick note to let you know about a measure Assemblyman Anderson has introduced to carry forward the spirit and intent of Assembly Bill 221, which we all fought so hard last year to pass. Together, we made history, and I applaud you for everything you did.

Now, ACR 79 calls on the University of California to divest of its holdings in companies doing business in Iran that are subject to the provisions of AB 221. This is an opportunity to continue sending forth the same, strong message, and with your support we will again prevail. California will continue to lead the way. . .

DAVID YOW
Legislative Director
Office of Assemblyman Joel Anderson, District 77



John Clifford
Investigator
Legal Department

Outstanding *W.C.P.* *P. file*
RECEIVED
OCT 07 2002

Office of the Chief

October 3, 2002

Chief Russ Leach
Riverside California Police Department
4102 Orange St.
Riverside, CA 92501

**Re: Investigation of Troy and Christie Radford, d/b/a Advanced
Satellite Systems by members of the City of Riverside Police
Department Economic Crimes Unit**

Dear Chief Leach:

I am sending this letter to commend the members of your Economic Crimes Unit for the outstanding work they did in connection with the investigation referred to above and to request your department's further assistance.

The investigation began when I uncovered a scheme by the Radfords to sell HBO and other copyrighted television programming to a Travelodge in Van Nuys through the use of unauthorized satellite decoder units and other equipment. The decoder units were activated by DirecTV for a residential account in the name and at the address of Christie Radford in Riverside, but were installed in the motel by Troy Radford after he negotiated a multi-year contract to distribute the programming to the motel's guest rooms.

Shortly thereafter I contacted Time Warner Cable's Los Angeles area Director of Security and Audit, Robert Thoreson, a former LAPD detective with decades of experience, including service in that department's Homicide and Property Crimes Units.

Director Thoreson assisted me in the reporting of this scheme to the Property Crimes Unit of the LAPD who in turn seized the decoder units as evidence and contacted Detective Ronald J. Wright for assistance in the preparation and execution of a search warrant at the home of the Radfords (also the address of their business).

Detective Wright prepared a descriptive, yet concise, affidavit for the search warrant that was signed by the judge without any hesitance. In fact, when Director Thoreson read it he commented to me that, "In all of my years as a detective and in private industry combating (cable) piracy I have never seen a more well written application."

Detective Wright's organizational abilities were equal to his expressiveness in writing. He thoroughly briefed his supervisors, the other detectives assigned, myself, Director Thoreson and several members of his Security Department before the warrant was executed.

The evidence seized led to the discovery of five other commercial lodging properties that were paying the Radfords who were pocketing the money. Two of those properties are located in Anaheim and a case has been opened with the Anaheim Police Department (RDR 02-6971).

Detective Kerry Condon (714) 765-3439 (kcondon@anaheim.net) has been assigned. HBO's financial loss at the two properties is in excess of \$25,000 and Detective Condon has been trying to locate the Radfords without success.

Your unit expended long hours of diligent police work over several days on this case. They wrote the warrant application, conducted the searches, vouchered the evidence and obtained photographs of the defendants. It would be very unfortunate if these individuals avoided justice.

The cooperation among the Los Angeles and Riverside law enforcement officers, Time Warner Cable Security and HBO was a pleasure to see. I have rarely observed cohesive cooperation by inter-governmental agencies and private industry as has occurred in this case. Detective Wright's knowledge, experience and expertise were evident in the proficient manner in which he has handled this case. I respectfully request that you direct your unit do what it can to ensure a fruitful result.

Cable and satellite piracy cases are serious in that they result in losses to the industry in excess of six billion dollars per year. This does not include theft of pay-per-view movies and other pay-per-view events. In this case alone HBO has losses in excess of \$70,000.

Local municipalities like yours are also affected because they lose cable franchise fees and sales tax revenues.

Home Box Office ("HBO"), appreciates the diligent detective work by the Economic Crimes Unit of the City of Riverside Police Department in this case.


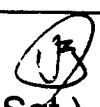
Thank you for your further anticipated cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



John Clifford

**RIVERSIDE POLICE DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL INCIDENT REPORT**

Name of Employee Ronald Wright		Date/Time of incident 01-19-2000	
Location of Incident Magnolia w/of Overland		Employee Notified 01-25-2000	Employee Initials 
459 P.C., 470 P.C., 529.3 P.C.		Related Report(s) P3-99-343-165	
Describe Incident and Action Taken: This report will serve as a note of commendation for a job well done on a difficult Economic crimes case. This department received the attached Memorandum from Riverside County Deputy D.A. Colleen E. Maas commending you for going the "extra mile" in a complex and sophisticated criminal case. As always, your attention to detail and tenacious work continues to exemplify the high standards of the Riverside Police Department. You are commended for an outstanding job.			
Attachment			
Employee Reporting S. Van Etten	Immediate Supervisor  S. Van Etten (Acting Sgt.)	Division Commander	



GROVER TRASK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

4075 MAIN STREET, FIRST FLOOR
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92501
909/955-5400

- Ron Wright -

JAY E. ORR
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

JOHN L. REPLOGLE
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FAMILY SUPPORT DIVISION

SUE F. STEDING
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
EASTERN DIVISION

RANDALL K. TAGAMI
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
WESTERN DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

Date: 1/19/00

To: Station Commander

From: Riverside County D. A. Office, Filing Unit

D.D.A. COLLEEN E. MAAS

RE: GOOD JOB by DET. RON WRIGHT

Agency: RIVERSIDE P. D.

Case #: P3-99-343-165 People v. CHRISTINE BURNS

THANK-YOU

Detective Wright "went the extra mile" as usual on this extremely complex major fraud case. He worked with Det. Renstrom of Corona P.D. to diligently pursue the track of this very sophisticated criminal. She has escaped the consequences of all her schemes and

cc: DET. RON WRIGHT

frauds thus far, and always manages to make bail amounts no matter how high. With Det. Wright, however, she

not

has finally met her match. Just when she was ready to bail out once again, Det. Wright not only rushed another set of charges against her, but went through much time and effort all of the hours from day to night to compose thorough 1275 and 1269 motions to ensure she does not walk out of custody immediately this time.

Detective Wright conscientiously followed the case to the D. A.'s Office to provide assistance in the filing of the charges. He certainly deserves the highest praise possible for his outstanding work.

Police union head got heavy baptism of fire

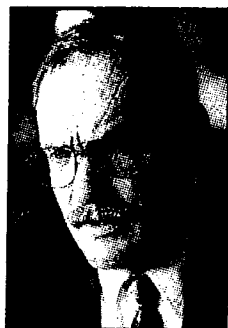
Drug test case, contract talks, budget ills

By Lisa O'Neill
The Press-Enterprise

RIVERSIDE

In his role as a Riverside Police Department burglary detective, Ron Wright has faced investigations that have challenged his skills. But Wright's newest role might be his biggest challenge.

On Jan. 1 Wright, 44, became president of the Riverside Police Officers Association — a union representing more than 300 officers that seldom sees eye to eye with the police chief.



Ron Wright

Just six weeks into his tenure, Wright, who joined the department as a cadet in 1971, led the association in filing a lawsuit to keep Riverside Police Chief Ken Fortier from obtaining the results of a drug test of an officer who helped restrain a man who died in custody.

Wright also takes charge at a time of growing frustration with the pace of labor negotiations. Officers have been working without a contract since July.

And Wright is leading the association when budget constraints have led to the freezing of new hires and the possibility that a dozen unfilled positions will be eliminated.

Soft-spoken, Wright is the type of person who will get things done, those who know him say.

"Ron is a thinker but he can rise to the occasion and can handle the challenge," said Jack Palm, former president of the association.

A native of Riverside, Wright has a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration. He and his wife, an assistant professor in the School of Allied Health at Loma Linda University, have two sons.

Wright was among the first detectives in the department to investigate graffiti vandals full time. He also was a lead detective in a 1991 investigation into a charity that was keeping almost all of the money that it claimed to be raising for veterans groups.

But he shuns the limelight. Wright acknowledged that some union members might perceive him as being understated, but he says he is a thinker who doesn't react without considering the "bigger picture."

"I find Ron to be very thorough," Fortier said. "I think his efforts so far and emphasis seem to be in the right kinds of areas. I find him to be a very tenacious fellow who I think will adequately represent the membership."

It is a membership that has been at odds often with the chief.

In a lawsuit this month, the association contends that a policy under which the department obtained Detective Vernon Bryant's urine sample was invalid because it had not been agreed to in union negotiations.

Fortier has contended that the department must obtain samples to defend against any allegations of drug use and that the tests provide a level of comfort for the public. He also said the results were needed to investigate properly the recent fatal incident.

"I want the same things that they (the association) do but I can't acquiesce on some pretty basic issues," Fortier said, referring to the drug testing issue.

But Wright said the association must protect the constitutional and statutory rights of its members.

A hearing will be held on the drug test results on March 5.

City officials are considering cutting about a dozen police officer positions in an attempt to close a budget gap that they say could reach \$9 million. Officials say eliminating the positions could save the city more than \$1 million.

The association is concerned about the potential impact on the department, Wright said.

CITY OF RIVERSIDE
INTEROFFICE MEMO



TO: Detective Ron Wright
Detective Terry Taulbee

DATE: January 9, 1994

FROM: Rick Albee
Operations Lieutenant, General Investigations

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rick Albee', written over the 'FROM' line.

SUBJECT: **COMMENDATION**

During the latter part of 1993 you were involved in a sensitive investigation involving a fellow member of the Riverside Police Department. Compounding the relationship of the accused is the fact that this person is a very popular and visible member of the organization.

On the face of the investigation the allegations were very serious and condemning on their own merit. Regardless of the presupposed information, you did a thorough and comprehensive investigation which resulted in several splinter issues being discovered and resolved. You coordinated your efforts and worked well with the Internal Affairs Unit and kept the City Attorney advised of the progress of the case.

You are to be commended for your performance during this investigation. It is because of your dedication and professionalism that the employee under investigation was totally exonerated of any wrong doing.

I wish to extend my personal thanks and the appreciation of the department for a job well done.

cc: Division Personnel File
Chief's Office



Office of the City Manager

December 10, 1993

Ron Wright, Detective
Riverside Police Department
4102 Orange Street
Riverside, CA 92501

GRAFFITI PROSECUTION

Yesterday I received a copy of the Joint Agency Press Release regarding the successful prosecution of Sourisack Chansomphou in Riverside Superior Court.

You are to be commended for your role in this case. Graffiti is a crime which is having a negative effect on this community. In this case, an individual received one year in the jail. This outcome would not be possible without good police work. Thank you for your outstanding personal efforts to reduce graffiti vandalism in Riverside!

Sincerely,

John E. Holmes
John E. Holmes
City Manager

c. Mayor and City Council
Ken Fortier, Chief of Police

LOS ANGELES

Daily Journal

Thursday, May 6, 1993

Official Newspaper of the
City of Los Angeles and
the County of Los Angeles

915 East First Street, Los Angeles, California 90012 213/229-5300

\$2

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Thursday, May 6, 1993

In Riverside, the Battle Against Graffiti Taggers Should Begin at Home, Or Else

By Jill L. Witzman
Daily Journal Staff Writer

In a move authorities hope will make parents take responsibility for their children, the city of Riverside has sued the parents of two alleged graffiti taggers for the cost of damages, investigations and court fees.

The city attorney's office filed the suit, the first of its kind by Riverside, against Richard D. and Sandra L. Perry, and Roy and Anna DeHaro.

The complaint states that the defendants, as parents, "had reason to know of the dangerous propensities or habits" of their children but "failed to exercise proper control or to give appropriate warnings to prevent such conduct."

The suit filed last month claims that on or about Nov. 23, 1992, and Jan. 23, 1993, Darrell Wayne Perry and Alex DeHaro, both minors, vandalized a stop sign, two block walls, two guard rails and a street-

light pole.

Their cases are currently working their way through juvenile court.

Under California Civil Code Section 1714.1, parents or legal guardians are liable for any act of willful misconduct by a minor that results in the defacement of property of another with paint or a similar substance. The suit cannot exceed \$10,000 for each tort of the minor.

Riverside Police detective Ron Wright said the police department and city attorney's office are currently watching cases where the city has been the victim of such defacement.

"When we can show some culpability of the parents and Riverside was the victim, we're going to sue," he said.

Wright, who added that this suit is not the last, said he sees it as a tool to make parents take notice of their children, which might result in decreasing graffiti.

Yet, regardless of how well parents supervise their children, Roy DeHaro be-

lieves he shouldn't be held responsible for his son's actions.

"I'm paying for something I didn't do," he said. "When I was young and did something, I had to pay for it. Not my father."

DeHaro said that instead of suing him, the city should make his son pay for the damage.

The DeHaros, who are both on disability, have not yet hired a lawyer because they cannot afford one, nor do they know where to start.

"What can I do," DeHaro asked. "Nothing like this ever happened to me before."

The Perrys could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

The suit, Wright said, is just one component of the department's multi-faceted program to combat Riverside's tagging problems. Other elements include an education program for nine- and 10-year-olds and a diversion program for first-time offenders.



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

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GROVER TRASK
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

RANDALL K. TAGAMI
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
WESTERN DIVISION

DON R. INSKEEP
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

June 29, 1992

Chief Sonny Richardson
Riverside Police Department
4102 Orange Street
Riverside, CA 92501

RE: Brian David Forrett, CR No. 41700

Dear Chief Richardson:

I write to commend the outstanding work of Detectives Ronald Wright and Ronald Adams of the Riverside Police Department in connection with the apprehension, investigation and prosecution of Brian David Forrett.

Mr. Forrett committed a series of day time burglaries in the Wood Street area of Riverside and the area surrounding Harris' Plaza in the fall of 1990. Residents were at home during the last of these burglaries, and Mr. Forrett shot one of them in the head, causing this victim to lose an eye and maiming him for life. There was a subsequent chase and officer-involved shooting involving a good part of the Riverside Police Department's officers assigned to Riverside on that particular day.

The investigation that followed was therefore complex since so many police officers were involved. Detective Adams' handling and coordination of the case was outstanding. I inherited the case from another deputy district attorney a year after it occurred, something that is not always easy to do in a case of this magnitude. My job was made so much easier by the thorough and competent investigation, together with the outstanding case book that was put together for the District Attorney's Office by Detective Adams.

As a result of follow-up work done on this case, the defendant was tied to no less than seven other residential burglaries. This was as a result of the painstaking and thorough investigative work of Detective Ron Wright. He traced down prior police reports of these burglaries and tied the defendant to them by tracking pawn tickets and loan contract receipts for jewelry items taken in the

Chief Richardson

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June 29, 1992

burglaries. His reports were models of clarity, and his summaries of a complex investigation made life so much easier for a deputy district attorney stepping in to take over the case further on down the line.

Both detectives were a pleasure to work with, briefing me thoroughly before the preliminary hearing, and making themselves available when I needed them, Detective Wright coming in when his leg was broken.

The defendant ultimately pled guilty and received a sentence of 32 years and 8 months. It is my belief that the successful resolution of this case was in large measure due to the outstanding work of both Detective Ronald Adams and Ronald Wright. They are to be commended.

Very truly yours,

GROVER C. TRASK II
District Attorney

By:


VILIA G. SHERMAN
Deputy District Attorney

VGS:fmg

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cc: ✓ Detective Ronald Wright
Detective Ronald Adams



July 11, 1991

Ron Wright
Investigative Division

On May 15, 1991, a large scale, multi-agency operation designated "California Storm" was conducted for the purpose of confiscating records and money from two large organizations which were ostensibly soliciting money from the public to assist needy veterans. Approximately twenty search warrants were served simultaneously on these two organizations, known as NOSAD (No On Smoking, Alcohol and Drugs), and ANV (American National Veterans). These two organizations were operating in Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Ventura Counties.

To implement a plan of such magnitude, the ICS (Incident Command System) was utilized. The Riverside Police Department spear-headed the operation, with assistance from the Riverside County District Attorney, the State of California (Employment Development Department, Bureau of Labor Standards, and Attorney General), the Corona Police Department, San Bernardino Police Department, Fontana Police Department, Rialto Police Department, San Bernardino County Sheriff, Oceanside Police Department, and Huntington Beach Police Department.

Each individual who serves in the ICS performs a single function; each function is integral to the overall success of the operation. Individuals are selected for key positions within the system based on needs and individual skills or abilities.

Your planning and case preparation were crucial in helping operation "California Storm" achieve its goal of gathering records and monies, in addition to identifying and interviewing principals within these two organizations. You are to be commended for performing your duties in an efficient, professional manner, thereby contributing to the overall success of the operation.

Yours truly,

Captain Dave Cunradi
Investigative Services Division

DC:EB:pd

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