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Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter...



February 2013 – 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...

A gun is like a parachute. If you need one, & don't have one, you'll probably never need one again. - Unknown

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Prairie Rattlers MC; *North Dakota* donates \$ 25.00 a month...

Silent Thunder MC; *North Dakota* donates regularly...

Rough-Riders MC; *North Dakota* who donates \$30.00 a month...



Congratulations to **Sundowner Chico Two Guns** on your upcoming release on March 18th...

Welcome **Pagan Trucker** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter Mailing List...

Welcome **Diablo K.D.A. Dave** to the NCOM Brothers Behind Bars Newsletter Mailing List...

Happy Birthday **Warlock Spanky** on March 10th...

Happy Birthday **Iron Wings Boos** on March 20th...

Happy Birthday **Pagan Strube** on March 26th...

Happy Birthday **Unforegiven Crazy Joe** on March 16th...

Happy Birthday **Iron Mustang Mark** on March 24th...

Thanks goes to **Legion Of Doom Manny** from *Florida* for his \$ 25.00 donation to this newsletter...

Thanks goes to **Sons Of Silence Big Art** from *Minnesota* for his \$ 20.00 donation to this newsletter...

Thanks goes to **Rough-Rider Rick** from *Michigan* for his \$ 35.00 donation to this newsletter...

Editor's Note (New): I would like to Thank all of the contacts from all of the Motorcycle Clubs that verify if requesting member is in Good Standing with their Club; & all of the other assistance that you give me, such as address changes, being released, and soliciting donations...

Editor's Note: Currently we are sending over 365 copies of this newsletter to members of **71** Motorcycle Clubs...

Editor's Note: For *December* there were 2 issues, For *January* there was 1 issue, For *February* this is the 2nd issue ...

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

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!!!

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 (**71 Clubs**) in Prison: Avengers, Bandidos, Banshees, Barons, Black Pistons, Boozefighters, BPM, Breed, Brother Speed, Brotherhood Nomads, Brothers Of Wheels, 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 Lovers, Hells Outcasts, Hermanos, Hessians, Hidalgo's, Highwaymen, In Country Vietnam, Iron Coffins, Iron Horsemen, Invaders, Iron Wings, Iron Mustangs, Legion Of Doom, Liberty Riders, Long Riders, **Marauder's**, Misfits, Mohawk Valley Riders, Mongols, Motopsychoz, Nomads, Outlaws, Pagan's, Phantom's, Pharoahs, Reapers, Renegades, Sadistics, Satans Soldiers, Scorpions, Set Free Soldiers, Sin City Deciples, Sons of Legion, 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: 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

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, And Confederations Of Clubs...

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.

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...

RoadBlock Communications LLC introduces An W. T. "RoadBlock" Harrell's New Book "**The Probate**" – October 2012 – Florida / USA – By Outlaw RoadBlock - Authentic Look at 1970s Biker Clubs - By Someone Who Actually "Lived It." Fans of current fiction biker books know one troubling thing: The stories are often written by someone who wasn't even born during the 1970s heyday of the old biker clubs. Even worse, nonfiction books are written by club snitches or Fed undercover agents who betrayed the clubs. None of these credentials exactly endear the authors to the reader, or give the books much credibility.

W. T. Harrell, known as RoadBlock 1%er during his forty years with one of the "Big Four" 1%er clubs, decided it was time for today's readers to see what it was really like to be in a club back in the early 70s. His new fiction series chronicles war veteran Joe Wilson's rise to power among the notorious Regents MC in the era of sex, drugs & rock & roll. RoadBlock's memories, preserved during a thirty-year prison stint, provide rare authentic adventures

for readers. "The Probate" takes the reader to a place few have experienced, before cell phones, computers & 8-lane highways.

From the Book Jacket for "The Probate" by W.T. RoadBlock Harrell – Flash Back to 1970: From New Orleans to Jacksonville to Atlanta, a menagerie of bikers, hippies, rednecks & Cajuns do business together...when they're not trying to eliminate the competition. Enter adrenaline junkie Joe Wilson, a stock car driver very adept at outrunning the horrific war memories that pursue him. When bikers set up shop in his hometown, he pays them a visit to make sure they don't pose a threat to his close-knit, working-class neighborhood. Instead, he discovers he has much in common with the volatile men. Fresh from Vietnam with specialized skills & demons of their own, they live by a harsh code, protecting their reputation, patch & brotherhood at all costs. After a party that goes terribly wrong, Joe takes a dark vengeful path. His only ally is an exotic dancer who packs tarot cards along with her Luger Krieghoff. But she belongs to someone else, a man who could become Joe's best friend-- or worst enemy. As an expendable probate, he has to prove he's worthy to ride with the Regents MC. Trouble follows Joe wherever he goes, & even among the hardcore bikers, he quickly establishes a reputation as "hard to kill." But those old war ghosts do not want to get left behind, & threaten Joe's existence more than any living rival...

To purchase, write: RoadBlock Communications LLC P. O. Box 57 Saint George, GA 31562 Or visit <http://www.wtroadblockharrell.com/> RoadBlock Communications LLC is a publisher, & can ship directly to correctional institutions to save families double shipping when ordering. The book is a large trade paperback, 347 pages. Retail \$14.99 plus \$3.99 shipping...

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

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 ...
NCOM Biker Newsbytes Compiled & Edited by Bill Bish,

Congress to Consider Barring E15 Ethanol Gas: Legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Senate to overturn EPA approval of the sale of E15 gasoline. Calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's actions to allow the 15% ethanol blend "irresponsible" & "unfair to consumers," U.S. Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) & Sen. David Vitter (R-LA) filed a bill on Valentine's Day, February 14th that would reverse EPA waivers allowing E15 to be sold to the public for use in most modern cars & light-duty trucks. "Whether you drive a car, truck, boat, or tractor, misfueling with E15 could result in engine failure, increased emissions, & the voiding of warranty coverage," Vitter said in announcing S. 344. "EPA's flawed waivers allowing E15 amount to Gov't bureaucrats issuing short-sighted regulations that negatively impact families & businesses across the country," added Wicker, a member of the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee. No motorcycles or ATVs are approved to use E15, & manufacturers warn that its use could damage engines & void warranties. In related news, in an effort to prevent consumers from inadvertently misfueling non-approved vehicles with E15, the EPA has announced a new requirement for gas stations that sell E15 to provide a separate E10/E0 pump. Retailers would be required to have a label on pumps that dispense multiple fuel blends of E15-and-higher that reads: "Passenger Vehicles Only. Use in Other Vehicles, Engines & Equipment May Violate Fed Law," & to post signs that indicate the location of the dedicated E10-or-lower fuel pump.

MIC Opposes Minimum Noise Levels for Electric Motorcycles: The Motorcycle Industry Council announced its opposition to a proposed rule by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) that would require electric motorcycles to emit a minimum sound to protect pedestrians. The MIC recently submitted comments opposing NHTSA's published Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for FMVSS No. 141, Minimum Sound Requirements for Hybrid & Electric Vehicles, which would set minimum sound requirements for hybrid & electric vehicles, including but not limited to, motorcycles. Pursuant to the Pedestrian Safety Enhancement Act in 2010, FMVSS No. 141 is designed to ensure that blind, visually impaired & other pedestrians are able to detect nearby hybrid & electric vehicles in a range of ambient environments. In the MIC's comments, the motorcycle industry group argued that because of the unique attributes of motorcycles, NHTSA should not need to require a minimum sound for them. The MIC says that motorcycle riders are better able to see & avoid pedestrians because their sight is unobstructed, & motorcyclists are more alert because of their vulnerability. The MIC also stated that electric motorcycles are not quiet, so they shouldn't need to be subject to minimum sound requirements. The MIC stated further that adding a speaker system to electric motorcycles to emit sounds would be an issue because motorcycles have less space to add such a system, the weight of the system would have a large effect on the motorcycle's low-speed stability, energy consumption of the speaker system would have a greater impact on a motorcycle's range & the price of installing the system would be higher than with automobiles. NHTSA is seeking comments on minimum sound requirements through March 15, & details can be found at www.federalregister.gov ...

Bikers Push for Anti-Profiling Bill in Arizona: A hearing room filled with patch-wearing motorcycle club members broke out in cheers on February 6 as an Arizona Senate public safety committee voted to approve a bill requiring police to take training highlighting a ban on profiling of motorcyclists by law enforcement officers. Senator Judy Burges (R-Sun City) sponsored the anti-profiling bill to address complaints from motorcycle club members who say they're frequently stopped by police for no legitimate reason. The bill would require the Arizona Peace Officer Standards & Training Board (known as AzPOST) to include courses emphasizing the prohibition against stopping a biker for riding or wearing club colors, or questioning or searching them based only on those factors. Rick Rodriguez of Glendale , a member of the ALMA MC, said that harassment of patch-wearing bikers by police is rampant. "It's not illegal to be an Elk, it's not illegal to be an Eagle, it's not illegal to be a Shriner, a Knight of Columbus," he told the Associated Press. "We wear collective marks, we ride motorcycles, that's what we like to do. I understand the average Joe citizen doesn't feel our plight. But when they get done with bikers, who are they going to pick on next?" Although the measure passed 4-0, with 3 Democratic members absent, committee chairman Sen. Chester Crandell cautioned the jubilant crowd that the bill still has a long way to go before it becomes law & needs major changes.

Texas Bikers Lobby for Crash Prevention Act: Suits & leather jackets rubbed shoulders in the Capitol's corridors in Austin, Texas on Mon, Jan 28, as the 2 disparate groups share a concern over education funding; while the state's universities lobbied lawmakers over the General Appropriations bill's impact on higher education, motorcycle associations are concerned that funds allocated last session to the Texas Dept of Public Safety are not being used effectively to support road safety & thereby costing taxpayers. More money is needed for motorcycle training & to educate the public about sharing the road with riders, said Terri Williams, a spokesperson for the Texas Motorcycle Rights Association (TMRA2) & on behalf of the Texas Confederation of Clubs & Independents. Texas ' "Share the Road" campaign isn't long enough, only lasting the month of May, while states with yearlong programs have fewer accidents, which saves taxpayers money. The motorcycle groups are asking state lawmakers to pass the Motorcycle Crash Prevention Act, a new bill aimed at lowering the number of motorcycle accidents across Texas by providing additional funding to expand Texas' "Share the Road" program -- a public service campaign intended to make drivers more aware of motorcycles on the road -- & if the proposed bill becomes law, it would also fund more training for riders.

Ohio Modifies Handlebar Height Law: Ohio has modified its handlebar height law using language amended into S.B. 114 to change the limit from 15 inches above the lowest point of the saddle to no higher than shoulder height of the operator when seated in the operator's seat or saddle. The bill also changes the definition of a motorcycle by creating a "cab-enclosed motorcycle" classification for two- or three-wheeled vehicles having an occupant compartment top that is either permanent or removable. The bill was signed into law by Governor John Kasich on Dec 19, 2012 & changes take effect March 19, 2013.

California Officials Unveil Lane-Sharing Rules: About 87% of California motorcycle riders reportedly slide between cars on crowded roadways – while only half of car drivers know it's legal & 7% admit they've tried to block them – which is why the California Highway Patrol is now providing guidance to safely maneuver the white lines. California is the only state in the

country where so-called "lane-splitting" or "lane-sharing" isn't illegal, but state authorities have never, until now, told motorcyclists how to weave between traffic safely. The new rules, which the CHP posted on their website after consulting with other state agencies & motorcycle-rider groups as part of the California Motorcyclist Safety Program which trains new riders in the state, apply to city streets, highways & freeways across the Golden State. "Basically, what we're most interested in is the speeds," said Sgt. Mark Pope, statewide motorcycle safety coordinator for the CHP. "You should lane-split no faster than 10 mph over the speed of traffic around you, & we recommend riders not split at all if the traffic is faster than 30 mph." CHP officers have always had the legal authority to ticket motorcyclists who were driving dangerously fast, Pope said, but the new rules are designed to provide specifics. The new written guidelines, which carry no legal weight, can be found at <http://bit.ly/XxIRJb>.

New Motorcycle Sales Rev Up: Motorcycle sales in the United States revved up in 2012, rising a healthy 2.6% over 2011, according to a report released by the Motorcycle Industry Council. Better yet, the trade group said, retail activity was up in all 4 motorcycle "segments" -- the first time that has happened since 2002 -- with increases in scooter, dual-purpose, off-road & on-highway motorcycle sales. Scooter sales rose the most, at 7.7%, with dual-purpose motorcycles following closely at 7.4%. Sales of dirt bikes rose 2.1%, while those of on-highway bikes, which make up by far the largest segment in terms of overall numbers, went up the least, at 1.8%. The numbers were in line with expectations, as the MIC reported in Dec that for the first time since the market softened in 2006 & then crashed in 2008, it anticipated reporting an increase in sales figures. Just over 1.1 million motorcycles were sold in 2006, & fewer than half that many in 2011 with 452,386 total new units sold in the U.S.

Japanese Motorcycle Exports to U.S. Flatten Following Dramatic Rise: Japanese manufacturers in 2012 exported 166,601 motorcycles to the United States, an increase of 1% compared to 2011, following a dramatic 87% increase in 2011 after the OEMs exported only 88,074 motorcycles to the country in 2010. These figures come courtesy of the searchable database of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association. They pertain to the Big Four: Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki & Yamaha. JAMA reports that exports worldwide in 2012 decreased 5% to 479,163 after last year's upturn.

2013 NCOM Convention in Reno: The 28th annual NCOM Convention will be held Mother's Day weekend, May 9-12, 2013 at the Silver Legacy Resort-Casino located at 407 N. Virginia St. in Reno, Nevada. This annual gathering will draw bikers' rights activists from across the country to discuss topics of concern to all riders, so reserve your room now for the special NCOM rate of \$95 by calling (800) 687-8733. Registration fees for the NCOM Convention are \$80 including the Silver Spoke Awards Banquet on Saturday night, or \$45 for the Convention only. All motorcyclists are welcome & encouraged to attend. Meetings, seminars & group discussions will focus on legislative efforts & litigation techniques to benefit our right to ride & Freedom of the Road. To pre-register, call the National Coalition of Motorcyclists at (800) 525-5355 or visit www.ON-A-BIKE.com.

Quotable Quote: "Any man who thinks he can be happy & prosperous by letting the Gov't take care of him better take a closer look at the American Indian!" - Henry Ford (1863-1947) American industrialist

When Can Police Conduct a Strip Search? - Dec 20, 2012 - U.S.A. - By Andrew Lu; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - You've probably heard stories about this before: police forcing someone to undergo a strip search following a minor traffic violation or even for littering, as allegedly happened in Texas recently. While strip searches & cavity searches can be extremely invasive, humiliating, & embarrassing, these searches are sometimes necessary, & allowed under the law. So just when can the police force you to undergo a strip search? As with all police searches, police generally need a reasonable suspicion that you are concealing a weapon or contraband in the area the officer wishes to search. This means that there must be specific facts or circumstances that justify a strip search or body cavity search. So if a police officer reasonably believes that you may be hiding drugs, weapons, or any other illegal object under your clothes, the officer may be able to order you to undergo a strip search. Some factors that can potentially justify such a search may include the suspect acting high or having drug paraphernalia lying around. Not surprisingly, such justification is often the focus of civil lawsuits. If you are taken to a jail house or prison, however, authorities may have even more leeway to order a strip search. Due to special concerns surrounding safety & security in jail facilities, corrections officers may intrude on someone's rights as long as the intrusion is related to reasonable objectives. This is true even if they do not have an individualized suspicion that you are hiding anything. The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld such strip searches behind bars. And these types of searches can be allowed even if the person was arrested for a non-violent crime like a traffic stop or littering. Outside of jail or prison, it can be very difficult to determine just when a police officer has "reasonable suspicion" to perform a strip search or body cavity search, & it will depend upon the individual circumstances surrounding your arrest. If you believe that you have been unlawfully searched, you may want to contact an attorney to learn more about your rights.

Motorcycle Crashes Cost \$16B a Year - Dec 21, 2012 - U.S.A. - By Andrew Lu; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - It's really no surprise that motorcycle crashes are deadlier & cost more than crashes involving other types of motor vehicles. After all, there is nothing protecting a rider except what he's wearing on his body. So if a motorcycle hits something or something hits a motorcycle, the consequences are often dire. However, when a new study came out that quantified the costs of motorcycle accidents, it was surprising to learn just how much deadlier (and costlier) motorcycle accidents are, reports Autoblog.com. In the study performed by the Gov't Accountability Office (GAO), researchers found that motorcycle crashes were 30 times more deadly than other types of crashes. In 2010, the GAO reported that 82,000 riders were hurt in motorcycle accidents & about 4,500 were killed. The total immediate costs of these accidents was about \$16 billion. On average, a fatal motorcycle crash cost about \$1.2 million, while non-fatal accidents cost anywhere from \$2,500 to \$1.4 million depending upon the type of rider injuries suffered, reports Autoblog. So what makes a motorcycle accident so costly? As mentioned above, the primary reason may be how exposed a motorcycle rider is. For example, a car crashing into a tree traveling at 25 mph may lead to some minor injuries as the driver is protected by steel, airbags, safety belts, & other features. By contrast, a motorcycle rider would likely suffer horrific injuries or even death. If the motorcycle rider is wearing a helmet, he may be able to mitigate his injuries, but there is not much else that can be done to protect the rider from the impact of a crash. And as the severity of injuries for motorcycle accident victims may be greater, the costs for medical procedures,

insurance, rehabilitation, disability payments, & other expenses will also be higher. If you are involved in a motorcycle accident & you have suffered injuries, you may want to contact a personal injury attorney. An experienced attorney can evaluate your case & help you recover damages to offset the costs of the accident.

When Can Police Search Your Home? - Jan 22, 2013 – U.S.A. - By Deanne Katz, Esq.; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> – Knock knock. Who's there? It's the police & they'd like to do a search of your home. Wait, that's not a joke & it's certainly not funny. Dealing with cops at the door is something most everyone wants to avoid. But once the cops have shown up at your house, is there anything you can do about it? There's always something you can do when it comes to police interaction, even if it's just remembering what happens in order to tell your lawyer later. But whether police can search your home depends on what's happening. The Fourth Amendment happily gives us protection against the unwarranted search & seizure of our belongings. That protection is strongest on private property, like in a home. But unwarranted doesn't just mean "without a warrant." It requires that police have a reason to search, & courts have defined what reasons are acceptable. Having a warrant to search your home gives police the broadest right to conduct a search. That's because to get the warrant, they already had to show a judge that there is probable cause. By probable cause, that means there's reason to believe someone in the house should be arrested or that the property contains evidence of a crime. If police can establish that, a judge will issue a warrant. With that document, the police have a right to search your property for whatever the warrant describes. But even without a warrant, police can search your home in 4 specific circumstances that courts have outlined. **1.** When police have your permission. If an officer asks to come in & do a search, & you or someone else who lives in the house says yes, there's little you can do. Even if you aren't there & your roommate lets the police in, it's still a legal search. **2.** Something is in plain view. If police can see illegal activity or unlawful items, like drugs or weapons, from their vantage point while standing outside your house, they can go in & search the property. **3.** Pursuant to arrest. Right after someone is arrested; police can search the area for weapons, evidence, & accomplices. If you're arrested at home, that means police can do a reasonable search of the property. **4.** During an emergency. Like most legal provisions, there's an exception for emergencies. If someone's life or health is in danger, or police are in "hot pursuit" of a suspect, then they can search the house as part of that investigation. If there's no warrant & it's not one of the last 3 situations, you don't have to give police permission to do a search. You have a legal right to politely decline when they ask to come in. And if something about a search seems strange, remember to tell your lawyer.

Pov's 65 gets one more chance to cut police calls – Jan 22, 2013 – *Minnesota* – By Shannon Prather; www.StarTribune.com - After a tripling of calls in 2012, the Spring Lake Park City Council has renewed the bar's license... The party at Pov's 65 spun out of control in 2012 with a record number of police calls, motorcycle club meetings & raucous ladies'-night promotions. Spring Lake Park police responded to 72 calls at the bar & nightclub just off Hwy 65. Patrons were arrested for assault, property damage & disorderly conduct, said Police Chief Doug Ebeltoft. Now the owner of Pov's 65 has one more shot at redemption, but he's on a short leash in 2013, city officials say. The Spring Lake Park City Council renewed the liquor license for Pov's 65 despite concerns raised by the police chief. "They had 3 times the number of calls [in 2012 as in 2011]. That's what brought it to our radar screen," said Dan Buchholtz, Spring Lake

Park assistant city administrator. "The council sent a clear message they are watching & they would be making sure that the owners of Pov's on 65 follow through with their promise that they will get the police call volume down." It isn't just the number of calls, Ebeltoft said. The bar's owner, Richard Povlitzki, admitted accepting cash to host motorcycle club meetings, the chief said. The city shut down a wet T-shirt contest connected with one of those meetings because it violated city code, Ebeltoft said. "They were getting a much different clientele, & calls for service were rising rapidly," Ebeltoft said. But it was "Pov-A-Palooza" that really touched a nerve with city officials in this sleepy northern suburb. The bar held the event in conjunction with the city's annual Tower Days celebration last summer. Ebeltoft said it turned into a rally for local motorcycle clubs. Memorabilia for the Hells Angels & the Road Reapers MC were sold at the event, according to a memo written by the chief & submitted to the council. "It ended up appearing to be a city-sanctioned motorcycle club event, which is not what the city has any intention of being affiliated with," Ebeltoft said. Povlitzki, the owner, declined to comment for this article while working on a recent Thur evening. The bar, originally owned by his parents, is large with a retro dance-hall-and-supper-club feel. There are pool tables, dart boards, a dining area & a dance floor. On this evening, the crowd was low-key & there was country music on the jukebox. The police chief said over the years the bar has drawn an eclectic mix of patrons. It's just in the past year that things have changed. Povlitzki told the City Council that he'd turned over daily operations to his brother, Brad Povlitzki, during part of 2012 while he cared for his dying mother. Brad Povlitzki, who'd owned Pov's Sports Bar & Grill in Andover until it closed in 2011, introduced ladies'-night promotions on Thursday nights, which resulted in the increased police calls, Richard Povlitzki told the council. Richard Povlitzki also told the council he's beefed up security, instituted a dress code & would scale back ladies'-night promotions as needed. And he agreed to pay \$47,000 in back taxes. That bill has been paid, according to the city. According to Pov's website, the bar still hosts the "Snow Bunny Honey Bikini Contest" on Thursday nights & "Buck Wild Weds," offering women's drink specials. As of last week, Ebeltoft said there had been only one police call so far in 2013. He's hopeful for a turnaround. "I've always had a good working relationship with the owner's family," Ebeltoft said. "They've been a staple in our community for 20 years. We want to keep our businesses. We want to work with them. We don't want to be at odds with them." Pov's in Andover closed at the end of 2011 when the city of Andover declined to renew the liquor license because of more than \$100,000 in unpaid taxes, said Andover City Administrator Jim Dickinson. Brad Povlitzki, the bar's owner, could not be reached for comment. Dickinson said the frequent police calls to Povs in Andover didn't "bode well on the community."

A Maine Love Story: George & Aggie lived on the cove just past Lewiston Tickle out on the peninsula. It was early winter & the lower portion of the cove had frozen over. George asked Aggie if she would walk across the frozen part of the cove to the general store & get him some smokes & beer. She asked him for some money, but he told her, "Nah, just put it on our tab, old man Stacey won't mind." So Aggie walked across the ice, got the smokes & beer at the store & then walked back home across the cove. When she got home & gave George his smokes & his beer, she asked him, "George, you always tells me not to run up the tab at Stacey's store. Why didn't you just give me some money?" George replied, "Well, Aggie, girl, I didn't want to send you out there with cash when I wasn't sure how thick the ice was yet!" Kind of brings a tear to yer eye, don't it?

Woman Jailed on 22-Year-Old Shoplifting Warrant – Jan 24, 2013 – *U.S.A.* - By Deanne Katz, Esq.; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - A warrant was issued for Robin Hall's arrest back in 1991 after she was caught shoplifting cigarettes & failed to pay some court fees. She gave police the slip for 22 years, but her past finally caught up with her -- & totally ruined her vacation. To be fair, it's not like Hall was living a life of crime. In all these years, she earned her degree, got married, had children, & now designs jet engines for an aerospace manufacturer. She's not exactly a dangerous element. Even more bizarre, police found Hall last Thur when she was disembarking from a Disney Dream cruise with her family. Their tip-off shows how hard it is for criminals to hide. For Nat'l security reasons, police checked the records of all passengers on the cruise ship before it docked in Port Canaveral, Florida. They were looking for terror suspects potentially entering the country, reports NBC News. But as part of that search, officers could also see if any passengers had a criminal record. When they got to Hall, they noticed that she had an outstanding warrant. When she & her family got off the boat, police pulled Hall aside, said they had a warrant for her arrest, & took her to jail. What's perhaps more surprising is that Hall hasn't been found before. These days, it's much easier for police to catch people with outstanding warrants. There's of course the possibility that when you enter or exit the country, a now-routine background check of passengers will reveal the warrant. Being pulled over for a traffic violation could also tip police off to the fact that you've been avoiding justice. Even if you don't do anything wrong, you may still get caught. Many jobs require employees to go through some form of background check before being hired. Some states, like Massachusetts, even mandate that all public or private employees who work with children, the elderly, & other vulnerable populations undergo a criminal background check. Some hospitals also conduct background checks on certain visitors. All Robin Hall did was fail to pay \$85 in court fees 22 years ago, leading to her cigarette-shoplifting arrest warrant, Orlando's WESH-TV reports. But because of her tardiness, she had to spend a long weekend in jail while her case was transferred.

How Do You Get a Conviction Vacated? - Jan 28, 2013 – *U.S.A.* - By Andrew Lu; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - If you pleaded guilty as part of a plea bargain & got a really bad deal, or relied on the assistance of ineffective counsel, you may now feel that you were unjustly convicted. How do you get a conviction vacated? And what does "vacating" legally mean?

Vacating a Conviction: Definition: In general, to vacate a conviction means to set aside the verdict. In other words, it will appear as if the first trial & conviction never happened. Prosecutors will have the opportunity to pursue your case again, which means you may have to go endure another round of the criminal trial process.

When Can I Vacate a Conviction? Different states have different rules, but there are generally certain grounds upon which you can seek to vacate a verdict. These reasons typically include: •Ineffective assistance of counsel, such as the failure to advise the defendant of a plea deal; •Breach of a plea agreement; •Court bias; •Juror misconduct. Of these, ineffective counsel is probably the most common reason for which individuals are able to get their convictions vacated. If the grounds for vacating a verdict do not fit within one of the stated grounds, you may be unable to go through this process. Merely being unhappy with a result is not enough.

How Do You Begin the Process? Your state rules of criminal procedure will set forth the process to vacate a conviction. Typically, a motion must be timely filed that spells out a valid reason to vacate the conviction. If you believe that you or someone you know has been wrongly convicted of a crime & you want to vacate the conviction, you will likely need an experienced criminal defense lawyer on your side. The rules to vacate are very state-specific, & must be followed closely to be effective. If vacating a conviction is not the right answer for you, a lawyer can also explain other potential options for appealing your conviction.

Can 'Snitching' Reduce Your Sentence? – Jan 29, 2013 – *U.S.A.* - By Deanne Katz, Esq.; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - We've all seen TV shows & movies where the rat-faced guy in a crime ring is a snitch, & ends up with a reduced sentence. But reality is a bit different. One technical term for "snitching" in the legal world is accomplice testimony, & while it is real, it works a little differently than TV legal dramas would have you think, as a blog called Prosecutor's Discretion points out. It's not as dangerous as it appears on screen, but neither is it a get-out-of-jail-free card. Giving police information as an informant can help reduce your sentence, according to Snitching.org, but it's not an automatic process. If you want to get the benefit, you have to offer a good deal. When you really break it down, being a snitch is a form of plea bargain. The informant exchanges information for a potentially lower sentence. Prosecutors have a lot to consider when trying to build a case, & accomplice testimony isn't always considered a good choice. For it to be effective, prosecutors must know that the accomplice will help the case more than hurt it. When an accomplice testifies, the defendant's attorney can cross-examine him & try to discredit his testimony. If the accomplice has lied to police in the past or gotten a particularly good deal, that may work against the prosecution's case. The risk has to be weighed against the value of the accomplice's testimony. If you've been arrested for a crime & are thinking about testifying as an accomplice in exchange for a shorter sentence, first talk to your attorney about it. In general, whatever you tell your attorney has to be kept confidential (though the attorney-client privilege can be destroyed in some cases). Give your lawyer all the facts about what you have to offer the prosecution, & he can tell you whether it will help or hurt your case. It may also help your conscience to know that in most cases, your testimony can't be the only information against the defendant. In general, there must be corroborating evidence of an accomplice's testimony before there can be a conviction. Remember, any testimony about the issue you've been arrested for can be used against you at your own trial. You could end up getting yourself in trouble if you aren't careful. If you truly have something to offer the prosecution as evidence against an accomplice, then it may be worth working with your attorney to leverage that information. But if your attorney doesn't think it's worthwhile, it's probably best to focus on your own case instead.

Harley Chick: A young woman goes to her doctor's office, afraid of the strange development on the inside of her thighs... A green spot on the inside of each. "They won't wash off, they won't scrape off & they seem to be getting worse." The doctor assures her he'll get to the bottom of the problem, & tells her not to worry until the tests come back. A few days later, the woman's phone rings. Much to her relief, it's the doctor. She immediately begs to know what's causing the spots. The doctor says, "You're perfectly healthy - - there's no problem. But I'm wondering, is your boyfriend a Harley guy?" The woman stammers, "Why, yes, but how did you know?" "Tell him his earrings aren't real gold."

Judge recommends charge dismissed in biker case – Jan 30, 2013 – *Georgia* – By Bill Rankin; www.AJC.com - A U.S. Magistrate has recommended that obstruction of justice charges be dropped against an Atlanta man who headed the Outlaw MC's operations in Georgia & Alabama. Larry "Larry Mack" McDaniel & 2 others were indicted on Fed charges for allegedly obstructing an ongoing FBI investigation because McDaniel closed down an affiliate club after he found out a member there was a Gov't informant. But U.S. Magistrate Clay Fuller found that an FBI investigation did not qualify as a "proceeding" under which obstruction charges could be brought & recommended they be dismissed. Fuller's recommendation goes to U.S. District Judge Richard Story, who is presiding over the case. "We are delighted with the ruling & are confident it will be sustained," McDaniel's lawyer, Don Samuel, said. "Not only is it legally impermissible in our opinion to charge the crime as it was charged, but he's also factually innocent." McDaniel, Howard Brown & Sean King were each indicted for obstructing justice. McDaniel also was charged with being a felon in possession of a handgun. McDaniel has pleaded not guilty to that charge as well. Fed authorities have said a leak of the Gov't informant's name abruptly halted a lengthy criminal investigation into a number of motorcycle clubs. About 20 other motorcycle club members face Fed drug & weapons charges.

The Sentencing Hammer – February 2013 – *U.S.A.* – By FAMM - We're only halfway through winter, but things are already heating up. The new Congress & state legislatures all across the country are meeting. Proposals for new mandatory minimums have sprung up in New York (for guns) & in Washington, D.C. (for sexual assault). The big story for Jan, however, was that a long overdue spotlight was directed at the awesome power of prosecutors, and, in particular, how mandatory minimum sentencing laws add to that power. FAMM members have known this for years. We have seen prosecutors use their charging discretion as well as threats of long, mandatory sentences to get people to forfeit their right to a trial. Thanks to a couple of recent & unfortunate events, the rest of the country might be starting to see the light. First, Montana medical marijuana dispensary owner Chris Williams faced a minimum of 85 years in prison after the feds raided his business & secured convictions for selling marijuana & having guns. The public outrage grew so great that the prosecutor offered Williams a deal of 5 years after the jury had already voted to convict him! Williams took the deal & was sentenced last week to 5 years in prison. We are glad that he did not receive a ridiculous eight-decade prison term, but that shouldn't have even been an option. Only because our Fed gun mandatory minimum sentences are so long was that threat realistic! And only because the prosecutor has so much power could he offer a deal to effectively negate the jury's conviction after the fact! The other major event in January was the tragic suicide of 26-year-old Internet whiz kid Aaron Swartz. Swartz was computer programmer who believed that academic journals should be distributed widely since they were supported by public funding. He used his computer expertise to covertly download & share articles from a private digital archive. As a result, he was charged 2 years ago with multiple counts of computer & wire fraud. While some dismissed Swartz's misconduct as the equivalent of checking out library books too long & noticed he did not seek a profit, the prosecutors threatened him with up to 35 years in jail. On January 13, Swartz committed suicide. Much of the outrage of Swartz's death has been directed at the prosecutor in his case. Even some members of Congress are demanding answers from the prosecutors & Justice Dept. But in a powerful op-ed, FAMM's Mary Price nails the real problem:

While members of Congress are, justifiably, calling on the Dept of Justice to account for prosecutorial overreaching, we believe that some honest congressional soul searching is also in order. It is in lawmakers' power to remove the blunt force tools of excessive sentences & mandatory minimums from the hands of prosecutors. Rather than trying to legislate the exercise of executive discretion, policy makers can & should help channel it by ensuring that the sentences offenders face fit the crimes they are accused of committing & that judges have discretion to impose them. The sentencing laws are the problem lawmakers can fix. Exactly. We need to change the sentencing laws. On that note, I wanted to share 2 pieces of good news. First, on January 16, the Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy (D-VT), a friend of FAMM's, gave a speech outlining his committee's agenda for the next 2 years. Near the beginning, he said: I say this as a former prosecutor & I say this as a chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I think our reliance on mandatory minimums at the state & Fed level has been a great mistake. I'm not convinced it has lowered crime, but I [know] that we have imprisoned people who should not be there, & we have wasted money that is better spent on other things. I think at the Fed level & at the state level, get rid of these mandatory minimum sentences. Let judges act as judges & make up their own mind [about] what should be done. The idea that we protect society by one-size-fits-all, or the idea that we can do this kind of symbolism to make us safer -- it just does not work in the real world. Bravo, Senator Leahy! We are already working with Senator Leahy to turn these sentiments into a bill, & with your help, from a bill into a law. Which brings me to my final point... Advocacy requires an inside/outside effort. While we work the halls of Congress & state legislatures, we also stay focused on building an army of public support. That is why I am excited to let you know that we are partnering with Participant Media in support of its new movie, "Snitch," which hits the theater on February 22. The movie, starring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, is based on a FAMM members' story that was featured in a 1999 documentary also called Snitch. The Hollywood production takes a few liberties with the real story but does a great job of showing the absurdity of mandatory minimum sentencing laws in a way that will grab people's attention. (Watch the trailer.) FAMM will use this film & the media surrounding it to educate the public about mandatory minimums & to engage them in our advocacy. Stay tuned for a note from FAMM communications director Monica Pratt Raffanel with all the details on how you can get involved! My best, Julie Stewart; FAMM Pres

Late night Vet call: A dog lover, whose dog was a female & "in heat", agreed to look after her neighbors male dog while the neighbors were on vacation. She had a large house & believed that she could keep the 2 dogs apart. However, as she was drifting off to sleep she heard awful howling & moaning sounds, rushed downstairs & found the dogs locked together, in obvious pain & unable to disengage, as so frequently happens when dogs mate. Unable to separate them, & perplexed as to what to do next, although it was late, she called the vet, who answered in a very grumpy voice. Having explained the problem to him, the vet said, "Hang up the phone & place it down alongside the dogs. I will then call you back & the noise of the ringing will make the male lose his erection & he will be able to withdraw." "Do you think that will work?" she asked. "It just worked for me," he replied.

Democracy must be something more than 2 wolves & a sheep voting on what to have for dinner.
- James Bovard, Civil Libertarian (1994)

'Decision Healing' scheduled for Wed, April 10th @ 10:45am – Feb 5, 2013 – *Wisconsin* – By Tim Tomann; ABATE of Wisconsin - This is going to be one of the most important Hearings concerning Lovelace. As a quick reminder, he is the Hilbert man charged in (2) deaths & injury of (7) Michigan motorcyclists back on May 31st on Hwy 151. Back in Jan there was a Motion Hearing where his Public Defender (she was good) started building her defense trying to get most of the charges (her opinion) Amended or GOD Forbid Thrown Out because of the lack of details & control scene of the 'crime' (authority to search) his clothes at the Emergency Room/Hospital. Like I said his Public Defender is very, very good — she is not going to allow any facts or rocks to go unturned. Which in-time is a good thing since He needs to be given a Strong Defense & a Fair Thorough Trial — remember he killed 2 & injury another 7 of our MI brothers. Everything that happen that day was only because of His reckless actions; he was already wanted for prior felony bail jumping, he was on drugs & he crossed the centerline, barreled into a formation of 12 motorcyclists from the Muskegon Motorcycle Gang. The severity of his actions/charges will almost for certain cause an automatic Appeal (outcome not guaranteed) on this case. So let's hope his Public Defender gets all of her questions asked/answered — gets them on the record, the stronger her Defense & the more thorough of a Court Case the State makes/presents today will ultimate help on Winning any future appeals. I know I don't have to remind anyone how difficult it is for our MI Brothers, their Loved Ones & their Families to attend this & future Hearings. Most hearings last just a few minutes but their travel over the lake means days off work, hundreds of dollars for travel/food/lodging & most of them are still trying to recover from the crash. They all lost wages & are still catching up on all those bills from the crash — their recovery. I am confident that once these Hearings are finally complete — when the actual Trial begins many of them will make across the lake to attend. Until then, it's imperative for all of US who ride to show up in mass — be Respectful & very much be Seen & Felt — let our Legal System play out. This Decision Hearing is a MUST appear so Lovelace will be in courtroom. Let's see if we can pack the City/County Gov't Center - 2nd Floor (Fond du Lac). This is a call out to everyone who rides (don't care if your part of ABATE, HOG, MC or just a Lone Wolf) we need to stand for our MI Brothers who can't be here. We need Bikers & Reporters in the courtroom You have plenty of time to get this on your calendar/planner. We need to let the world know this is not acceptable. It's one of the worst car/bikes crash ever. We need to pack the courtroom with Bikers lets everyone know - from the Judge down to the DA's, Public Defenders, (Lovelace), Press, Families & the Community that Bikers do take care of Our down Brothers/Sisters/Families. That Brotherhood is so much more then just a bunch of actors trying to play Bikers on some soup opera on cable. That's it truly is a way of life for US, we don't just look the part — we live it every day.

Easyrider Bike Show – Feb 6, 2013 – *Columbus, Ohio* – By Barb, Treasurer; Ohio Confederation of Clubs - Hey I would like to Thank Everyone who helped in the boycott of the Easyrider bike show this past week., so that we could prove our point and the colors ban was lifted. Good work all.

A man's wife, being the romantic sort, sent him a text... "If you are sleeping, send me your dreams. If you are laughing, send me your smile. If you are eating, send me a bite. If you are drinking, send me a sip. If you are crying, send me your tears. I love you. He replied... "I'm taking a shit. What should I do?"

What Is Malicious Prosecution? – Feb 6, 2013 – *U.S.A.* - By Maryam K. Ansari, Esq.; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - What is malicious prosecution? It's an action for damages brought by someone who has been the subject of an unfair prosecution. For that prosecution to be unfair, it has to have been commenced without probable cause & for a purpose other than bringing the alleged offender to justice. In other words, the charges or allegations must have been baseless. While this may sound simple enough, malicious prosecution can actually be quite difficult to prove in court.

Proving Malicious Prosecution: In order to successfully bring a malicious prosecution lawsuit, the victim usually has to show 4 things: **1.** The police officer (or Gov't agent) commenced the criminal proceeding; **2.** The proceeding ended in the victim's favor; **3.** There was no probable cause; & **4.** The proceeding was brought with malice toward the victim.

Potential Problems With Proof: One common issue facing malicious prosecution lawsuits is the probable cause element. It's tough to prove that a police officer had no probable cause. Another problem lies with something called qualified immunity. Police officers & other Gov't agents may be entitled to immunity from lawsuits for actions taken in the line of duty. This immunity isn't absolute, but it's pretty broad. The victim typically has to show willful & unreasonable conduct on the part of the police officer.

And here's yet another thing to consider: According to some courts, malicious prosecution & an unfair trial aren't exactly the same thing. In one New York case, the judge refused to allow a malicious prosecution claim based on fabricated evidence, Reuters reports; however, the judge did allow the plaintiff to sue based on allegations of an unfair trial. Other courts have ruled differently on the issue. **So in short:** Malicious prosecution is a baseless prosecution brought against someone to harass them. If this has happened to you, you'll want an experienced civil rights lawyer to help you fight back.

Does the 4th Amendment Promise a Right to Be Secure in Your DNA? – Feb 6, 2013 – *U.S.A.* - By Robyn Hagan Cain; <http://blogs.FindLaw.com> - It's easier for the Gov't to take your DNA than it is for the Gov't to take your diary. That's weird, right? Both contain your deepest, darkest secrets. But if you're arrested in a state like Maryland or California, the cops can automatically collect a sample of your DNA & store it in a database. Even if you're never convicted. Or charged. But the Supreme Court could change that this term. Later this month, the Court will consider whether the Fourth Amendment allows states to collect & analyze DNA from people arrested & charged with serious crimes. The ruling in the case, *Maryland v. King*, could have broad implications. Twenty-one states have statutes requiring DNA samples from those arrested for murder or sex crimes, according to an article in the *Hastings Science & Technology Law Journal*. The Fed Gov't & California, along with 10 other states, require DNA samples from those arrested for any felony. If charges are dropped, dismissed, or if the arrestee is found not guilty, 12 states provide expungement of the DNA profile upon request & 8 states expunge the DNA profile automatically. The courts have mixed opinions regarding the DNA database laws. Last Feb, the Ninth Circuit upheld California's DNA Act. (The appellate court is currently reconsidering that ruling en banc.) A Maryland appellate court decided in 2012 that Maryland's DNA collection policy violated the Fourth Amendment because an individual's expectation of privacy outweighed the state's interests. In July, Chief Justice Roberts stayed that opinion, CNN reports. In his four-page order, the Chief Justice wrote, "Collecting DNA from individuals

arrested for violent felonies provides a valuable tool for investigating unsolved crimes & thereby helping to remove violent offenders from the general population. Crimes for which DNA evidence is implicated tend to be serious, & serious crimes cause serious injuries. That Maryland may not employ a duly-enacted statute to help prevent these injuries constitutes irreparable harm." The Chief Justice seems open to interpreting the Fourth Amendment liberally when it comes to DNA. Yes DNA evidence is often crucial to solving crime. A DNA swab helped the cops catch a serial killer in my hometown. DNA evidence is important. But warrants are also important. So will the Court decide to stand by a blanket collection policy, or will it decide that the warrant requirement isn't just a quaint relic of a bygone era? Check back for the Court's first impressions after oral arguments on Feb 26.

What Will Lisa Say – Feb 9, 2013 – *South Carolina* – By The Aging Rebel; www.AgingRebel.com - Lisa Bifield, one of the prosecution's most important witnesses in the Rock Hell Angels case in Columbia, South Carolina might not testify after all. The larger than life Bifield, who is married to the larger than life Diamond Dan Bifield, has been described by numerous persons with knowledge of the case as a "loose cannon" but prosecutors seem to have discovered this facet of her personality only recently. Two days ago Gov't attorneys were virtually forced to dismiss charges against one of the original defendants in the case, Somying Anderson, after Lisa Bifield changed her recollection of a cocaine deal with a paid informant named Joe Dilulio. Around the same time, Dan Bifield was telling anyone who would listen that he didn't think his wife would testify.

Attention HBO: The most remarkable thing about the case in Columbia, now called United States versus Mark Baker et al., is that HBO Films hasn't sent a camera crew & a field producer to cover the trial. This has been an extraordinary case so far: Astoundingly corrupt; its course warped by a tall, supernaturally dark-haired, witch of a judge; exemplifying class warfare in the new south; glamorized by good-old-boy Hells Angels; & at its heart a compelling & constantly surprising love story featuring an old outlaw & an aging club dancer. Lisa Bifield convinced Diamond Dan Bifield to spend the rest of his life in prison for her. The implications of who this woman might be seem to just now be dawning on Julius N. "Jay" Richardson – the perfect, University of Chicago Law School Grad & Supreme Court of the United States clerk who has spent too much of his life polishing his career to have time to meet a woman as interesting as Lisa. Even from a continent away it is obvious that this is Lisa Bifield's world & she will find a way to do what she wants with it. There is, of course, a clause in Mrs. Bifield's super-secret plea deal that compels her to testify in a cheerful & cooperative manner or stand trial herself. Apparently Richardson never anticipated how much wiggle room that might allow a woman like Lisa & what power she might exert over a jury. The golden Assistant United States Attorney might put Lisa Bifield on the stand. He might threaten her with decades in prison if she doesn't parrot what he wants her to say. But he has no more idea what Lisa is going to say or do next than anybody else in the Carolinas. The one exception to that is her husband who knows her better than anyone else. He thinks she will not testify which is why Richardson, unless he really is as arrogant as he seems, might not even put her on the stand.

Byrum: Meanwhile Ronald Dean Byrum Jr., who pled guilty to something or other as part of a sealed plea deal on January 17, probably will testify at the trial after it starts Monday. Byrum illustrates a basic axiom of motorcycle club cases, which is that the real investigation doesn't start until after everybody is

indicted. Byrum has known lead defendant Mark Baker since Baker rode with the God's Few MC. Byrum may have come to an agreement with prosecutors before Labor day. Shortly after that, Baker & his old friend Byrum became cell mates. They talked about the case for hours, looked over discovery together & almost immediately Baker began to share information with Byrum. Byrum has briefed investigators about his version of his conversations with Baker. Byrum has also told investigators about possible criminal activity by acquaintances of Baker's who have not yet been indicted.

Motorcycle gang members robbed man downtown - Feb 11, 2013 – *Wisconsin* - By Anne Jungen; <http://LaCrosseTribune.com> - Two men believed to be members of the Outlaws motorcycle gang robbed a man at knifepoint of clothing with rival gang patches outside a tattoo shop in downtown La Crosse Sunday evening, according to police reports. The victim was inside Blue Line Tattoo at 523 Main St. with his wife & children when 3 men entered, shoved him around, pulled a knife & demanded his clothing. Joined by 3 more suspects, the group cut off patches representing the Hells Angels motorcycle gang from his denim coat & forced him to remove his vest & T-shirt, according to reports. The man, who said he is not a member of any motorcycle gang, told police he feared for his life. The men fled in a pickup truck, which police found stopped outside the Outlaws' clubhouse on the North Side, reports stated. They arrested 2 men inside — Paul Wenzel, 33, of Holmen & Shannon Storey, 40, of La Crosse — for the robbery after they found loaded handguns & knives on both men, according to reports.

Splitting Lanes – Feb 11, 2013 – *California* - By The Aging Rebel; www.AgingRebel.com - Sometimes California gets it right. For example, for years only the Golden State has allowed lane sharing, which permits 2 motorcycles or a motorcycle & a car to ride or drive side by side in the same lane. And now, for the first time, California officially allows lane splitting. White lining or lane splitting, which for anybody who has just surfed in here by mistake is the practice of riding on the white line that separates lanes, has always been either legal or a crime depending on the cop who sees you do it. California traffic regulations have specifically addressed only lane sharing. So, a million tickets have been written because some P.D.s have insisted that splitting lanes is illegal & only sharing lanes is allowed. Lane sharing lets riders in a pack to ride side by side & lets bikers pass cars without changing lanes. But some local Depts have routinely cited riders for an unsafe lane change for occupying 2 lanes at once – even if the rider is stopped at a red light with his tires in one lane & his left foot in another.

Survey Says: About half of all drivers in Los Angeles seem to feel personally insulted by bikers zipping between lines of cars in a traffic jam. Anybody who has ridden for any length of time has had drivers intentionally try to cut them off. And, a California biker will always get ticketed if they hit anything. But a press release issued by the California Office of Traffic Safety last May indicated that state officials might finally be giving the subject some thought. The release began: "The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) today released results of the first-ever survey of California motorists & motorcycle riders on the subject of 'lane splitting,' where motorcycles travel between 2 lanes with other vehicles travelling the same direction.... "Lane splitting has been a subject for controversy & confusion for years. The OTS survey showed that only 53 percent of vehicle drivers knew that lane splitting is legal in California. Eighty-seven percent of motorcycle riders say they lane split, while 7 percent of vehicle drivers admit to having attempted to prevent it."

The New Guidelines: Last week the California Highway Patrol finally issued a document titled “Lane Splitting General Guidelines” that explains when you will & when you won’t get a ticket for splitting lanes. You can read the full set of guidelines here. Briefly stated, you won’t get ticketed if you don’t split lanes going more than ten miles an hour faster than other traffic; if you are not going faster than 40; if you only split between the far left lanes & if you use reasonable care. The new guidelines also provide a couple of references for motorcyclists who sometimes find themselves explaining traffic laws to traffic cops. “Intentionally blocking or impeding a motorcyclist in a way that could cause harm to the rider is illegal (California Vehicle Code 22400)” & “opening a vehicle door to impede a motorcycle is illegal (CVC 22517).” If you don’t live in the land of tangerine sunsets you’re out of luck with your local cops. Do what you feel.

Rock Hell Trial Underway – Feb 12, 2013 – *South Carolina* - By The Aging Rebel; www.AgingRebel.com - The Rock Hell Six dwindled to the Rock Hell Five yesterday as the trial in Columbia, S.C. got underway. Defendant Kerry “Gowilla” Chitwood, a member of the Southern Gentlemen MC, pled guilty to narcotics conspiracy before the trial began. The remaining defendants are Mark William Baker, David Channing Oiler, Bruce James Long, Donald Boersma & Thomas McManus Plyler. All 5 are members of the Hells Angels MC. The case started with sealed indictments against 20 people, including 3 women, last May 17.

Reality Justice Theater: Yesterday’s proceeding had more theatrical contrivance than an episode of Keeping Up with the Kardashians. Assistant U.S. Attorney Julius N. “Jay” Richardson had the courthouse surrounded by armed Homeland Security guards. Richardson has alleged that Hells Angels have threatened the prosecution team & he has worked hard to give the impression that jurors in the case are in danger from members of the club. In general Richardson, who has an outstanding resume, acts as if Jay Dobyns is his life coach. The point of all this posturing & play acting seem to be to implant in the jurors’ minds the notion that they will be heroes if they convict the defendants who are, shout it over & over again, Hells Angels. According to Noelle Phillips of the Columbia State most of yesterday’s proceeding was occupied by Richardson’s opening oration. Richardson told the 14 jurors “They (the defendants) did this for greed. They did it for the money. They also did this because this group is a gang. It’s a criminal enterprise – the Hells Angels. They’re outlaws. They’re part of the one percent of society who do not follow the law.” Richardson also finally threw out the name of Joseph Dilulio who Phillips describes as “a former New York Mafia member.” One battle in this trial, which is expected to continue for another 6 weeks, will be Dilulio’s credibility. Dilulio instigated the crimes with which the defendants are accused & he paid them to commit those crimes. Dilulio will be paid an unknown sum of at least \$100,000 for his testimony. In opening statements today, Mark Baker’s attorney John Delgado began to attack Dilulio’s credibility. Delgado called the agent provocateur who manufactured the case a “scheming, scamming stealer.”

Ron Byrum: Phillips also wrote, “On Monday, (Judge Cameron McGowan) Currie had strong warnings for the defendants, their attorneys, family members & friends after Richardson said a blogger was posting information on the Internet about future witnesses, indicating someone had leaked a confidential document. Currie threatened the attorneys & their clients with contempt of court. She forbade the defense attorneys from emailing documents to their clients. Instead, the attorneys must make printed copies & sit with their clients as they are reviewed,

she said. Currie was reacting to a story that appeared on The Aging Rebel Saturday. That article questioned the assumption that Lisa Bifield, one of the original defendants in the case & the wife of former lead defendant Daniel Bifield, will testify for the prosecution. Multiple sources, speaking anonymously, also described Richardson & FBI Agent Devon P. Mahoney as “pissed” that the same story contained the statement: “Ronald Dean Byrum Jr., who pled guilty to something as part of a sealed plea deal on Jan 17, probably will testify at the trial after it starts Monday. Byrum illustrates a basic axiom of motorcycle club cases, which is that the real investigation doesn’t start until after everybody is indicted.” The Aging Rebel stands by the statements in that story. Byrum, a former member of the Southern Gentlemen MC was interviewed by Mahoney as recently as last Wed.

More Witnesses: Richardson also announced yesterday that a “full patch member” will testify at the trial but the identity of that witness & the club into which he was patched is still secret. This page has identified 4 cooperating witnesses who may be called to testify in this trial. In addition to Lisa Bifield & Byrum it is likely that James Frederick “Big Fred” Keach, a member of the Red Devils MC, & Trent Allen Brown who began talking to Richardson & Mahoney last June 14 will testify against their former friends. The first prosecution witness will be Mahoney who will articulate a narrative of the case.

Class War In The New South: The debate in this trial will be over the good or evil nature of motorcycle clubs in general & of the Hells Angels in particular. Richardson was able to begin his demonization of the Angels by communicating to jurors that they were endangered in this case, by announcing that a member of the prosecution had been threatened, by keeping the jurors’ names secret & by arranging special, secure transportation for the jurors who were then led into a courthouse surrounded by armed guards. Most motorcycle clubs describe themselves as “working men’s clubs.” Yesterday Richardson, who has been the beneficiary of both his own effort & an advantaged & lucky life, described these working men as a kind of Mafia, like the one to which Joe Dilulio supposedly belonged before the FBI started handing him checks. “They did this for greed,” Richardson told the jury. “They did it for the money.... They also did this because this group is a gang. It’s a criminal enterprise – the Hells Angels. They’re outlaws. They’re part of the one percent of society who do not follow the law.” Today Bruce Long’s attorney, Josh Kendrick, began the long process of separating the truth about the motorcycle outlaw frontier from the Gov’t propaganda. “They live by a different set of rules,” Kendrick said about the defendants. “There’s a little bit of outlaw in all of us. It doesn’t mean criminal.”

A Brief Philosophical Addendum: Motorcycle clubs are a uniquely American invention & they are mostly the product of the dominant American feature throughout all of our history: The wide, open spaces. Today, the outlaw world is the last of the American frontier. It is the frontier reduced to an idea, divorced from geography, & so it has been exported to all of Latin America, all of Europe, South Africa, Australia & New Zealand. Like all frontiers, it is crowded with misfits. It is violent, sexist, racist, chivalrous & sometimes brutal. Its tribes honor totems like Vikings, harpies, gunfighters, demons & Genghis Khan. In a certain light, it is the most romantic place on Earth. Outsiders never see this frontier as it is. They see good versus evil. They never see Dick Cheney defied by Lord Byron. Mostly, police forbid outsiders to even look. News from this frontier is routinely censored by authorities or, at best, garbled beyond comprehension by ignorant & frightened reporters. Motorcycle outlaws are

undeniably the last, dramatic stand of a vanishing working class & they became what they are because of Vietnam. The Bandidos, Warlocks, Vagos, Sons of Silence & Mongols were all invented during Vietnam. This frontier was defined by highly disciplined, profoundly alienated, Vietnam Veterans who had been infected with violence, calloused against mere materialism & scorned by the nation for which they bled. Men join motorcycle clubs out of longing & love. Motorcycle clubs are brotherhoods of men who have left themselves no choice but to stand apart from the world at large. The joy of joining a motorcycle club is the joy of crossing a wasteland to find one's own tribe. Nine years after Daimler invented motorcycling, Stephen Crane wrote a black headline that describes this joy:

I stood upon a high place, And saw, below, many devils
Running, leaping, And carousing in sin. One looked up,
grinning, And said, "Comrade! Brother!"

Men are saved by motorcycle clubs as they are saved by religion. Anyone who has ever ridden with a club immediately grasps the comparison. For some men a club patch is the first thing they have ever won in their lives & the experience of putting that symbol on their back is transformative. Those who were weak become strong. Those who were lost belong. The meek become bold, the reckless responsible. The older the prospective recruit the greater the accomplishment. Outsiders, people who adore Sons of Anarchy for example, are attracted to motorcycle outlaws because they are the them that they bind in chains. They are the chaotic freedom to which disciplined & regimented civilization must never be allowed to descend. They are the show. They are the you that you wish you were when you are humiliated or overwhelmed or bullied or condescended to or made to admit that you are small & powerless. Neither Jay Richardson nor Devon Mahoney can ever be expected to agree with these sentiments about the MC world. But over the next month & a half some of the jurors might find some common ground with the men they have been called to judge. And, therein will lie the story of this case.

Biker Bust – Feb 13, 2013 – *Pennsylvania* - By Van Smith; <http://CityPaper.com> - Baltimore man nabbed in FBI motorcycle-club probe in Philadelphia... The FBI has a long, storied history of infiltrating & prosecuting the Outlaws MC as an organized-crime gang, including some high-profile cases in recent years. On Jan. 31, a Baltimore man put himself squarely in the middle of one such probe in Philadelphia by allegedly phoning in threats in an effort to collect money owed for about 2 pounds of methamphetamine, court documents show. What the Baltimore man didn't know is that the person he allegedly threatened was pretending to be a biker-gang member & was actually working undercover to infiltrate the OMC on behalf of the FBI. The man who made the alleged phone calls, 42-year-old Michael James Privett of 6600 Gary Ave. in East Baltimore's O'Donnell Heights neighborhood, was charged with "collection of extensions of credit by extortionate means," which carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. Privett appeared in Maryland U.S. District Court on Feb. 5, after his arrest, & his case was transferred to Fed court in Philadelphia. Records in the case also document threats over the meth deal made by a second person calling from Baltimore, but City Paper has been unable to determine whether that person has been arrested & charged too. The assistant U.S. attorneys handling the case, Jason Bologna & Robert Livermore, said in an email that "our investigation is ongoing, so we don't have any comment at this time." The threats were received by the undercover's phone just after the Pres of OMC's Philadelphia chapter, Roland L. "Bugs" Sells of Churchville, Md., was arrested Jan. 31 on Fed meth-dealing charges. Sells, who was paroled in 1978 after a 1972 second-degree murder conviction in Ohio, had

been keeping the meth at his Churchville home, near Belair, but was worried that his wife knew about it, so he transferred the drugs to the OMC clubhouse in Philadelphia on Jan. 17. While there, according to court documents, he told other OMC members, including the undercover, that "this shit can't be in the clubhouse," & "if the bosses find out, I'm going to be dead & so are you." In subsequent days, the undercover & Sells spoke repeatedly about how the meth would be sold, & on Jan. 31 they met at the Philadelphia parking lot where Sells was arrested. Almost immediately after Sells' arrest, the undercover's phone started receiving threatening messages. The first, allegedly left by Privett, referred to the undercover's property being held hostage until payment was made. "I don't got time for games, man," the message said, "You want your bikes back, you need to come up with my money. Can't get a hold of Bugs. Guess I have to start taking people apart, that's all. See you around." The next message came from someone else using a Baltimore-area phone & was more direct: "You can believe one thing. You can fuck with me all you want to, but motherfucker, trust me, your family is in danger. Fuck you." The last one included in the court documents, also allegedly left by Privett, starts out by listing 2 street addresses, then says, "I'll have the address for your son's house in Florida this week. I got the tag numbers, I got your bike, I got your trailer. I want my money. Your whole family is going to be in danger if not. You need to pick up the fucking phone. You're supposed to meet Bugs today; now he's not answering the phone either. As far as I'm concerned, both you all in the same boat." Court documents reflect that Privett has a prior criminal history for second-degree assault & malicious destruction of property, & that he's 6 foot 3 inches & 240 pounds. A man with the same name was being initiated into the Chosen Sons MC at the Haven Place strip club in Baltimore on April 24, 2008, when a brawl erupted, resulting in the shooting death of Norman Stamp, a 44-year Baltimore police veteran & co-founder of the club, according to press accounts at the time. Attempts to confirm Privett's association with the Chosen Sons—which, when it was formed in the 1960s, was only open to law enforcers—were unsuccessful. Court documents in Privett's case in Philadelphia describe him as a "patched" OMC member. The Philadelphia probe comes on the heels of large FBI-investigated cases brought last year against the OMC in Georgia & Indiana. The Indiana case involves scores of defendants accused of running "an extensive criminal network" that "'pumped a deadly mixture of drugs, violence, & fraud'" into "Indianapolis & throughout the Midwest," according to a press release issued by the U.S. Attorney's Office there, while using "violence & the threat of force to collect personal debts from individuals." In Georgia, for 2 years, the FBI used undercovers—including one who was exposed while the probe was underway, thanks to a suspected public corruption leak that put the undercover's identity in the OMC's hands—to help build a drugs-and-guns case involving meth & cocaine against OMC members & affiliates. The case agent wrote in court documents that the investigation "uncovered 3 law enforcement officials that are maintaining close, unprofessional relationships" with targeted club members, & that through such relationships, "members often gain information that is obstructive to FBI investigations & dangerous to the safety of FBI informants." In the Philadelphia case, though, the FBI undercover ended up in danger not due to a public corruption leak or the OMC's close relationships with law enforcers, but because 2 guys in Baltimore, allegedly including Privett, were owed money for meth. It's a risk that comes with the job—and quickly resulted in criminal consequences for Privett.

"Jesus loves you." A nice gesture in church but a terrible thing to hear in a Mexican prison.

3 arrested in gang MC from Colorado – Feb 13, 2013 – *Kansas City, Missouri* - By Barrett Tryon; <http://FOX4KC.com> - Three people have been arrested from a Colorado-based motorcycle gang Wed morning in Kansas City, Mo. It happened around 8 a.m. near 98th Street & Northeast Cookingham Drive. Sources told FOX 4 the “Sons of Silence” motorcycle gang was trying to infiltrate the metro area & recruit new members. Police were tipped off about them coming to Kansas City & made 3 arrests, 2 men & one woman, Wed at a home in the northland. Sources said meth, marijuana & at least ten guns were found inside the gang’s home. One neighbor said she often saw a group of motorcyclists speeding up & down her street, hanging around the home — & she’s glad they have been taken into police custody. “We’ve had trouble with trailers & different things being parked which are not allowed in the neighborhood, but as far as, I don’t know how long he’d been involved in that because we’d see more & more & more come. More motorcyclists? Mmm, hmm. Come & go,” neighbor Carol Johnson said. “I’m glad it’s taken care of because of the children.” The 3 suspects were questioned downtown & officials say they hope to file Fed charges against them. Police also hope this arrest sends a message to other members of Sons of Silence — their outlaw motorcycle gang is not welcome in Kansas City.

Northland meth bust linked to motorcycle gang – Feb 13, 2013 – *Kansas City, Missouri* – By Heather Staggers; www.KCTV5.com - Three people from a Colorado-based motorcycle gang trying to infiltrate the metro have been arrested in the Northland, police said. Police wanted to send a message Wed that violent gangs are not welcome in Kansas City. Detectives brought out about 9 guns from the house & found marijuana & other drugs after the undercover sting unfolded about 8 a.m. Authorities arrested 2 men & one woman taken into custody after watching the house for some time. The people in the house are suspected members of a biker gang known as "Sons of Silence," police said. According to police, there are some motorcycle gangs in the U.S. that have proven to be violent with shootouts & assaults, particularly on the West Coast. Law enforcement agencies on scene say they are trying to keep those away who want to move into the Midwest & set up biker gangs in Kansas City. Neighbors say they were always concerned about the traffic in & out the house & the speed of some of the riders. But they were shocked to hear of drugs found in the home.

Australia Bans Brothers Behind Bars – Feb 14, 2013 – *Australia* – By The Aging Rebel; www.AgingRebel.com - Since last Nov 19, the Australian State of Queensland in Northeastern Australia, has banned the distribution of the monthly newsletter *Brothers Behind Bars* in its prisons. *Brothers Behind Bars* is a digest of biker club & motorcycle news edited by retired Sons of Silence patch holder Iron Mike Davis. Davis is the burly man in the photo above. BBB is specifically aimed at motorcycle club members & is stubbornly non-partisan. The first page of the February issue includes the following announcements. “In memory of BPM Corky from Minnesota who passed away on February 2nd... R.I.P. Corky.” Congratulations were offered to “Damned Deacons Torch on your Release,” “Mongol Dirty on your release on Feb 22nd,” “Mongol Man Dog on your release to ½ way house,” “El Forastero Mike on your release to ½ way house,” “El Forastero Robert on your release to ½ way house,” “Galloping Goose Don on your release to ½ way house,” “El Forastero New Yorker on your release to ½ way house,” & “Forsaken Few Supporter Jason on your upcoming release to a ½ way house on March 26th.” A welcome was extended to new subscribers including Vago Casey, Pagan Bluto, Hells Angel Pat, Banshee Sancho, Devils D disciple Victor, Legion of Doom Bullet,

Pagan Dirty Red & Pagan Creed. In all, the newsletter is distributed to imprisoned members of 71 motorcycle clubs.

Anti-Bikie Laws: Queensland has been trying to outlaw motorcycle clubs since 2009 when the state passed the “Anti-Bikie Laws.” The legislation was formally called the Criminal Organisation Act of 2009. The spelling is Australian. The laws give police the power to declare which organizations are criminal & which are not. The laws also permit the demolition of fortifications that are part of property owned by police identified criminal organizations. Similar sets of laws have been passed in the Australian states of New South Wales & South Australia. The laws have been challenged in the courts by the Hells Angels, Finks & Rebels MCs. The laws are a component of the global war on motorcycle clubs which is a subset of the much better known Global War on Terror. Australia’s strategy has been difficult to implement in the United States because the United States Constitution specifically guarantees citizens’ & visitors’ rights to move freely, assemble peaceably, to keep & bear arms & to express themselves freely in numerous ways including the right to wear a patch on your back. Various Fed police forces in America including the FBI, the ATF & increasingly the Dept of Homeland Security have attempted to subvert these Constitutional guarantees using the Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organizations Act & in several recent cases trademark law.

Iron Mike: Mike Davis was notified that the words he publishes were illegal in Oz with a peremptory, unsigned form letter from the Gov’t of Queensland that read in full: “On 7th of November 2012 Queensland Corrective Services issued a directive from head office that all correspondence between prisoners who are members of an Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMCG) & OMCG members & associates was to cease immediately. “As a result the author of this letter has been identified to be either a member or associate of an OMCG as such your mail has been returned to you.” Mike Davis told *The Aging Rebel*, “Something I’ve said for years: ‘Australia today, Canada tomorrow, & the U.S.A. the day after.’ I truly believe countries like Canada, Germany, U.S.A., & others are watching & seeing what works in Australia to outlaw motorcycle clubs – starting with the 1%er ones.”

Bond reduced to \$1,000 for accused Outlaws - Feb 14, 2013 – *Wisconsin* – By Anne Jungen; <http://LaCrosseTribune.com> - A judge Wed sliced cash bonds for 2 men believed to be members of the Outlaws motorcycle gang charged with robbing a man at knife point in downtown La Crosse. La Crosse County Circuit Judge Ramona Gonzalez dropped the \$100,000 cash bonds for Shannon Storey, 40, & Paul Wenzel, 33, after their attorneys questioned their clients’ culpability in the case & pointed out their minimal criminal records. Both were released on \$1,000 cash bonds. They will be on electronic monitoring, must abide by a curfew, cannot have contact with any member of a motorcycle gang & can’t drink alcohol. Prosecutors charged Storey, of La Crosse, & Wenzel, of Holmen on Wed with armed robbery with use of force in Saturday’s robbery at Blue Line Tattoo at 523 Main St. An Iowa man wearing patches representing the Hells Angels motorcycle gang said 3 men entered the store about 7:15 p.m., shoved him around, pulled a knife & demanded his clothing, police reports said. Joined by 3 more men, the group cut off the patches from his coat & forced him to remove his vest & T-shirt, according to reports. He escaped injury but said he feared for his life. The suspects fled in a pickup truck, which police found stopped outside the Outlaws’ clubhouse on the North Side, reports stated. Only Wenzel & Storey were inside the truck. Police arrested both for the robbery after they found loaded handguns &

knives on both men & the victim's patches in the truck, according to reports. Storey also was charged with possession of THC & drug paraphernalia. An assessment done Wed shows Wenzel was a low risk to re-offend. He will live with his father while the case is pending, said his attorney Peder Arneson, who downplayed the seriousness of the crime. Gonzalez said she does not have the authority to revoke their concealed carry permits, but Storey & Wenzel can't have firearms.

H.A. trial shows alleged drug & gun dealing – Feb 16, 2013 - *South Carolina* - By Andrew Dys; www.HeraldOnline.com - The first thing to see when walking into the federal courtroom where 5 members of the Hells Angels are on trial for alleged violent crimes ranging from selling drugs to robbing dope dealers is a big bin that looks like a roll-out garbage can. The bin is filled with guns. Huge guns. FBI agent Devon Mahoney – who ran much of the 2-year investigation into alleged gun selling, robbing dope dealers & dope dealing by these Hells Angels & wannabe Hells Angels – holds up an assault rifle. It is similar to the type of rifle used to kill 28 people in Dec in Connecticut, most of them kids. It takes 2 hands to hold the rifle, it is so large & deadly. The trial is over what prosecutors call a climate of fear, intimidation & violence by the Hells Angels. And drug dealing & guns. In court – despite so much security around the courthouse because of the concern for trouble – anyone can listen to wiretapped conversations between Hells Angels & police informants & undercover agents about “ice cream” & “pizza” & “ice cubes,” “doughnuts” & “coffee.” Those words, according to the FBI, were code for ounces & pounds of cocaine & methamphetamine. Some of these bikers allegedly made dope deals right up until almost midnight Christmas Eve 2011. There was testimony from the FBI about cocaine hidden in camp pillows, meetings about drugs, & \$36,000 in cash paid for a kilogram of cocaine at the Carowinds Boulevard McDonald's, where teens meet & eat. This is a trial that alleges so many crimes, including conspiracy under the Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organizations Act. If such an ongoing criminal enterprise is proven, RICO brings sentences stacked like cordwood. RICO is used around America to prosecute gangs, like the Bloods & the Crips, & the Mafia.

And now – in this trial that centers on grungy clubhouses & a jewelry store in Rock Hill – it's being deployed against what looks like the Redneck mafia. The 2nd thing to notice in the courtroom is that there are no motorcycles, or leather vests or insignias of winged death heads. No chained wallets. Just 5 defendants who are part of a culture that supposedly does not conform to society's rules, the 1% that they are so proud to be. But they have to conform in this courtroom. That conformity is enforced by a phalanx of cops, federal marshals, handcuffs, detention pens, prosecutors & a judge who keeps saying “admitted” every time a prosecutor asks to play wiretaps of alleged dope & gun peddling that points at the defendants & their associates – almost all of whom have ties to Rock Hill & York County. Defendants looking at decades in prison do not drink big cold beers in roadside bars, their huge Harleys parked at matching angles to get attention & scare squares while sneering at rules of society. No, these Hells Angels & wannabe Hells Angels sit with lawyers & listen to those wiretaps & look at jurors who seem to not be able to get enough of these gun- & drug-dealing schemes that prosecutors allege should put them in prison for decades because of the threat to society. The CHs where these bikers met & gathered in what was called “church” by them are dingy places that proudly display Confederate flags, Nazi symbols & other symbols of hate. All Hells Angels must be white men. They do not like society's rules, they & their lawyers say. Apparently,

though, they do not like anybody who's not white to be a part of their rebellion against rules. At the Rock Hill clubhouse of the Red Devils, the underlings of the Hells Angels, the Rebel flag flies, tattered, along with the American flag, also tattered.

During testimony Thur, with the jury present, the 5 defendants said nothing. During a break, with the jurors out of the courtroom, they laughed & talked among each other & with their lawyers. Nobody laughed when the wiretaps were played, though. At the head of the 5 defendants, seated in a pyramid, is an alleged drug dealer from West Columbia named Bruce Long. His nickname among bikers is “Bruce-Bruce.” Behind him is Mark Baker of Lancaster, called “Lightning,” the Pres of the Rock Hell Nomads Hells Angels of Rock Hill; & David Oiler of Lancaster, a.k.a. “Gravel Dave.” Wiretaps played in court Thur, the FBI alleged, show Oiler setting up drug deals on Christmas Eve 2011; he referred to a kilogram of cocaine as “ice cream.” Just the day before, Dec. 23, 2011, according to the wiretaps, Oiler delivered an ounce of methamphetamine to an informant buyer. The drugs were called “better than the last stuff,” then Oiler tells of how he couldn't get what the FBI alleges is cocaine because the source was “at a Christmas party” or “eating dinner with his old lady.” “I got one,” Oiler allegedly says of drugs, on tape. “Tomorrow in the morning,” he says. “Thank you, buddy,” from the informant. “The big one will be tomorrow,” which the FBI agent testifies is about a kilogram of cocaine. Behind Oiler & Baker are Clover's Donald Boersma, huge & bald, nicknamed “Brooklyn Donnie” & alleged to be on track to be a Hells Angel. And at the back, Tom Plyler. Gray-haired, pony-tailed, “Uncle Tom” walks with a limp. Plyler is also alleged in court documents to have provided guns for mayhem.

In June, 20 people from South Carolina & North Carolina with Hells Angels connections were arrested in raids after months of surveillance, court-approved wiretaps, & controlled buys using undercover agents & paid informants. Many already have pleaded guilty, including “Diamond Dan” Bifield, vice president of the Rock Hell Nomads Hells Angels club; & David “Yard Owl” Pryor, president of the Rock Hill Red Devils club. The defense lawyer for Long told jurors there is “a little bit of outlaw in all of us,” but that doesn't make it criminal. What is against the law, however, is cocaine sales, gun-running & armed robbery.

In opening arguments, defense lawyers told jurors they will not like the paid FBI informant they claim is a snitch & teller of tales, a former New York wise guy named Joe Dillulio. He sure sounds unlikable on the tapes. He says “ciao” instead of “goodbye,” like he is some Milanese fashion designer. He is not. Defense lawyers have called Dillulio a convicted felon who ran a jewelry store in Rock Hill & is being paid by the feds to snitch & scheme. Dillulio is brusque on the tapes. He curses, & on the tapes it is heard how he is using the code name “Midas.” But that is how police break up drug gangs. Informants turning on drug dealers happens in the smallest of small towns & in big-time federal trials. Snitches do not leave choir practice or Bible study to buy drugs in taped drug deals. This trial is not like what you'd see on television or in movies. It does not finish quickly, with commercials for fast cars in between. This trial is grinding work by federal prosecutor Jay Richardson. Richardson plays those tapes after U.S. District Court Judge Cameron Currie admits them. Already a week old, the trial is just starting. Jurors were told that the trial could last six, maybe 7 weeks. There are cops all around & inside the courthouse. There are police officers with dogs, Homeland Security officers, more. Apparently, a Hells Angels trial requires it.

Just over a year ago in York, 16th Circuit Solicitor's Office prosecutor E.B. Springs put away Hells Angels member William Sosebee for 10 years for stabbing a fellow biker for wearing the vest of a different motorcycle club in a Hells Angels bar. Before the York trial, Hells Angels & other bikers packed a courtroom for a bond hearing. The judge banned biker vests & colors for safety reasons. Police escorted the victim home. Court staff shuttled the victim & witnesses between the York P.D. & the courthouse in police cars, over concerns for their safety.

Inside Judge Currie's Fed courtroom last week, there were a half-dozen marshals. Outside in the hall, 3 more. On the ground floor, 3 more. Outside the building, another 4 officers. Richardson, the prosecutor, had no guns during his prosecution. He was armed with recorded wiretaps. The words on the recordings spoke of huge guns transported in a guitar case. Photographs in evidence showed drugs & more drugs. Each of the wiretaps was played out loud, & the words transcribed onto video screens for the jurors – & the 5 HAs themselves – to read.

Outlaw Arrests in Philly – Feb 18, 2013 – *Pennsylvania* - By The Aging Rebel; www.AgingRebel.com - An undercover investigation of members of the American Outlaws Association in Philadelphia has been slowly unfolding for about a month. The investigation is being conducted by the FBI's Philly Organized Crime/Labor Racketeering Squad & there may be other shoes yet to drop. Van Smith of the Baltimore City Paper broke this developing story Feb 12. At least 2 men have been arrested in the case. Ronald L. Sells, the Pres of the Philly chapter of the Outlaws, is charged with selling at least a kilo & a half of methamphetamine to an unnamed FBI Confidential Human Source. Michael Privett, a patched member of the club, is charged with "collection of extensions of credit by extortionate means." The CHS was a probationary member of the club.

Crank Deal: Using methods that remain secret the unnamed informant convinced Sells to sell him the large amount of drugs. However Sells was enticed, he told the informant that he wanted the deal to be kept secret from both his wife & his motorcycle club. The informant took possession of the methamphetamine at Sell's home in Churchville, Maryland on Jan 17. The 2 men & 2 other Outlaws identified only as "Coop" & "Rob" then drove to the Outlaws clubhouse on Somerset Street in Philadelphia. According to an affidavit by an FBI agent named Kathleen A O'Hanlon, Sells then warned the informant, "This shit can't be in the clubhouse. If the bosses find out, I'm gonna be dead & so are you... We need money. We gotta get with your guy & move this stuff." According to the FBI, the snitch told Sells he had a buyer for the drugs in New York. The informant left his motorcycle & a motorcycle trailer as collateral at the clubhouse & left to report the drug sales to his FBI handler. Twelve days later the snitch called Sells & promised to pay him if Sells agreed to meet in person. Sells was arrested on Jan 31 when he came to get his money & he has been in custody since.

Collection: The same day the snitch began receiving dunning phone calls from a man the FBI says was Privett. In the narrative the FBI weaves the money for the drug deal was Privett's. In the first phone call, the man identified by the snitch as Privett said "come up with my money." Later that day the same caller left a message that explained, "You can believe one thing. You can fuck with me all you want to, but motherfucker trust me. Your whole family is in danger. Fuck you." That evening the caller told the snitch the address of his ex-wife & daughter & added, "I'll have the address for your son's house in Florida this week. I

got the tag numbers. I got your bike. I got your trailer. I want my money. Your whole family is going to be in danger if not. You need to pick up the fucking phone. You're supposed to meet (Sells) today. Now he's not answering the phone either. As far as I'm concerned, both you all in the same boat." Privett was arrested the next day. For the time being, this seems to conclude this investigation but numerous details of the FBI probe including its duration & the number of snitches it employed remain secret.

Devils Ride Version 2.0 – Feb 18, 2013 – *California* - By The Aging Rebel; www.AgingRebel.com - The Devils Ride, the stupid & bogus reality series about a motorcycle club in San Diego, returns tonight after major offseason surgery. Tommy "Gipsy" Quinn, the star of season one, is gone. Quinn purportedly founded the Laffing Devils MC, a once real, family club that was expelled from the Dago Confederation of Clubs last year. Last season Quinn trademarked the indicia for a completely fabricated motorcycle club called the Sinister Mob Syndicate MC. He transferred ownership of the Sinister Mob marks to Bischoff-Hervey Entertainment, the production company behind this soft, brown, steaming, stinking bowl of mass media entertainment. Quinn, whose wife is a cop, was also accused of child molestation last Sept. And, now Quinn has presumably been paid & shipped off. The new President of the "Sin Mob," as real biker insiders refer to this Survivor style tribe, is somebody named "Bubba." No name says white trash better than Bubba – except of course Honey Boo Boo. Bubba, according to the website of a large & soulless corporation, "was born & raised in a hard-working, old-school American family. A hell-raiser early on, Bubba was prone to trouble & fighting, but 21 years in the military brought maturity to his instinct – & a love for the brotherhood of the MC. An ousted founding member of The Laffing Devils, he is a firm believer in an 'Eye for an Eye, Tooth for a Tooth.' Bubba plots his revenge by knowing that there is a time for watching & waiting – & then there is a time for decisive action."

Motif: This season's dominant motif is the quest for credibility & the producers pull out all the stops. Some of the members even ride Dynas with those little, baby fairings that are so popular with the Sons of Anarchy. There are several new characters including "White Boi," pictured above, a former associate of the Green Machine MC & "Rockem," who may or may not have had a bit of history with the Mesa charter of the Hells Angels. According to his biography on the soulless corporation website, "Rockem learned to ride—and fight— at an early age. His never-say-die attitude pushed him through the Marine Corps, architecture school, & onward to become a professional pilot by day – & a hands-on master bike builder by night. A self-professed adrenaline junkie, Rockem can drive or fly almost any vehicle on the planet, but it is his love of barroom brawls that earned him the road name Rockem. Now at the core of Sin Mob, Rockem has plans for the club that could eclipse all the members, including his President, Bubba." Possibly, in future seasons Rockem will go on to become Professor Doctor Rockem & turn his unlimited talents to finding the cause & a cure for the ancient scourge of stupid. White Boi also has a couple of sharpened edges. The soulless corporation decrees that: "After serving a multi-year sentence in the California Prison System, White Boi is finally up for release. Having done his time 'right' & never ratting out a single person for the alleged crimes – he is being released back into the world with a reputation for being a straight-up soldier." Viewers will see footage of White Boi actually walking out of some institution to be greeted by a half dozen or so Laffing Devils – so maybe his sojourn among the Green Machine was part of his work release, & then he got violated, or whatever.... Discovery explains that

White Boi is, "An old-guard friend of Danny Boy" who "could have been one of the earliest Laffing Devil members had he not gotten arrested, but being back in society – & the politics of club life – are not easy for a man who spent so much time in the system. His bond with Danny Boy runs deep & as the Devils try to rebuild, this bond could be beneficial to both of them."

Put Down The Knife Rob: The most cringe worthy scene of the new season, at least so far, is a kind of face to face, junior high confrontation between members of the 2 "clubs" in a closed alley used as a television stage. The pretend bikers stand just close enough to fit into one overhead shot & wolf at each other like adorable puppies. There is, viewers are informed, only room for one gray & white club in Dago. One of last season's stars, Robert "Sandman" Johnston, declares that it is a "big...Bleep Bleep thing to me." The actors are immortalized on video as very bad actors through multiple camera angles for a very long time – at least in fight time. White Boi eventually knocks Sandman on his ass & Sandman bounces up off the ground with a knife in his right hand. The scene is tough to watch for 2 reasons. First, the invented confrontation ends when a police car dramatically arrives at the end of the alley. The invisible driver even has a line to say. So apparently, some P.D. has agreed to participate in this season's production. And, that raises the question of how involved police are in the preproduction, production & post production of this reality series & why. Are these simply off duty cops getting paid or is Bischoff-Hervey really determined to poison every jury pool in America? In a reality TV "confessional interview" after the incident Johnston says, "It's out of control right now. Between my family, the club, like mentally," Johnston points at his temple before confessing, "it ain't good. Uh, Bubba has got me in a bad spot right now. I'm getting ready to take this Bleep...Bleep out!" Johnston goes on to describe the timely arrival of the police cruiser as "My get out of jail. That was his get of the morgue." Johnston, who was arrested after breaking into his estranged wife's home last December & stabbing her guest in the back may now regret these lines of theatrical dialogue. His attorney certainly regrets them. The Devils Ride begins its new season tonight at ten.

'Congressional Research Service' Report, Recommends Increasing Good Time Credits & Reinstating Parole for Federal Offenders. – Feb 18, 2013 – **U.S.A.** – By FedCURE - Alleluia! After more than twenty-five years of campaigning for federal criminal justice reforms, to reduce the federal prison population, comes an historic, ground-breaking 2013 report, from of all places the Congressional Research Service (CRS)* titled, "The Federal Prison Population Buildup: Overview, Policy Changes, Issues, & Options." The report documents the United States' "historically unprecedented increase in the federal prison population." It supports the long held view by many, including, but not limited to: FedCURE, its members, partners, fellow advocate organizations, former & current members of Congress, high level Gov't officials, the nations most respected, independent nonpartisan think tanks, prominent scholars, criminal justice professionals & an overwhelming majority of the public, that Congress cannot build its way out of the mass incarceration dilemma it now faces, because of a failed criminal justice policy; & recommends Congress "changing or reversing some of the policies that have been put into place over the years which contributed to the increasing number of federal prison inmates," inter alia, increasing good time & reinstating parole. The Barber Amendment, post,** a simple 2 sentence undisruptive statutory amendment, genuinely accomplishes these ends, without disrupting release or reentry processes & public safety, by

restoring--rolling back--federal good time allowances to pre-1987 levels. Virtually, Barber is a \$1.2 billion dollar annual austerity sentencing bill. While elaborating on "several options Congress could consider if policymakers wanted to expand early release options for federal inmates, including (1) reinstating parole, (2) expanding good time credits, & (3) expanding the conditions under which courts could reduce sentences pursuant to 18 U.S.C. #194;#167;3582(c)(1)(A)," it is abundantly clear that the report concludes, inter alia, that the way out of the dilemma--to reduce the growth of the federal prison population--is for Congress to employ "Early Release Measures." These measures include "(1) modifying mandatory minimum penalties, (2) expanding the use of Residential Reentry Centers, (3) placing more offenders on probation, (4) reinstating parole for federal inmates, (5) expanding the amount of good time credit an inmate can earn, & (6) repealing federal criminal statutes for some offenses." Bravo! Moreover, according to the report & righteously so, "Congress might also consider changing or reversing some of the policies that have been put into place over the years which contributed to the increasing number of federal prison inmates. Some of these options include placing some inmates in alternatives to incarceration, such as probation, or expanding early release options by allowing inmates to earn more good time credit or allowing inmates to be placed on parole once again. Congress could consider reducing the amount of time inmates are incarcerated in federal prisons by limiting the number of crimes subject to mandatory minimum penalties or reducing the length of the mandatory minimum sentence. Finally, policymakers could consider allowing states to investigate & prosecute offenses that have become subject to federal jurisdiction over the past 3 decades."

Driver reports being threatened by armed motorcyclists – Feb 19, 2013 – **Silver Springs, Florida** - By Austin L. Miller; www.Ocala.com - Two armed members of a motorcycle gang were arrested after they allegedly threatened a driver who cut them off. The victim told Deputy Craig Kinsey he was being chased by 2 men riding H-D motorcycles as he headed east in the 6000 block East State Road 40 & when the lanes merged, he cut off the motorcycles. He said the riders, one of each side of his vehicle, ordered him to pull over but he refused & one man took a semiautomatic firearm from his waist & pointed it at him, telling him to stop. The second man also pulled out a handgun, but did not point it at him. He did pull out an expandable baton & swung it at the vehicle, according to reports. Deputies Owen Confessore & Kimberly Minton found the men, identified as Marc Edward Knotts, 44, & Michael Alan Crosby, 47. The officials also found the weapons & methamphetamine. Knotts & Crosby were each charged with aggravated assault. Crosby additionally was charged with possession of a controlled substance. The men are from the Outlaw Motorcycle gang, officials said.

Let's Meet Rockem And White Boi – Feb 19, 2013 – **California** – By The Aging Rebel; www.AgingRebel.com - As loyal fans know, Bischoff-Hervey Entertainment added 2 prominent, new characters for the second season of The Devils Ride. The new guys are a little edgier, although not necessarily smarter, than the old guys & the casting aims to enhance the show's credibility & broaden its audience. Last season's finale was watched by 1.55 million viewers, for example, which is about a third of the viewers Sons of Anarchy draws. It probably doesn't matter to the producers that their television show sincerely offends many members of real motorcycle clubs or that most bikers in San Diego have never seen either a Laffing Devil or a Sinister Mobster. Loyal fans reply, "So what? We have a fake President, a

fake Congress & an economy based on Twitter? What's your point." So, ready or not, here comes the new reality of the outlaw world. Here comes Rockem & White Boi!

Rockem: Rockem is a guy named Ralph Randolph. His hometown is Fort Sumner, New Mexico. He graduated from the University Of New Mexico's School of Architecture & enlisted in the Marine Corps during Operation Desert Storm. He lives in Chandler, Arizona & he has been widely reported to be a former pilot with US Airways & a former member of the Hells Angels MC. His mother owns Randolph & Company Bail Bonds in Mesa, Arizona & he is married to a former stewardess named Lisa. He used to work with television veteran Lorenzo Lamas & a man named Chad Greulich. Together those 2 own Lorenzo Lamas Cycles in Santa Monica. Greulich has been described by Caypen Magazine as "a renegade innovator in reality television & brand consulting" & the "producer mastermind behind American Chopper & Gene Simmons Family Jewels. Lorenzo & Chad first met on the set of the CMT reality series Gone Country. That relationship soon led to the creation of a new motorcycle lifestyle brand based on the Lorenzo Lamas brand – the man, The Renegade." Randolph started his own custom motorcycle business named Rockem & Sockem Motorcycles in Mesa in 2009. He later changed the name of the company to Knockout Motorcycles. The shop brands itself as "We build bikes for guys who still have their balls." He has previously appeared on television on a show named Chopper Challenge on CMT, Steel Dreams TV & the National Geographic Channel. His bikes have appeared on the Easyriders Tour.

White Boi: White Boi, who is also known as Christopher Michael Boultinghouse, plays the edgy ex-con in this season's episodes. And he actually has been inside for an extended stay. According to his appeal, "On March 21, 2002, Fed agents searched Boultinghouse's apartment & found 54 bottles of GBL, 4 types of steroids & \$34,500 in cash." GBL, or gamma-butyrolactone, is a GHB analog that Boultinghouse believed was legal. The steroids were for personal use. He was found guilty in a state jury trial and, in what was a fairly obvious miscarriage of justice, sentenced to 8 years in prison. He had previous convictions in 1998 for battery with serious bodily injury & for assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury. Boultinghouse is represented by 123Talent, Inc., a full-service management & public relations firm in Hillsborough, North Carolina. The company's other clients include Paris Hilton, Mo Collins, Morris Chestnut, Flavor Fav & Antonio Sabato Jr.

2 Investigators, BGA: Suburban Cops Form MC – Feb 19, 2013 – *Illinois* – By <http://Chicago.CBSLocal.com> - On-duty, they are police officers who took an oath to enforce the law. Off-duty, they formed a motorcycle club that looks like it supports outlaw biker gangs. And as Pam Zekman reports with the Better Gov't Association, law enforcement officials say they can't do both. The Outlaws, an infamous motorcycle club known for violence used to protect its turf. But when Melrose Park Police Sgt Nunzio Maiello founded the Reapers MC in 2005 he "actually reached out to the outlaws, a motorcycle club that's been labeled a criminal enterprise by the justice Dept, to essentially ask permission to ride so there wouldn't be any altercations," said BGA Investigator Andy Shaw. The Reapers also wore patches saying support the Outlaws. Not a good idea says an ATF agent who infiltrated criminal biker clubs. "That signifies that they're affiliated with or aligned with the Outlaws," said the agent. Then there's the Reapers name & logo similar to the Grim Reapers, involved in everything from "drug distribution to violent beatings,

home invasions, rapes & bombings," said the ATF agent. At least 6 Melrose park cops joined the Reapers despite all the controversial images. A problem for David Bradford former Pres of the Illinois Association of Police Chiefs. "If I raise my hand & I say to the public I swear to uphold the United States constitution, the laws of the community in which I live, & then I turn around & go out & I affiliate myself with an organization that is openly against what I held up my hand & swore to you. "How can you do that?" said Bradford. Bradford says a bar fight at Josephine's Bar in Villa Park underscores the conflict. A Villa Park Police report describes the battery of an off-duty Villa Park fireman allegedly hit & injured by a group of Reapers including Melrose Park Cops. "The conflict was my responsibility as a police officer to preserve the peace," said Bradford. Melrose Park prohibits police from engaging in conduct that is unbecoming for an office or reflects unfavorably on the Dept. CBS 2 showed Melrose Park Police Chief Sam Pitassi the findings "I was deeply disturbed by it. This is not the image we want to portray," he said. His ultimatum. "Do you want to be in a motorcycle club or do you want to be a policeman?" Late last week, the cops disbanded the Reapers. Sgt Maiello told his chief they never intended to give a negative impression to the public. He said, they intended to have a drug & crime free club that promoted motorcycle safety. The Reapers told CBS 2 they were not affiliated with the Outlaws, but wore the patches for protection. There were no charges in the bar fight because the firefighter would not press charges. CBS 2 found no evidence that they violated any laws.

SF256, Lights On Bill – Feb 19, 2013 – *Minnesota* – By Mack Backlund, State Coordinator; ABATE of MN; www.abatemn.org/ - Yesterday, SF256 was heard in the Senate Transportation Committee. This bill would require all vehicles to have headlights on at all times. Sen. John Pederson amended the bill to make it a secondary offense, but that was not enough to appease those opposed to the bill in its entirety (thank you Senators Tomossoni, Kiffmeyer & others). Chairman Dibble tabled the bill & ended discussion without a vote. The ABATE of MN legislative team is opposed to this bill & its House companion, HF478. Minnesota motorcyclists pushed for the current statute that requires motorcycles to always have the headlight on to make motorcycles more visible in the traffic mix. These bills would dilute that effect.

Jack Daniels Fishing Story: I went fishing this morning but after a short time I ran out of worms. Then I saw a cottonmouth with a frog in his mouth. Frogs are good bass bait. Knowing the snake couldn't bite me with the frog in his mouth I grabbed him right behind the head, took the frog, & put it in my bait bucket. Now the dilemma was how to release the snake without getting bit. So, I grabbed my bottle of Jack Daniels & poured a little whiskey in its mouth. His eyes rolled back, he went limp. I released him into the lake without incident & carried on fishing using the frog. A little later, I felt a nudge on my foot. It was that snake, with 2 more frogs.

Time makes heroes but dissolves celebrities. - Daniel Boorstin

U.S. Defenders:

- We don't accept applications. We accept commitments...
- 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...

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