The International Councillor

December 2007

The Newsletter of the Council of International Investigators

Issue 7

Pls "hit the hill" in Washington to lobby for access



By Ken Cummins

Private investigators in the United States and around the globe constantly are getting the same cold shoulder from government regulators that former pro football quarterback and illegal dog-fight promoter Michael Vick would get at a People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) convention.

The state collects our annual license fee, taxes the services we provide, and them tells us to go stand in line behind John Q. Citizen when we seek access to the financial and legal records needed to serve the public's interest. Even Vick -- his pro football career interrupted by his current 23-yedar prison sentence for brutality to dogs -- might fare better before PETA than PIS do before some government regulators.

PIs worldwide daily are confronting new threats to deny us access to the information critical for criminal defense work, fraud prevention, collecting child support from dead-beat dads, resolving identity thefts, locating assets for court judgments and conducting pre-employment background inves-



Photo left: CII member Eddy McClain prepares to lobby Congress. **Photo Above:** Security was tight around the Hotel Washington (foreground, on the left), where many investigators and security professionals stayed during the Hit the Hill campaign. The president of Iraq was staying at the Willard Hotel (not seen), across the street from the Hotel Washington. In the background is the U.S. Treasury building.

tigations, just to cite a few examples.

To counter this trend, the U.S.-based National Council of Investigation and Security Services each fall rallies PIs from across the country to "Hit the Hill" and lobby members of Congress on behalf of our industry. That event this year took place on Oct. 4, and drew only some 50 investigators to the cause, mainly those from the East Coast. NCISS is the lobbying arm of the private investigations profession in America, and many CII members are also NCISS members. CII members who made the trek to Washington to lobby this year include Steve Kirby, Don Johnson, Bill Lowrance, Eddy McClain, Francie Koehler, James P. Carino, Larry Ross, H. Ellis Armistead, and myself. My apologies to those CII members whom I have slighted here by not being able to remember all who participated.

While 50 PIs can provide a lobbying force to be reckoned with, 535 are needed (one for each of the 100 U.S. senators and each of the 435 House members) to establish a personal relationship with each member of Congress and become a truly effective team.

Legislation pending before the House and Senate would restrict or deny access to Social Security Numbers, often the most critical piece of informa-

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Christmas invitation for Southern California investigators

By David Williams

Why settle for the same old boring Christmas party when you can do some good this Christmas. Attend the 4th annual SCFIA(www.scfia.org) Christmas party where you can mingle with fellow investigators, adjustors and law enforcement personnel and not have to pay for any food or drinks all night. You can even play blackjack and have a caricature drawing. All of this is to raise gift cards and cash donations for Laura's House and Probation Community Action Association.

The Southern California Fraud Investigators Association (www.scfia.org), Karen Paris Investigations, Eric Tackett & Associates, Melody from the Law Offices of Melody Mosley, Mike Fernandez from the Law Offices of Donner, Fernandez & Lauby and Mike Parker from the Law Offices of Parker, Rainsbury & Strauss will be hosting its 4th annual free year end Holiday Dinner and get together at www.jackshrimp.com located at 2400 West Coast Highway, Newport Beach, CA. telephone (949) 650-5577 on December 19, 2007 from 5:30 until 9:30pm.

The dinner and drinks (wine & beer) will be free; there will also be blackjack tables with prizes. Please bring a gift card of a minimum of at least \$20.00 to be donated to Laura's House (www.laurashouse.org) and the Probation Community Action Association (www.ocgov.com/probation/programs/pcaa.asp), suggested: Grocery Stores, Wal-Mart, Target, Blockbuster, Toys-R-Us, etc.

We will also be holding a 50/50 drawing provided by the Southern California Fraud Investigators Association. It will be an ongoing dinner so there is no specific time that you have to show up. All that **we require** is that you contact David Williams or Theresa Tocco at DCW & Associates Investigations at (714) 892-0442 or via email at info@dcwpi.com and RSVP by Tuesday, December 18th at 5pm.

Families and fellow investigators from law enforcement (local, county, state



& federal), insurance SIU and private investigators are invited to attend and even bring non members.

This will be a chance to mingle, make new friends and see old friends.

Sponsors include: Karen Fogarty of Karen Paris Investigations, Eric Tackett of Tackett & Associates, S.C.F.I.A., Melody Mosley from the Law Offices of Melody Mosley, Mike Fernandez from the Law Offices of Donner, Fernandez & Lauby and Mike Parker from the Law Offices of Parker, Rainsbury & Strauss.

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Member news

New Mailing address Bernard George Investigations, Inc. 1247 Lincoln Blvd., PMB # 460, Santa Monica, CA 90401 (310) 260-7666 (310) 260-7670 fax (310) 701-2370 cell

New E-mail Address Peter Kazlauskas cvcintl@optonline.net

Jack and Alana Burke are grandparents again. We are still waiting for details but best wishes to Mom, Dad and new baby.

COSTA RICA REGISTRATION

Regional Meeting



CII

Costa Rica Regional Meeting

Date April 12-13 2008 Place: San José, Costa Rica

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Registration received after March 1, 2008 will be assessed a 10% increase. Cancellations of registrations after March 15, 2008 will not be refunded.

Industry Sets New Milestone In Professional Standards

By Ponno Kalastree

For a few hours on 29 November 2007, rebel soldiers protesting the vote against President Arroyo took control of Peninsula Hotel in the heart of Philippines's financial district in Makati City. The Philippines military stormed the hotel and took control of the situation forcing the rebels to surrender without any major incident.

In October 2007, Philippines made news with two blasts –one at the Glorietta mall, and the other at Parliament House. It shows the challenges faced by the private security industry in the Philippines as they live through real threats, real bomb attacks as part and parcel of daily life.

Unknown to many security professionals today, the birth of the premier security event in the Asian region was conceived in the Philippines. Philippines is one of the few countries in Asia where the private security industry has a "voice" that was taken

seriously by the government before the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on US soil.

SECUREX-ASIA 2007 has been the unifying platform for the growth of the Asian security culture since the mid 1980s. It was founded in Philippines in 1982 and today, 25 years on, SECUREX-ASIA makes its way back to Manila to provide the platform which unifies the Asian private security community as the industry join forces regionally and with the law enforcement sector to combat crime and terrorism.

The theme of the **SECUREX-ASIA 2007 conference** – Security Industry's Concerns Then & Now was deliberated by eminent speakers and a participative audience on 21 & 22 November 2007 at the Sofitel Philippines Plaza in Manila.

The event is well attended with around 200 delegates from Philippines, Singapore and Hong Kong, and China.

One of the lasting impressions which stood out at **SE-CUREX-ASIA 2007** is the warm and cordial rapport between the Philippines National Police and the private security industry. With over 400,000 private security agency operators and only a force of 120,000 law enforcement officers in Philippines, the private security industry in the Philippines dominate the security scene.

This was emphasized in the speech by the Guest of Honour, Major General Gerry Barias, Superintendent of Manila in the Philippines National Police who graced the conference during the Opening Ceremony. It was later reiterated by Superintendent Inamo Bacolod, the Director of the Civil Security Group. This is a department within the Philippines National Police specially catered to work with the private security operators in combating crime.

The success of **SECUREX-ASIA 2007** in Manila is attributed to the strong support received from Philippines Associa-



tion of Detective & Protective Agency Operators (PADPAO), Philippines Society for Industrial Security (PSIS), ASIS International and Council of International Investigators (CII).

Some of these prominent speakers at **SECUREX-ASIA 2007** included:

Police Director Major General Gerry Barias, Chief NCRPO provided a candid overview on the challenges facing the Human Security Act passed in July 2007, and their investigations into the recent explosion at Glorietta mall in October, 19, 2007 and the bombing at the Philippines congress. He talked about the involvement of the Australian Federal Police, the FBI and observations from the Singapore Police in their investigations process. He talked about the how the 911 attack started in the apartment in Manila. There was a suggestion that an airplane may be used against Americans but this information was not transmitted at that time. In his words, "we could learn from security agencies....the world has become so small. The problem of one country is not the problem of one country alone....terrorism transcends boundaries."

Superintendent Inano A. Bacolod, Director of Civil Security Group, discussed the indispensable co-operation between the citizen groups, the local government groups and the people, particularly the private security industry to help the Philippines National Police to help them prevent crime and maintain law and order, because the PNP cannot deliver social service. The PNP's focus is to give service to the community and they can learn from the private security industry, not always vice versa.

Brigadier General Josef Medina of Business Profiles Inc and Managing Director of a consultancy firm in the Philippines that specializes in protective intelligence, mining security and marine security. He addressed the issue of threats at critical infra-

Industry Sets New Milestone In Professional Standards

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structures, normal security practices versus true security, lessons learnt and the need for proper information and cooperation, beyond technological solutions to mitigate risks.

Mr Richard Jacobson, Head of Security – Asian Development Bank (ADB) provided an enlightening case study on how he and his team manage their 26 field offices worldwide in hazardous and post conflict areas and how they cope with their 7000 business missions overseas a year. The ADB is part of the UN Security Management Network and they transact 3.7 billion dollars on an average day. ADB now conducts the business of resilience in helping companies take risk and plan for contingencies when things go wrong, and maintain their competitive advantage.

Mr Palmer Mallari from the Anti-Fraud and Computer Crimes Division of National Bureau of Investigations (equivalent of FBI) talked on coping with the challenges of cybercrime. The Love Bug which created billion dollar losses worldwide in 2000 originated from the Philippines and a stark reminder on the dangers for cyber crime and the more sinister cyber terrorism warfare. He addressed the issues of cyberlaws and the ability of the power of the Internet to perpetrate acts with better desired results.

Vice Adm (ret) Danilo Abinoja, Commandent of the Philippines Coast Guard provided an insightful presentation on the working co-operation in the region in border patrols and proactive measures to protect shipping routes from piracy, transnational crimes and the threat of terrorism.

Dr Eduardo Fulgencio, a certified Anti-Terrorism specialist shared his knowledge on Al-Qaeda training methods and tactics, and how to test security plans against threats. He discussed the frightening reality of the inevitable once a breach has occurred.

Mr Stephen Cutler, FBI Attache to the Philippines, talked about the use of biometrics in access control security. He also discussed the 4th generation warfare and the exchange of terrorist information on websites through blog pages and the power

of the Internet in transmitting dangerous information posing threats to security

The 2 day SECUREX-ASIA 2007 Manila conference and mini-exhibition of 15 exhibitors including that of the Council of International Investigators ended on a cheerful and warm spirited note with songs and dance. Filipinos are generally musically gifted and this talent permeates in the private security and investigations industry too. We are proud to announce that SECUREX-ASIA has an official band from the Philippines to its name!

CII—New Applicants

Antonio V. Maniwang
Maniwang Security & Safety Corporation of the Philippines
Marius Business Centre
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Philippines
maniwang@sccphils.com

Michael W. Osborne Kreller Group Inc. Cincinnatti, Ohio, USA mosborne@kreller.com

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Members promote CII at conferences in Asia & Manila

CII has been making headway in Asia with its active presence at two major security and private investigations conferences in Asia:

SECUREX-ASIA 2007 in Manila, Philippines from 21 to 22 November 2007

CAPSI and APDI Second National Conference 2007 in New Delhi, India from 26 to 27 November 2007.

SECUREX-ASIA has been the premier conference for the Asian private security and investigations industry since 1983. Founded by CII former president Ponno Kalastree, SECUREX has supported most of CII events in the Asia-Pacific starting from the CII AGM in 1997 and 2006 in Singapore, mid year meeting in Sydney Australia in 2000 and in Chiang Mai Thailand in 2002.

This year CII made its presence felt at **SECUREX**-

ASIA 2007 as a supporting association, and a booth presence at the exhibition. The conference heralded 200 participants from Philippines, Singapore, Hong Kong and China. The CII booth attracted many interested potential candidates for CII membership.

The CII also supported the Central Association of Private Security Industry (CAPSI) and Association of Private Detectives and Investigators Conference (APDI) in India with a message from President Jim Kirby, and Guest of Honour P. Kalastree.

The event was organised by CII member Kunwar Vikram Singh and it was well attended by CII members in India and even John Sexton from Virginia, USA.

Ponno Kalastree also gave a presentation on the Global Aspirations for the New Generation PIs. Like **SECUREX-ASIA 2007** in Manila, the CAPSI-APDI National conference was received strong government support.

One of the greatest impressions at both these events in Asia is that the governments in both Philippines and India are very proactive and supportive of their local associations. They are acutely aware of the need to work with their private security and private investigations industry in crime prevention efforts. This is partly due to the fact the that private security and investigations industry is a few times larger than the law enforcement force. In Philippines, they have over 400 000 private security officers. In India, this number is 5 million! Both countries are growing and there remains a demand for the private security and investigations industry.

During the course of the two day conference at both events, the CII's name was constantly being mentioned. In India, most members of CII were present at the conference and Kunwar Vikram Singh, Ponno Kalastree and Pawan Ahluwalia played leading roles in promoting CII.







Pls "hit the hill" in Washington to lobby for access

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tion for locating witnesses and conducting various types of investigations. Through the effective efforts of NCISS and its members, Senate Bill 1178 contains exemptions to the restriction of access to SSNs that are favorable to private investigators. This bill won approval by a key Senate committee and is headed to the Senate floor for final passage, probably sometime next year.

Although SB 1178 is not perfect, it allows PIs to tell their member of Congress that they would accept this bill, titled the ''Identity Theft Prevention Act,'' over all others pending before the House and Senate. That way, we have a starting point, and are not coming to Capitol Hill opposed to every effort by Congress to address the public outcry over identity theft, which would be a futile effort.

The consequence, intended or un-intended, of eliminating our access to SSNs, NCISS legislative director Bruce Hulme points out, "is the unequal access to the judicial system for the average consumer and small business owner. When only the state and its agents, especially those in law enforcement, have access to personal identifiers, those who are charged with defending themselves in criminal court and those seeking redress in the civil courts will be unable to do so."

The ``Hit the Hill'' campaign occurred this year on a Thursday morning, the busiest time of the entire week for Senators and Representatives, who are all involved in committee and subcommittee meetings Thursday mornings, and rushing to get out of town Thursday afternoons for weekend meetings with constituents and public events back in their home states and congressional districts. Even if we had called beforehand to set up appointments, which was advisable, it was unlikely that our Congressman or Senator was present when we came calling. In most instances, you get shuffled off to the key legislative aides, which is a good place to begin.

My assignment was to win over the two U.S. senators from Maryland, and my Congressman in the House. But some of the Senate receptionists are better than the best guard dog in not letting you into the office interiors. That was the case at the office of U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin, Maryland's newly elected freshman Democrat. The most I could accomplish there was to get the name of the senator's staffer monitoring the legislation, and follow up with phone calls and emails.

I fared much better at the offices of U.S. Sen. Barbara Mikulski, Maryland's veteran Democratic senator. The entrance to her office looked like an upscale overseas call center, with three aides sitting behind Plexiglas booths fielding phone calls and various tasks. I was shuffled into a small room just off the entrance to meet with a young Mikulski staffer, who asked a lot of questions and seemed genuinely interested in finding out exactly what PIs do and how we do it.

This yearly lobbying effort becomes more of an educational program since most people haven't the faintest idea exactly what private investigators do, except for those often ludicrous portrayals on TV and in the movies. (I don't know about you, but I've never shot anyone, and don't intend to.)

After the encouraging meeting with Mikulski's legislative aide, I headed across Capitol Hill to the House side, where the offices are much less spacious. Congressional staffers are crammed into older, smaller offices. Inside these cramped offices are some of the hardest working employees of Congress.

My visit to the offices of my Congressman, U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-MD,



CII member Karen Hewitt on the Hill

was brief, but also encouraging. I met with Van Hollen's top aides, who were juggling more topics that morning than any circus performer could ever hope to keep off the ground. But they took time out to talk to me. Van Hollen is a rising star in the Democratic party nationally. I have marched with him in parades, and given money to his campaigns. That's the kind of follow-up activity that will be needed to win allies in Congress.

More recently, CII and NCISS members participated in discussions before the Federal Trade Commission.(FTC) on restricting access to SSNs as a way to guard against identity theft. The FTC held a two-day workshop on Dec. 10-11 to gather input from various public sectors on the use of SSNs and their role in identity thefts. Although CII and NCISS members met previously with key FTC staffers, the agency selected only one PI – Robert Townsend of California – to participate in the panel discussions. However, CII and NCISS members attended the two-day workshop and were able to ask questions from the audience that helped shape the discussion.

The timing of this workshop could not have been worse for PIs. The week before, 10 people employed by a private investigations firm were indicted in Washington state for using `pretexts'' to obtain protected, personal and confidential information on targets. The news of these indictments hung over the FTC workshop like the odor of raw sewage backing up in the building's basement.

Yet, at the end of the two-day session, Larry Sabbath, our paid lobbyist in Washington, was encouraged. He felt the focus of the workshop had shifted form restricting access to SSNs to placing the burden on the financial institutions and collectors of personal identifiers to authenticate the identity of the requestors of personal data, and verify permissible purposes for disclosing this information.

The FTC now must make its recommendation to the President Bush's Task force on Identity Theft by next March. Al in all, we have a lot to be thankful for as 2007 draws to a close. Next year, we need to see a lot more of you Hitting the Hill to lobby for our right to pursue our chosen profession. And some of our international members may want to join us. This would be good training for your own efforts to maintain access to information in your countries.

CII –AGM 2008—Sponsorship/Partnership Opportunities

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- Corporate logo with hyperlink on conference website
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- Opportunity to introduce award & recipient at event
- Corporate display set up Wednesday/Thursday of meetings Corporate signage at luncheon; tent cards etc., supplied by Partner
- Full page advertisement in the event program; inside front cover; artwork provided by partner in electronic format
- 1 complimentary conference registration
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CII Welcome Reception – Tuesday

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AGM Luncheon, Wednesday

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Networking Tour -Friday

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Display, Wednesday & Thursday

- One 6 foot table, draped, for table top display
- Can be a static display or personnel can attend booth hours will work in conjunction with meeting scheduled breaks, luncheons, etc
- Corporate listing in event program
- Great opportunity to network with CII members

CII Board Lunch, Tuesday

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Refreshment Breaks, Various

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August 26 – 30, 2008 Marriott Halifax Harbourfront Hotel **Sponsorship Opportunities**

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