

July 2009

CII President Fred Dehmel recaps successful year

My term as your President is drawing to an end, and we are now looking forward to our 2009 AGM.

I want to thank all those who have supported me both publically and privately. I did not realize how demanding this office was and how much you need the support of your board and the understanding of the membership. We all have different leadership styles and no one way is better than the other, as long as "The Good of the Council" was always maintained. I may not have always made the correct decisions in my term, but I believe it is important to make a decision that you truly believe is in the best interest of CII and that is what I tried to do. I have received great pleasure from being a very active CII member since joining. I have been a Regional Director, Internet Chairman and Board member and have served on various committees. It has been a rewarding experience for me and I encourage all members to become active, even if it is to serve on a committee. This is your Council and we always need new people with new ideas, so that we are always moving forward. I do not believe in the old adage, "This has worked for years, why change?" We must always be looking for change and new ideas. You as members

expect that, and your leadership should provide it. Having said that, we must all remember that this is a volunteer organization and our first priority is our businesses. Please support your Board and Officers and show it. It is the only way new people will come forward, if they see that the time and effort that they donate is appreciated.

In the past year we have lost family and friends and when I sit down to write a personal message to those who have felt the loss, it reminds me that life is too short and we must try to find ways to



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President of India Applauds Private Investigations Industry

Her Excellency Mrs. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, President of India, applauded the role of Indian Private Investigators and Security professionals for providing gainful employment to more than 5.5 million young men and women hailing mostly from rural areas of the country. She also appreciated the efforts of Central Association of Private Security Industry (CAPSI) and the Association of Private Detectives of India (APDI) for developing Skill Enhancement Facilities all over the country for the existing guarding professionals working in more than 15000 guarding companies. She also appreciated the role of both associations for working closely with Homeland Security departments of Federal and State Governments to develop Anti-Terror training programmes.

50 leaders of the CAPSI & APDI were invited by the President of India over a high tea session. This is the FIRST time that so many professionals were invited by the President of India who is also Supreme Commander of Defence Forces of India.

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Kunwar Vikram Singh, Chairman of CAPSI & APDI, presenting the annual report to the President of India.



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The War on Drugs, and Ultimate Drugs: Wealth, Power and Political Influence

By George Michael Newman

(Reprinted with permission from <u>The John Cooke Fraud</u> <u>Report</u> and continued from our June issue<u>.</u>)

Generally, the first recognized drug epidemic occurred in the U.S. subsequent to the Civil War (1861-65), known as the Army Disease. Owing to the horrific carnage of that conflict, within which medical remedies largely relied upon a knife and saw, the recently synthesized morphine combined with the also recently invented syringe seemingly offered a miracle relief to pain and suffering.

Ironically, morphine was 'discovered' during attempts to find a cure for alcoholism which was a national concern at the time. Heroin would later be embraced as a 'cure' for morphine addiction.

During the last half of the 1800s, heroin and cocaine were legal; heroin was advertised through venues such as Sears/ Roebuck as a cough suppressant, ideal for minimizing the effects of then-rampant tuberculosis and influenza, and even as a sedative for colicky children; cocaine was initially deemed a bountiful means of interdicting alcohol and morphine addiction.

By the 1900s, addiction had become such a social blight that in 1914 the federal Harrison Act established that such substances were to be dispensed only by a physician. It was a law based upon taxation, a premise which would exist in one incarnation or another until the '70s. An interesting aside to the law, and a harbinger of the future, is seen in the fact that the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas which was implemented in 1906 was, by 1923, populated more than fifty percent by those incarcerated for drug related crimes.

Marijuana, interestingly, had been touted at the 1876 New York World's Fair, along with its derivative hashish. Available to the less affluent, particularly during Prohibition, and used universally in poor people's medical remedies, it was to run afoul of some of history's great moguls, newspaperman William Randolph Hearst and chemical giant Lamont DuPont. Hearst reputedly developed an enmity toward Mexicans owing to Doroteo Arango (Poncho Villa) purportedly having at one time usurped thousands of acress of his timber land as Villa's armies gained control of Northern Mexico where Hearst had such holdings. Additionally, Hearst and Dupont had reportedly entered into a lucrative product merger which might have been threatened by the farming of the hemp plant, a once-heavilysubsidized commodity. Hemp had actually been a mandatory product for farmers in early colonial times.

Here again, buoyed by the threat to small farmers by the use of cheap Mexican immigrant labor by farming conglomerates, insecurities were enflamed by pronunciations akin to: "There are 100,000 total marijuana smokers in the US, and most are Negroes, Hispanics, Filipinos, and entertainers. Their Satanic music, jazz, and swing, result from marijuana use. This

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Wealth, Power and Political Influence

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marijuana causes white women to seek sexual relations with Negroes, entertainers, and any others." $^{\scriptscriptstyle (3)}$

In 1930 Harry J. Ainslinger, nephew-in-law to Lammont DuPont's banker, Andrew Mellon, was given control of the newly formed Federal Bureau of Narcotics, precursor to the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs. He would help shepherd in the 1937 Marijuana Tax Act, segueing upon 1936's infamous film, Refer Madness. The film, however, targeted largely middle-class White youth, who, in the halcyon euphoria of the 1950s would form the generation which embraced the genre depicted in the '50s movie Rebel Without a Cause, and setting the stage for the era of license which became "the '60s".

Radio, movies and even drive-in theaters largely became part of the American fabric in the 1920s, just in time to glamorize the excesses of the infamous gangsters of Prohibition, and the indulgences and opulence of the heretofore marginalized immigrant communities, as embodied by the likes of Lucky Luciano and Al Capone. Thet, as did many others, recognized the need for a profit substitute as the end of Prohibition loomed. The obvious substitute became drugs; Luciano was among the early pioneers of the establishment of a French heroin connection. As it had been with the fact of alcohol's prohibition enabling stratospheric profiteering, over time the substitute became equally lucrative as successive governments enabled profiteering by effectively and more stringently prohibiting the intoxicating, seemingly liberating, substances without otherwise addressing root issues.

"Although the subculture of the professional thief depicted in Dickens, Melville and Victor Hugo was first eroded by Prohibition's organized crime and their turf wars, it was destroyed by drugs and the drug underworld." ⁽⁴⁾ And while politicians utilized enflamed rhetoric to further political and power positioning agendas, the lessons of the '20s seemingly went unheeded; particularly the fact that upon Prohibition's repeal the national crime rate dropped by roughly two-thirds. In fact, Prohibition was repealed by the 21st Amendment owing directly to the fact that criminal enterprises were growing more powerful than the federal government, in both arms and the buying-off of politicians. Society, too, lost the lesson of the past, in the form of 'entertainment' media's continuing glamorization of crime's excesses.

Marginalized populations heeded the mantra, "Respect is something your dad can't buy for you" (5), and the most available route to glamour and respect was the lucre of modern prohibition's commodities.

Gestating in the backwater that South Central had become, the hurricane

CII New Applicants

Sharad Wadekar Securafence Security PVT Ltd. Pimri-Pune, India MJ Parker Intercoastal Investigations San Francisco, CA found fuel within the umbrella of politics, when in the late 1970s as a result of the civil war in Nicaragua, tons of cocaine were routed into the U.S.; evidence exists demonstrating that those who delved in such shipments were doing so with U.S. law enforcement sanction; at a minimum owing to a 'blind eye'.

By fate's happenstance a young entrepreneur encountered a major conduit for the massive, west coast cocaine infusion. Ricky Donnell Ross, AKA Freeway, became an early community distribution point for the cocaine of Nicaraguan drug lords Norwin Meneses Cantarero and Danilo Blandon, and had roots in the then-burgeoning 7/4 Crips; and Ross had learned of the then-rare cocaine derivative, Crack.

Within three years, staggering amounts of Crack inundated first South Central, then greater L.A.; then, skipped across the U.S. landing in metropolitan areas in its traverse. With it went the empowerment huge amounts of cash endowed, and the lust for demonstrated excesses. No longer were knives and trash guns needed; sophisticated weaponry in the form of automatic rifles, even explosives, were just a handful of cash away.

Throughout the 1980s the significant amounts of street corner cash was not missed by the dominant cliques associated with Southern California

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CII President Fred Dehmel recaps successful year

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enjoy and embrace each day with the ones we love and our friends of CII. We also said good by to some retiring members and we wish them all the best in their retirement and hope that we will be able to see them for a visit, on the deck with a cool drink.

This past year has been a busy one and many of you are starting to see the changes being made. Each year our AGM registration gets easier and much more efficient and this year was a good example of that. I want to thank Rod Web and our CII Office administrator, Sarah Luczyk for their extraordinary dedication to CII and helping make this AGM a success. It has been a true pleasure working with Sarah this year and we are all fortunate that Sarah is with us this year. Although Sarah is new to CII, she quickly made every attempt to learn about us and find ways to improve our efficiency at the CII Office, in a very pleasant and professional manner. Please get to know her.

This past year has not been one without issues and it is always a shame that things come up that take away from our great organization. We have very warm and professional members that enjoy meeting with each other and sharing stories and a drink. We should always try to see the good in our members and acknowledge the valuable time they give up from their businesses to work for CII. There is no place in CII for agendas other than "for the Good of the Council".

This year we conducted a membership survey focusing on our AGM and our website. Again due to technology and Sarah, we were able to have an extremely successful return rate and valuable input was learned. I want to thank Jim Kirby and his committee for developing an easy and thorough survey. I also want to thank all my committees and committee chairs for their support and for donating their time for the good of CII.

One of my goals was to have a new website for our members before the AGM. I formed a committee and asked for a number of quotes, which we have received. The committee is now trying to decide on which company we will hire to do the job. My vision of the website was for it to be an easy to use site and be the place to go for our members and the public to find investigators and investigative resources. I hope to see an easy to use photo album, an interactive map of the world, that when you clicked on a country, you see a list of all the CII members in that country, the time of day and weather there, links concerning the laws and regulations of that country and the ability to zoom in on a member to see their local area and specialties. I want to see CII with a Facebook account, a Twitter account and have these links on our website. We should be able to communicate with each other through the site and hold electronic meetings and having Skype connected to our site. These are all easy to do and we should move forward with them. I do feel badly that my vision of having this done before our AGM will not be met and I am sorry for that.

This year we saw about 33 new members accepted into our fold and I welcome each of them.

There are a number of members who stand out for their dedication to CII and I would like to say special thanks to Alan Marr for always being there when you need him. Alan is our ERD and has been very active in helping promote CII and providing me with good advice. Joan Beach serves on our Public Relations committee and is our welfare representative. Joan is one of the kindest and most dedicated members we have and she truly shows her compassion when reporting on the loss of a member or their family and equally she displays enthusiasm when reporting on a birth or other good news of a member. Thank you Joan for all your assistance during my term.

I think we can all agree the quality of our newsletter is second to none. Trish works so hard to make sure that this newsletter is always informative and interesting. It is not easy to seek out articles from members and then layout and design our newsletter, but Trish does it each month and it is on her off time that she does this. The time when she could be spending it with her family, or golfing or just relaxing. Trish is also one of the most dedicated members we have and she has been active since she joined. I want to thank Trish for her help during my term and for giving CII a great newsletter.

I want to congratulate Rod Web, our host and his team for putting on this great AGM in beautiful Brisbane, Australia. I would also like to thank Nancy Barber and Ken Kirk for their many hours of work with helping make this AGM a success. Having organized an AGM myself, I know the many stressful hours spent by both Rod and Nancy and the many hours away from their jobs that they donate to CII. Thank you both and your teams for putting on this wonderful event for us.

I would like to congratulate our new incoming President, Nancy Barber and I wish her all the luck in her term. I hope that her team supports her and shows her the respect that she deserves as President. Nancy, Good Luck and Congratulations!!

I want to say that it has been a highlight of my extensive career to serve as President of CII. I have served as President of a number of very professional organizations both national and international, but CII was the one that I cherished the most. You are all great friends, and in many cases clients of mine and I wish you all the very best and thank you for allowing me to be your President.

It is always great excitement for Trish and I to attend CII AGM's and we have not missed one since I became a member of this great organization. Not only do we get to travel to different parts of the world to experience the culture and home countries of our CII family, but we always get to meet new members who are attending for the first time and see how much they are enjoying CII. We also get to see our old friends and chat about the past year. It is amazing how at home our members feel when we attend our AGM's; it truly does feel like a family.

I wish you all and your families the best in the future and your businesses and thank you for allowing me to be your President.

> Sincerely, Fred Dehmel President, CII

Wealth, Power and Political Influence

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gangs; by 1993 one among them had begun to secure dominance in the drug dealing arena. After all, unlike Blacks and Whites and even Asians in the U.S., generally, Latinos, especially those of Mexican heritage owing to the proximity of Mexico, had a virtual umbilical-cord-like supply connection.

This connection notwithstanding, all segments of those seeking the impressive wealth proffered by the illicit drug trade strive for dominance, synergistically buoyed by the enormous profiteering-enabled by the current state of governmental and societal approach to 'recreational' drugs.

An interesting and equally relevant aside related to the Mexico-to-U.S. drug commerce is the fact that while drugs flow from south-to-north, the firearms used to bolster the strong arm of the drug runners flow from north-to-south. Unscrupulous firearms dealers reap their own fortunes from the illegal sales of guns into Mexico. As it has been with drugs, the growing reaction is to inflict restrictive, generic laws upon gun ownership. The downstream' effect of this reaction, as opposed to an appropriate response, has been to empower the criminal element by denuding the right of the innocent, law-abiding citizen of his/her right to own arms and defend themselves, and a deflation of the Constitution's 2nd Amendment.

.With respect to both ingredients of this criminal constellation, drugs and guns/violence, the standard reaction, which flies in the face of the reality that "Those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it", continues to be to chase the tail of the viper while failing to address the venomous head. Then, feigning wonderment at the serpent's ability to turn back on itself with venomous strikes.

The War on Drugs as it has been fought, rather than impacting the scourge with abatement, has instead fueled the holocaust, and will continue to do so. In spite of often exemplary actions, and even heroism, on the part of agents; rendered fruitless on a predictable and cyclical schedule.

In tandem, the outlawing of gun ownership has begun to involve criminalization of otherwise 'ordinary' citizens, and increased crime by impeding a law abiding citizen's ability to own a gun for defense; a fact which criminals capitalize upon. And, publicity afforded the few mentally infirm individuals who run amuck with a firearm ensures that others afflicted with such maladies will follow along the same path to infamy, while once again affording politicians a knee-jerk podium from which to postulate in a bid for attention, and power.

Mexican cities, especially along the border, have been breached by the drug violence, and the seeds for replication are already in place in the U.S.; recently Mexico's courageous reporter Vicente Calderon revealed that many of the Mexican 'puppet masters' controlling the Mexican drug cartels actually do so from within enclaves in the U.S. Amongst the somewhat cloistered communities of wealthy Mexican nationals who have fled the violence of their homeland, the reality that Mexican crime syndicates are already kidnapping Mexican citizens from within the U.S. is common knowledge. As in the '20s Prohibition, wherein the gangland leadership needed logistical/support minions and found them in street gangs, cadres from among street gangs have again begun to form the nucleus of narco armies within the U.S.

This, ironically, includes literally thousands of combat-wise veterans of wars in El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica who were actually taught urban guerilla warfare tactics by U.S. forces; which at the time were attempting to bolster anti-communist governments or battle rapacious cartels in those nations. 'Veterans', often from all sides of a foreign conflict, now populate, often as second class citizens, barrios (ethnic Latin American communities) in the U.S. Distinct examples include members of the now-infamous Mara Salvatrucha, and Mara -13*.

(*Often thought to be one-in-the same, this is generally inaccurate; and, those investigators with acute insight recognize that in spite of the salacious sound-bites favored by camera-lensseeking politicians and 'drive-by media' reporters, these structures pay homage to an even more dominant, home-grown U.S. street gang.

Undeniably, no simple solution presents itself in the constellation of indulgence-inflamed drug consumption and hedonistic profiteering. Equally as undeniable, the huge profits assured the purveyors of illicit, illegal contraband guarantees that the current escalation of crime and violence will accelerate unabated, until such time as individual responsibility is embraced in a venue other than simply punitive castigation.

The astute investigator must meanwhile recognize that in the netherworld fueled by power and profit, nothing is as it seems, and must forego an assumption of the obvious at all times, toward negotiating a path divining truth in any venue. To do less is to simply perpetuate the escalation imbued by the 'slippery slope'; "good" and "bad", "right" and "wrong" as one may have been taught, in this world, matter little in the end.

Urban Street Gang Enforcement.; Series: Monograph; Author: Bureau of Justice Assistance; Published: August 1999 Heroin: Humberto Fernandez

The 1st Drug Czar: <u>http://www.heartbone.com/no_thugs/hja.htm</u> Education of a Felon: Edward Bunker Professor James Hernandez, D.P.A., Prof. of Criminal Justice, CSU-Sacramento

(George Michael Newman, CFE, CCDI, CII is the owner of Tactical Investigative Services (San Diego, CA). This article represents excerpted, edited and focused portions of his presentation addressing factors empowering gangs (Ganging Up: Roots & Routes: A Current of Colossal Synthesis). The presentation's actual broader focus is to address factually and pragmatically factors which have brought the gang phenomenon into existence, in order to enhance the field investigator's ability to extract objective fact when researching an event.)

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The Case Against Mandatory CE

By Roger H. Schmedlen, CPP, CFE, CII, MIPI

It is difficult for modern investigators to remain competitive and successful without routinely improving their skills through advanced training, staying abreast of new techniques in their areas of expertise, and understanding the consequences of court decisions and changes in legislation impacting their practice areas. Professional investigators invest substantial time and money in continuing education (CE) in their individual specialties.

Mandatory CE is Appropriate for Certification, Not Licensing

Most states have no mandatory continuing education (MCE) for bookkeepers, accountants or auditors. However, accountants and auditors who choose to become certified----as CPAs and CIAs do---must obtain CE credits to preserve certification. In our business, certification programs, such as CLI®, PCI, CPI and CFE require CE credits to maintain certified status. The purpose of certification is to provide recognition to practitioners with a proven high level of professionalism, not to prohibit employment to lesser motivated competitors.

Requiring CE to preserve certification is reasonable and appropriate. These programs have been developed by competent, experienced practitioners, rather than by bureaucrats with little or no knowledge of the occupations.

Mandating CE simply to maintain PI licensing is neither reasonable nor appropriate. It provides no benefit to consumers.

Some states are considering altering their statutes to require 8-16 hours of CE credit for license renewal, which a few states already require.

Problems With Mandatory CE

Based on discussions with investigators in one state where this condition exists, MCE would appear to be a boondoggle at best, providing no benefit to either consumers or licensed PIs who must invest time and money to attend the same generic police-oriented class where year after year nothing of real value is covered.

Not all valid training is obtained in a classroom. Certainly any single issue of PI Magazine provides more usable information than the generic, required class mentioned above. Some complicated cases require extensive research, another form of learning. PIs who are members of associations obtain valid training and legal updates via newsletters and list serves, as well as at meetings, seminars, and during networking exchanges.

The California Proposal

California is one of the states where there is a move by misguided politicians to mandate CE for licensed PIs. State Senator Tom Harmon's SB 202 appears to be a clone of State Senator Margett's 2008 SB 1282, which was vetoed by Governor Schwarzennegger last year. The bill requires 12 hours of documented training every two years by all license holders under 70 years of age, but does not apply to PIs working for license holders or proprietary investigators. Of the 12 hours, two must cover ethics, two must cover privacy rights, and two must cover legal updates while the other six hours can deal with other approved training related to investigations. However, only training obtained from continuing education providers approved by the CA Bureau of Security and Investigation Services (BSIS) is acceptable.

Additionally, under this CA proposal, the approved CE provider must provide a certificate that must be retained by both the PI and the provider for five years. The provider must retain records--including sign-in/attendance sheets or electronic signatures for distance learning--and the agenda and course has to be approved by a BSIS Review Committee that could include only one professional investigator or professional association member.

In one two-year period, I obtained over 120 hours of quality training through a two-day DHS/ICE training course in MI, two ASIS Regional Conferences in MI., a CII Regional Conference in IL, an Associations One Conference in IL, extended proprietary IP training at Nike, Inc. in OR and Oakley, Inc. in CA, and a portion of the combined CPIO & CAPI conference in Toronto where I had the honor of being a speaker. Of this 120-plus hours of exceptional training, none would be acceptable under the CA proposed criteria (or elsewhere) since certificates were not issued in all cases, copies of certificates were not retained by providers, records were not necessarily maintained for five years, sign-in sheets were not required by DHS/ICE, there were no approved BSIS agendas or course outlines, and DHS/ICE, ASIS, CII, Associations One, Nike, Oakley and Canada's CPIO and CAPI were not approved providers.

Professional PIs stay up to date on privacy topics and

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Congratulations to Charles and Jan Rahn at their recent wedding.

The Case Against Mandatory CE

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legal issues without coercion. They are exceptionally ethical. News reports suggest many lawmakers and regulators have a distinctly different understanding of ethics than the rest of us and perhaps would not be the most qualified to develop such a curriculum.

Regardless, the naïve assumption that mandatory ethics training would inspire unethical PIs to change their ways is ludicrous. PIs should not only view compulsory ethics training as onerous, unnecessary and of no benefit, but also as offensive and insulting. By singling out PIs for mandatory ethics training, these lawmakers send a clear message that unlike any other profession, they believe PIs are unethical. This is similar to the situation covered in Ray Michalko's article in the April 2009 edition of PI Magazine, where he reported that every Canadian in the Province of British Columbia can lawfully carry handcuffs, bear spray and many other legal items designed for debilitating or controlling a person or animal. . . . everyone, that is, except PIs.

According to a paragraph on <u>www.piinformer.com</u>, an interesting Web site opposing California's SB 202:

"Of the state's 9978 licensed investigators, there isn't a problem that the BSIS even tracks that would be potentially corrected by the proposed MCE. In fact, BSIS has indicated that our industry already enjoys an extremely low, almost non -existent, discipline rate. If the Private Investigations industry is already self-policing, why do we need additional costly regulation?"

Eight years ago, the California Business and Professions Code gave the BSIS the statutory authority to require a professional ethics exam for PI license applicants in addition to the licensing exam (under SEC. Section 2.7527.1), and to require training (under SEC. 3. Section 7541.2), but this body has not seen any need to add such requirements. Although CALI officially supports mandatory CE, ironically in researching this article I learned from the CALI Web site that currently only about 1%--just over 100 of the nearly 10,000 California licensed PIs and private patrol operators--hold the CPI or CSP certification sponsored by this organization.

More Mandatory CE Concerns

When I first got into this business in the sixties, a few PIs were scoundrels whose ethics would gag a weasel. This hasn't changed much over the years despite increased regulation. There will always be a few rogues in our business, as in the legal profession or any other occupation. I suspect many readers are familiar with PIs who have been in business for decades, belong to no associations, have never attended a training class, and don't know what the initials FCRA stand for, much less have any knowledge of this act. These folks are generally not very successful. Being required to take a generic 8-16 hour class every couple years would not miraculously transform them into "professionals" any more than Michigan's new statutory designation professional investigator has reformed the rascals in that state.

And there's a basic flaw with bureaucratically designed training, at least what exists at present. Our profession is exceptionally diverse and no single training course could be devised to provide legitimate benefit to all PIs. Investigators who exclusively provide computer forensics or electronic countermeasures services would not benefit from training relating to child custody or domestic investigation work. PIs specializing in forensic accounting, fire cause and origin, accident reconstruction, mystery shopping, mortgage fraud, or hundreds of other specialties would gain little of value from classroom topics such as applicant screening or surveillance.

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President of India Applauds Private Investigations Industry

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His Highness Maharaja Bhanu Prakash Singh, former Governor of Goa and Union Minister, informed the President about the status of the Private Security Industry and thanked her for giving an opportunity to the leadership to meet her at the Presidential Palace known as Rashtrapati Bhawan. Kunwar Vikram Singh, Chairman of CAPSI & APDI presented the 3rd Annual Report of both the associations and also explained the role of Private Security Industry in the forth coming Commonwealth Games. He also explained the motive of launching "EACH ONE SAVE ONE" security awareness campaign initiated by CAPSI & APDI. H.H.Maharaja Bhanu Prakash Singh and Kunwar Vikram Singh presents a poster of the campaign to the President of India.

Mr. Joginder Singh, former Director of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) presented his two books to the President. Mr.C Pal Singh, Governor-CAPSI, Mr. B S Syal, former Director General of Karnataka State Police, Brig. P S Toor,Brig. AK Pandey, Director-CKF, Brig. Bhattacharya, Governor-CAPSI, Mr. Vikram Mahurkar, Vice President, Ms. Rupal Sinha, Governor-CAPSI, Mr. Mahesh Sharma, Secretary General of CAPSI & APDI, Col J R Trikha, Executive DirectorCAPSI & APDI, Mr. Anil Puri, Vive President-CAPSI, Mr. Vivek Kumar Governor. Brig. Jaisinghani, Comdr Pramjeet Sahi, Governor, Mr. B R Kumar, Chairman Maharashtra Chapter, Capt. Sibu Issac, Chairman Tamilnadu Chapter, Capt. B P Singh, Chairman M P Chapter, Mr. V M Pandit, Vice President-APDI, Mr. Ajit Singh, Secretary APDI, Col P S Mangat, Mr. B B Manupatra , Chairman Orrisa Chapter, Mr. V V Katti, Vice President-CAPSI,Col Kaul , Secretary General, Maharashtra were the prominent leaders of the private security Industry present at the meeting.

Many CII members such as Kunwar Vikram Singh (Lancers Network Limited), Sh. Mahesh Sharma (GDX Investigations) Mr. Vishwanath Khetam(Flash Services), Mr. Sachit Kumar(Globe Detectives) Mr S R Chauhan (Perfect Investigations), Mr. Gurdeep Arora (Checkmate) were part of the delegation.

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The California Senate bill takes this into consideration, but it remains unnecessary, intrusive and fraught with the risk of unintended consequences and increased operating costs, while failing to recognize valid superior training provided by entities not designated as approved providers.

While most investigators might not be particularly concerned about the cost of mandatory CE, but rather the time which could be more productively spent on other pursuits, there are some to whom the cost could be a burden. Many talented, hard working PIs derive limited income because they do pro bono work or accept unprofitable court-assigned criminal defense cases where their motivation is to right wrongs.

Professionalism is an individual trait and professional investigators (regardless of whether they hold certifications) obtain relevant CE at present voluntarily. However, it appears under existing state CE requirements and those under consideration elsewhere, much of this training would not be acceptable for compliance. As I understand it, in all cases only specific approved courses would be acceptable, and that "training" would likely be of no actual value to the truly professional PI.

I would urge PIs to oppose all mandatory CE proposals, particularly if the requirements will be determined by public servants whose understanding of our profession comes from police input, TV, pulp fiction, and media exposés of rogue PIs--many of whom are unlicensed.

Bureaucratic Overkill

Many years ago, when commencing an undercover, I was trained on the operation of forklifts. This proved to be about as challenging as operating a yard tractor. This informal training took about ten minutes and was adequate. Today, there is mandatory training and licensing of forklift operators. Undercover operators have advised me the classroom portion of this training involves a brief talk, a film and extended nap time. I suspect that the volume of forklift accidents today approximates the volume back when I was trained, but the cost has increased substantially. I would predict the result of this generic type of mandatory CE for PIs would prove to be one more example of government overreaching while accomplishing nothing except increasing the cost of doing business.

The code of ethics of CALI (258 words) and NCISS (196 words) are representative of the PI profession. They don't take two hours to read and comprehend. Any literate adult can read and understand each document in less than two minutes.

Risk of Unintended Consequences

With all legislation, there is the risk of unintended consequences which can negatively impact consumers it is intended to protect. The risk here is that professionals with limited resources may be forced to forego valid meaningful training in order to attend mandated state-approved courses of dubious benefit.

An Alternative to Mandatory CE

It would seem a reasonable alternative to MCE would be for state regulators to provide to all licensees--on an annual or biannual basis--a code of ethics, (obtainable from any state/national PI association) along with a recap of privacy rights and relevant legal updates. This document would run no more than three pages in most cases. In states with budget constraints, this might provide an opportunity for state PI associations to volunteer to handle the chore, or fund the cost, which might be recovered through increased membership such a sponsorship could inspire.

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Fun in London! - Photos by Joan Beach

July 2009

The International Councilor

COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATORS

AGM 2009

Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast, Queensland Australia September 1-5 2009

The program being put together for the 2009 Annual General Meeting promises an outstanding range of speakers and subjects of interest to everyone.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND PROFESSIONALISM

The Meeting will provide the opportunity for investigators from round the world of different business practices and cultures and create a closer working relationship. The need for commercial investigative services has grown and to meet these demands. members need to regularly update their knowledge.

VENUE AND LOCATION

Pure white sands, surf beaches and the Blue Pacific Ocean ... seventy kilometres of unspoilt coastline. The breathtaking Surfers Paradise skyline. In contrast, lush green tropical rainforest... a rolling hinterland. It's Australia's world famous Gold Coast. Always amazing, yet relaxing. A holiday or conference destination simply second to none.

The Meeting will be held in the Marriott Hotel Surfers Paradise, part of the international Marriot chain and one of the Gold Coasts premier convention venues. Located in Surfers Paradise, the Marriot is a 28 level five-star integrated resort, with rooms offering views of the Pacific Ocean, Hinterland and Nerang River. Centred around an aquatic playground, highlights include a saltwater lagoon, man-made coral reef with tropical fish, sandy beaches, freshwater pools and spas, waterslide, waterfalls and tropical gardens.

ABOUT THE GOLD COAST

The Gold Coast is indisputably Australia's most popular holiday destination.

With its signature 52 kilometers of golden surfing beaches in Surfers Paradise, world

class resorts, award winning dining, amazing shopping and thrilling attractions Gold Coast has something for everyone and is a great family favorite.

The sub-tropical climate is ideal to take advantage of the myriad of leisure activities all year round. The Gold Coast is famous for its' theme parks, Movieworld, Dreamworld, Seaworld, White Water World all offer great entertainment for visitors of all ages.

While the beautiful backdrop of the coast, the hinterland, offers arts and crafts boutiques, stunning walks in National Parks, and wine testing in charming properties.

The Gold Coast nightlife is also something you can definitely look for, with many wonderful restaurants, funky bars and clubs, animated live music venues, in addition to the vibrant Conrad Jupiter Casino.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

International carriers fly to Brisbane from America, European countries and Asia through Singapore. There's a wide range of accommodation in the Gold Coast including its selection of top rated hotels, motels, resorts & holiday family apartments, Gold Coast accommodation is vast in it's quality & price.

For further information contact: Rod Webb

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More fun in London!