



REGIONAL RECAPS
PAGES 11, 13, 20, 23



**ASSAULT ON
PROCESS SERVERS?**
PAGE 3



CIAO MILANO!
PAGE 16

the international

Councilor

your source for CII news, events, and industry learning

President's Message

Dear CII Members,

This is my final message for the year before the 2019 Milan AGM.

With that, I would like to thank the Board members, all Regional Managers, the Hosts of the Regional Meetings and to those who assisted in coordinating those meetings.

Over the past couple of months, I have attended regional meetings in Belfast, Chicago and Bangkok. Regrettably, I was unable attend the meeting in Costa Rica. All meetings were well attended, very well organised, great presentations, plenty of knowledge sharing, lots of networking and some great outings (Go Sox !!). In total we had 145 in attendance, with over 60 in Belfast!.

With that in mind, the Milan AGM is less than 100 days away. Alice Cappiello and her team at Background Italia have put together an amazing programme for the 2019 Milan AGM. With membership numbers at an all-time high (over 400) this is a great opportunity to meet and network with members from outside your regions.

For those new members and those members who have not yet signed up, I encourage you to take this opportunity to attend the Milan AGM, as it promises



***"IT HAS TRULY
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IN MILAN!"***

to be informative, enjoyable, social and fun.

With the AGM comes elections. The Board is always looking for new, enthusiastic talent to join and take an active role in the running of the organisation. So if you believe you are that person, don't be shy and ask someone to nominate you, or if you think someone else would be great you can nominate them.

I would like to close by thanking the membership for electing me as your President for this term. It has truly been an honour to serve. Hoping to see you all in Milan!

Yours truly,

David MacLeod

President 2019

Letter from the Editor

R.I.P., OSINT

Dear Colleagues:

I've had less time than usual to prep this edition of *The Councilor*. 2019 has been full of ups and downs in the investigative world, but my guess is that anyone who relies on social media intelligence to bolster their investigations has been pretty short on time ever since Facebook quietly took down Graph Search.

In recent years, open source intelligence tools for Facebook have become ever more capable and complex. And if OSINT tools are a cathedral, Graph Search was the cornerstone. Granted, many of these tools were abused by hackers and DDOS attacks. But without them, online investigators are left in a lurch. At the moment, trying to garner the same amount of information from a profile, or conduct meaningful link analysis is at best: much more time consuming, and at worst: *impossible*.

Right after Graph Search disappeared, clever minds around the world took to developing a number of workaround tools

IN THIS ISSUE:

**AN EXAMINATION OF A
GROWING PROBLEM -
ASSAULT ON PROCESS
SERVERS**

3

CII GOES TO MARKET

5

AND THE AWARD GOES TO

9

CII WANTS YOU!

11

COSTA RICA RECAP

11

CHICAGO RECAP

13

AGM - MILAN

16

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

18

**BANGKOK TO BELFAST
RECAPS**

20

AGM GOLF TOURNEY

25

RESOURCE CORNER

26

**WATCHING THE
DETECTIVES**

27

to replicate some of Graph Search's functionality. And just as quickly as the workaround tools were built, the points within Facebook they accessed were shut down.

So what's next? Nobody knows. It sounds doomsday-ish to say so, but I fear this big change may be heralding the end of truly open source intelligence as we know it. My wager is that if/when similar tools come back online, they will be monetized. When Facebook returns their search functionality, it won't be to the masses, but to the paying customers. Perhaps there will be permissible uses, or levels of access dependent upon purpose, like databases. Given that online investigators use tools like these to document airstrikes in Yemen and collect evidence of human trafficking, the loss of this tool will be felt in many ways we can't yet anticipate. For now, it's just making my workday longer and more frustrating.

As our web-based capabilities come and go, it's as important as ever to network with your colleagues around the world, share tools and resources, and troubleshoot. With that in mind, I encourage you to review the details for the upcoming AGM in Milan, and recaps from our fun and informative regional meetings.

Ciao!

Lauren Sowers

Feature Article

An Examination of a Growing Problem – Assault on Process Servers

By Dick Smith, QPM,

The below article was first published in the Journal of the Association of British Investigators (ABI) and is reprinted with the permission of the author who is a Past President and Current Law Enforcement Liaison of the ABI. Mr. Smith is a Director of IPFGB, an investigative firm based in Great Britain.

Towards the end of April this year, an experienced Process Server and member of the ABI was assaulted in London. The attending police officers simply did not understand the duties and therefore presence of the Process Server and treated the complaint (from both parties) with contempt towards the member who was carrying out an official duty as part of the judicial process, in favour of the objecting recipient of the legal process.

Writing off crime

The latest available figures show an overall increase in violent crime reported to the Police to have

risen by 19% in a year; (BBC ~ January 2019).



Dick Smith, QPM

With prosecution and punishment less and less likely, not least due to the dramatic fall in police numbers, should we then be surprised that the reaction of the police when called to an assault situation, (and for that matter many other crimes), is to find every opportunity to write it off at the scene? And the simplest way to do that? Blame the victim!

Calculated decisions being made on the streets to downgrade, or ‘no-crime’ certain criminal activity (including assaults) would account to some degree for overall arrest numbers having halved in ten years, (The Independent ~ October 2018).

With the recent worrying trend of assaults on Process Servers undoubtedly increasing, there is, however, a distinct picture emerging that police officers in general are basically ignorant of the functions of this quite lawful occupation and the reaction to being called by one who has been assaulted is along the lines of . . .

- “You are the person who has initiated the situation by turning up on the doorstep!”
- “It’s akin to the activity of a bailiff . . . you should expect to be resisted!”
- “Process serving is to do with civil law, so the Police shouldn’t be involved!”

And this final uninformed attitude is the one which perhaps explains why, in general, the Police appear to be quite willing to accept that a small section of society going about its daily business does not deserve to be protected. It is acknowledged that many recipients of ‘process’ are quite often repeatedly served, so the notion being generated that a process server is “fair game” to an attack, in the full knowledge that the police decline to take action, can only increase the risk of these assaults becoming more serious.

Violent conduct

Whilst accepting that assaults during process-serves are comparatively rare, the episode which first focussed my attention on the issue occurred in Gwent back in 2012. On behalf of a well-known law firm, the Process Server, (an ABI member who is also a certified bailiff), attempted to serve a Letter Before Action on a man who was blackmailing a prominent businessman. He declined to open his door, even when shown the bailiff ID, so there was an attempt to letter-box the document. The man, however, became so abusive that the Process Server withdrew to the public footway where he called the Police. Out on the street, he was attacked by the individual, being punched and kicked violently and his phone thrown down a drain. The assault was only stopped by the intervention of a passing off-duty policewoman. The man claimed the Process Server was a burglar and she arrested the Process Server. Uniformed police arrived, refusing even to examine the bailiff ID. The householder was nevertheless also arrested for assault, both detainees being transported in the same vehicle, the

Process Server in the lock-up part of the van, the householder in the front passenger seat. That simple demarcation was, in itself, indicative of the continuing Police attitude. At the Police Station, the householder was made aware of the Process Server's home address; an inexcusable act. The Process Server was locked in a cell for several hours before being interviewed under caution and released to hospital.

Within 48 hours, a threatening letter from the householder was delivered to the Process Server's home address, demanding £5,000 compensation. The matter immediately fell into the hands of another Police Force; corrective action being taken, and the householder eventually being sentenced to Community Service for assault.

"The whole injustice of the event badly affected me," the Process Server said this week. "I continue to carry out the work, but now always wear a stab-vest and body-camera. I have not been the slightest bit surprised to read that the householder in question has since been jailed for subsequent violent offences."

The incidence of these assaults has accelerated in the past twelve months, borne out by

CII goes to market

So far in 2019, CII members, both on the Executive Board, and not, have done a yeoman's job in promoting CII to potential clients and prospective members, all in an effort to enhance our image.

- **Ponno Kalastree** of Mainguard International in Singapore along with his team of **Sheila Ponnosamy**, **Sant Kaur Jayaram**, and **Alison Chong** are attending the Interpol World Conference in Singapore, July 2-4th of which CII is a supporting organization. Our logo and a brief synopsis of our mission is up on their website. Further, Sheila Ponnosamy will be addressing the delegates regarding our organization. CII members are welcome to attend this conference. Thanks to Ponno and the Mainguard team for spearheading this initiative on all our behalves.
- For the 4th consecutive year, thanks to **Marc Reed** of Canada subsidizing the cost, CII will be exhibiting at the **ACFE** convention in Austin, Texas June 23rd to 25th. This will allow CII to present it's members collective skills to over 3,000 corporate auditors, security directors, and CPAs worldwide.
- Member **Jan Lalka** left the conference delegates of the **Alliance of Business Lawyers** spellbound with a terrific presentation at their May meeting in Prague. Kudos to Jan for representing CII in such a positive light. The ABL's next meeting is scheduled for San Francisco, October 30-November 2. For more information, or to register, click here <https://www.ablglobal.net/conferences/home/show/1313/San-Francisco-Conference>
- Our friends at **Integra International** have invited CII members to attend their upcoming meetings - a regional conference June 13-15 in Hamburg, Germany and their World- Wide Conference October 31-November 2 in Washington DC at the Hotel Kimpton. For more information go to the Integra website at www.integra-international.net .To register - contact Laurie.daschuk@integra-international.net
- In April, several CII Board and other members attended the **Intellenet** conference in Charlotte NC, all promoting the benefits of CII membership to potential members.

just some of the cases reported by ABI members.

Wiltshire

In August of last year, another ABI member with 25 years' experience in process serving wrote, "Earlier this week, I suffered an extremely serious assault when I was throttled from behind without warning and thrown to the ground by an individual when serving a Winding-Up Petition. It happened on business premises in front of several witnesses. I immediately reported the matter to the Police. I have been told that they won't take a statement from me until next week. I am not confident they will act." The victim was right to be sceptical. The Police failed to keep the appointment and for the following five months the Police continued to stall despite repeated contact. In the event, he received a phone-call to say a Sergeant had decided not to proceed due to lack of evidence.

The member wrote to his MP, Andrew Murrison, who escalated the matter to the Minister for Justice. The member received a weak response suggesting he pursue the case through civil courts. "I contrast the situation here in the UK," added the victim, "with the situation in the United States, where such assault is a specific offence . . . Federal Law US Code § 1501 Assault on a process server"

Surrey

The following month, another Process Server was attempting to serve an individual with a Suspended Committal Order for Disobedience. "Fortunately, I wasn't really hurt; mainly just shocked," he said. "I was punched and kicked. When I got to the public footpath, he then tried to rip some wood from a fence before picking up two bricks and coming at me. I reported it to the Police, and they took a statement over the phone, giving me a Crime Number. I know they spoke to neighbours, but they said these people only witnessed the end of the assault and not the punching and kicking. The Police reported back to me that they couldn't take the case further.

"Assaults and threatening behaviour have become common-place. I work alone and I was grateful to be able to discuss it with my fellow professionals. I particularly did not want to worry my family."

Sussex

Within weeks of that incident, another ABI member was punched several times by someone he assumed to be the son of the person he was trying to serve. "I called the Police, but although I had been confronted by two people, each much bigger than me and neither with a mark on them, (and I was the one covered in blood), the officer made me feel it was my fault. He clearly didn't understand what process serving was, saying that my paperwork didn't look official and even asked why I was not wearing a uniform!"

The member was told that the assault could only be pursued if he produced an independent witness. "The male that assaulted me claimed it was self-defence, suggesting he had a female witness. I eventually spoke to Professional Standards who admitted no one came forward to make a statement to corroborate self-defence. They told me the police officers who attended didn't understand what process serving was. Needless to say, it went nowhere. The Police need to be trained properly. I wouldn't want anyone else going through this!"

Thames Valley

Whilst serving divorce papers in the Thames Valley area in February of this year, a member was assaulted and subjected to threats to kill. On this occasion, however, the Police Officer attending understood process serving and was very supportive. The location of the serve was outside the individual's place of work. "The subject had refused service," said the member, "so I was calling my office for further instructions when the assault took place. The call was automatically recorded. A copy of the recording was made available to the Police, who duly investigated. However, I was eventually informed that the decision of 'Charge Review' was that as the individual had later apologised, he would simply be 'warned' to his future conduct. He did not even receive an official caution!

"I believe it is in the interests of our industry that, whenever possible, governing authorities are made aware of these unacceptable examples of threatening behaviour and actual physical assault," added this further victim. "We serve the public interest and it should be recognised that we are an independent element of the process."

So exactly what is Process Serving?

Put simply, process serving is the delivery of legal documentation to persons and/or businesses who are generally party to a current or impending legal matter.

There are myriad types of documents which a court may need to be properly served, ranging from a mere letter to a Court Order with a Penal Notice and Power of Arrest. Some may not be court-issued but could follow on from a court action.

Others, such as Statutory Demands, Bankruptcy and Winding-up Petitions, naturally relate to debt. Once judgement has been obtained, it might be necessary to serve a Notice to Attend Court for questioning. The latter will contain a Penal Notice; non-attendance meaning committal to prison. Proper service is, therefore, essential.

Still more will relate to the Children Act 1989, often announcing emergency hearings and all concerning the protection of, or access to children. It might be necessary to serve Injunction Orders bearing a Penal Notice and sometimes a Power of Arrest, or additionally Non-Molestation Orders; all of which are always urgent. The breach of an Injunction might mean the person served can immediately be arrested by any Police Officer without the need for a warrant and can ultimately lead to imprisonment up to five years.

Still further examples include Repossession Orders, for example serving "squatters" or "travellers".

In recent years, with the Police having abrogated its responsibility in respect of the investigation of commercial fraud, the majority of fraud victims rely where possible on the recovery of losses through the civil courts. So, for instance, it may be necessary to serve a Freezing Order on a less-than-honest commercial enterprise.

Personal service ensures that documents have come to the recipient's attention. Ideally, a process server will place the document into the recipient's hand, or as close to their person as practicable; so direct contact is not only unavoidable but the preference of the court. The vast majority of these serves are carried out in a calm, dignified and professional manner and will never descend into adversarial confrontation. In reality, the server is not the creator of any confrontation, merely the messenger.

Why don't the Police understand?

So, with the humble Process Server providing such an important legal service, why does he/she provoke this general Police antipathy we are witnessing with such increasing regularity? Why is there this in-built reluctance to protect? Is there, for instance some politically-slanted doctrine being taught at Police training schools, which encourages the Response Officer to side with a debtor against some tinpot semi-official who has the audacity to knock on the debtor's door?

Or is it a case of, "The Job would be great if it weren't for the public!" How often I heard that flippantly uttered remark during my 30-year service, following some waste-of-time merchant who had caused panic and, perhaps, personal risk to the officer, by reporting some inane imagined incident.

Or is it more likely to be just one more incident in the officer's over-burdened day which he may think was avoidable . . . if only that stupid Process Server hadn't kicked it all off!

Actually, I would rather like to think it's pure ignorance. The Police basically don't know how the system works . . . because no one has ever taught them.

The remedy . . . improve Police training

No one will ever compensate for the inherently violent individual who decides to vent his anger on the bringer of bad news . . . the Process Server delivering the Non-Molestation Order from his ex-wife or the Stat Demand from the tradesman to whom he owes thousands of pounds.

Yet the attitude of the Police Officer called to the situation could at least be more reasoned with just a little education. We know that training methods for the Police have altered immensely in recent years. No longer are officers required to study criminal law . . . that is what CPS is there for. Reactive, or 'Fire Brigade' policing means that in the cold light of day, when everyone is comfortably back at the Police Station, (if such an artefact still exists), when there is an actual suspect then the lawyers will instruct those front-line officers what elements of an offence it is necessary to prove. What has replaced the requirement to have knowledge of the law is the emphasis on police procedures and cooperation with other agencies. At this point in initial or continuation training, here would be a perfect opportunity to expand the schooling of law enforcement officers by including a few minutes on the function of Process Servers.

Hundreds of process-serves take place in the UK every day of the week without incident, all occurring somewhere on the archetypal over-worked Response Officer's 'patch' and totally without his/her

knowledge. The perfectly lawful and necessary function only comes to that Officer’s attention when someone gets violent . . . and it’s hardly likely that the Process Server would initiate that. Looking at it logically, is the Process Server really going to create an adversarial situation? Not on your life! All he or she wants to do is serve the papers, complete the affidavit or certificate, submit the invoice and get to the next job.

So, let’s try to get some form of formal Police training introduced and, in turn, perhaps they’ll be more willing to understand and protect a tiny section of society which at the moment is getting short-shrift!

Of course, if we were to manage to get the Police to perform their duty properly and take action against those who react violently to Process Servers, then the next hurdle to overcome would be the Crown Prosecution Service!

And The Award Goes To:

There are three awards presented to members at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for two of those honors are open.

Each year at the Annual General Meeting, a Certified Member of the Council of International is awarded **The International Investigator of the Year Award (IIOTY)**. It is the Council’s most prestigious honor. Last year’s honoree was **Fernando Fernandez**, (below) who was cited for his exceptional work in

locating and reuniting refugees from the devastating Hurricane Maria that decimated Puerto Rico.



Dues R. Due

0123 4567 8901 2345

In life and in CII, you have to pay your dues.

95% of you have paid your 2019 dues, which is much appreciated. There are still a few of you procrastinators out there who we need to hear from. Pay today at the website!

[Pay My Dues](#)

Click NOW on the link above to visit the payment page. If you are unsure whether or not you are current, check your email for a recently received status reminder. If you need confirmation contact the CII office.

ANYONE WHO HAS NOT SUBMITTED PAYMENT BY JUNE 30TH WILL BE DROPPED FROM MEMBERSHIP.

The IIOTY has a long history. At the Council's Annual Meeting held in Edinburgh, Scotland in October, 1976, the President of The Association of British Investigators at the time, Zena Scott Archer, personally delivered a silver loving cup to the Council with the request by the A.B.I. that it be presented each year to a Council member who best exemplifies the high professional and moral standards of the Council as evidenced by a particularly exceptional investigation. Since the recipient must surrender the trophy at the end of a year, another award was initiated to remain the personal possession of each annual recipient. This award is known as the "Keith Rogers Memorial Plaque".

Nominations may be made by any person during the year and election is by a majority vote taken during the annual general meeting, after the reading of the nominations and supporting documentation. The honoree must be either a Certified, Senior, or Emeritus member of the Council. Nominations should be forwarded to the CII office via email. This year nominations will close on August 15th.

The **Meritorious Service Award (MSA)** honors exceptional service to the Council of International Investigators, to the security and/or investigative industry, or to the community

in general, by a member of the Council. The MSA Award may be given annually to any member of the Council in order to recognize outstanding achievement and/or contribution. The first Council MSA award was presented in 2002, posthumously to Robert M. Peterson who served the Council tirelessly in many ways and who is credited with always reminding the Council to be "*An Organization of Laws and Not of Men.*"

Last year's awardee was **Barbara Burr** (left) who was honored for her continued contributions to the profession, both locally in California and internationally. Her mentorship and time commitments were both cited.



To nominate a person for the MSA, send an email to the CII office, citing that person's contributions. Nominations for the MSA close on August 15th.

Our third award is the **Malcom Thomson Award** that is presented to the Regional Director who, in the opinion of the Executive Regional Director and the Executive Board, provided exemplary service to his or her region and the Council in general. Last year's honoree was **Anne Styren** (right) of Sweden who is the Regional Director for Continental Europe / Israel. If you have a recommendation for the Board to consider, please let us know.



Attention Certified, Senior and Emeritus Members: CII Wants You!

A primary driver of CII’s 65 years of success is the habit of experienced members taking action to help guide the organization. It is that time of year where we need members to step up, and bring their vision and expertise to the helm of our organization, and carry CII’s capabilities into the future!

If you are a Certified, Senior, or Emeritus member and you would like to be on the Executive Board, we would like to have you. Nominees to the Executive Board:

- Must be Certified, Senior or Emeritus members in good standing for three (3)years
- Have attended two (2) meetings; 2 AGM’s or one (1) AGM and one (1) Regional Meeting
- Have registered and intend to attend the AGM at the time of nomination posting- in order to be present at the board meetings after the election.

Self-nomination to the Executive Board is permitted.

If you think you would like to be President of the Council, you must:

- Have served any consecutive 2 (two) years in the Council Executive Board
- Have registered to be present at the AGM of election at the time of nomination posting.

**Executive
Board
Nomination
Forms Due
August 1**

Nomination forms have been sent out over the listserv and more are available by contacting the CII office skirby@cii2.org. Nominations must be received by August 1st at which time the voting will be open over the website.

¡Bienvenidos a Costa Rica!

A round of kudos to Brett Mikkelson & Maidayle Ellis and Seth & Mayela Derish for hosting the regional meeting held in San Jose, Costa Rica from April 11 -15. There were 15 attendees

throughout the course of the meeting. We had members from Puerto Rico, Perú, Nicaragua, Panamá, El Salvador, United States, and of course, Costa Rica.

The seminar speaker included Scott Hess, who is in charge of international maritime operations for one of the largest shipping companies in the United States with facilities all over the world. The company's claims losses reached a level that they are presently looking for international referrals for private investigators in order to become pro-active in loss prevention. He left the meeting relating how impressed he was with the Council, its members and its range of contacts throughout the world.

There was a lively and well-rounded round table discussion that captured the good, the bad and the ugly of working in the region. The round table participants discussed the availability, or lack thereof, of personal identifiers, residential history, financial data, real estate, corporate, criminal and civil filings were described by each attendee in his/her country.

While the availability of public records typically seen in the United States, is not a tool available to investigators in much of the region, what was quite evident was conducting business in the region requires connecting and working with local contacts and their network on the ground.

Their contacts and networks with all public agencies, such as police departments, local and national agencies is the key to any successful investigation in the area. And, more importantly, when working in the region, it is critical that any US based clients understand the parameters of investigations in the region. It is your duty to educate your client before undertaking any global investigation to gauge the client's realistic expectations, as well as the budget. The round table discussion was conducted entirely in Spanish, and thank you to Brett Mikkelson for moderating and translating the discussion.

We had two evenings that included live entertainment, and in the time honored CII tradition, our education continued over a fabulous banquet of tapas, paella and sangria. While enjoying ourselves, the chef arrived after he observed that our class was not properly skilled in the consumption of wine from a goat skin bag. It was a tough course, but you will be glad to know, we all exceeded our instructor's expectations.

Fortunately, by the end of dinner, many students had acquired the fine skill, and possibly Pedro Delgado, Fernando Fernandez, CII's most recent International Investigator of the Year award recipient, and our past president, Brett Mikkelson, demonstrated the best techniques. It was a difficult



class fraught with the possibility of red wine spill, but all seemed to have survived. To be certain of our survival skills, the chef produced, with a light show, a hot toddy night cap to send us off to the byways of Costa Rica.

Properly educated, fed, and rested, no trip to Costa Rica is complete without a visit to an active volcano, so off we were to Poás, and then on to a drive through rain forests (where there was plenty of rain) and one of the more beautiful of the area's local waterfalls. We explored the roads and byways of a beautiful rainforest and its canopy rife with birds of all types.

This is the third CII meeting held in this region since the Council instituted a Strategic Plan developed in 2008 to eliminate the mid-year meeting and initiate regional meetings. Each region has its own nuances of culture, history and language. What I saw at this regional meeting, where there were several repeat attendees, was the culmination of CII's efforts to develop this region, and it is unique to most of the other international organizations. And, what I most enjoyed was re-discovering friends among our colleagues on my sixth visit to Costa Rica!

The Council's strength in relying on regional meetings as a means of meeting potential new members, renewing old friendships and building on our network is vital. The regional directors serve as the foundation of CII's membership recruitment and enhancement for members at a local level. That local contact is essential when conducting investigations in any region and the Costa Rica meeting certainly hit all of those high marks, and in fact, a big welcome to one of CII's newest members, Oscar Bello, from Nicaragua, one of the newly minted "cool" members of CII!

Chicago Was Our Kind of Town



Over a spring weekend, May 3-5, people gathered in the Windy City of Chicago to network, eat Chicago style pizza, see the Chicago White Sox get crushed by the Red Sox, and most importantly learn from experts about wrongful convictions, all at the elegant Whitehall Hotel, just off Chicago's Gold Coast and Magnificent Mile.

The Midwest Regional Meeting kicked off Friday

The Sox Scoreboard Welcomed CII!

night with a cocktail reception at the Whitehall. Following that, the members and guests walked to the iconic Pizzeria Due, famous for Chicago deep dish pizza. After stuffing ourselves, the group walked back to the Whitehall for a few nightcaps in the hospitality suite.

The next day was dedicated to the phenomenon of wrongful convictions. The day long symposium was kicked off by an inspiring presentation by Ryan Ferguson of Missouri. Ryan spent 10 years incarcerated in a maximum-security prison for a murder he had no part of. He was eventually exonerated and awarded a substantial sum of money in reparation.

Ryan's story has been documented on Dateline and 48 Hours, as well as in a full-length movie, Dream Killer, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival. Ryan spoke eloquently about how his case happened and how his first set of attorneys failed to properly investigate. He went on to explain how diligent investigation and a first-rate attorney were able to set him free. Following Ryan, a panel of three top criminal defense attorneys, (Frank Himel, Bob Milan, and Paul DeLuca) all former prosecutors, discussed how and why these cases seem to occur and how they can be and should be prevented. The next speaker, Attorney Mike Neslund, discussed civil rights remedies in general and specifically the infamous Laquan MacDonald case.

CII members enjoying an evening at a Sox game (but not the score)!



After lunch, three of CII's finest, Jim Kirby, Jeff Stein, and Brian King, discussed tips and techniques utilized in helping free the innocent with the help of moderator and now radio personality, Paul Ciolino.

While the symposium was in session, spouses and partners went on a tour of the gardens at Lincoln Park and took a chance shopping for bargains.

That evening some 30 of the group took the subway to the White Sox vs. Red Sox game and while food and beer was in plentiful supply, for Chicago White Sox fans the game was a disaster, with the good guys losing 15 to 2. Yikes! Sorrows were

CII members Jim Kirby, Brian King, and Jeff Stein discuss techniques in investigating wrongful conviction cases – moderated by Paul Ciolino.



drowned in the hospitality suite.

By all accounts it was a great weekend with 45 members and guests in attendance from Panama, Australia, Philippines, Canada, California, Indiana, Washington DC, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Illinois. Thanks to Jim Kirby, Jack Burke, and Brett Starr (with some assistance from the CII office) for putting together such a great weekend of education, networking, and fun.



Ryan Ferguson, a victim of wrongful conviction, captivates the CII audience with his story.

Milan 2019 - October 1-5

Now that our regional meetings are all completed, with great success, it's time to start thinking about and registering for Milan. Our 65th Annual General Meeting is going to be spectacular and you won't want to miss it. Our seminars are set; outings are planned; the venue is perfect; and Alice Cappiello and her team are hard at work putting on the finishing touches.



Seminars include such topics as ethics, cross boundary investigations; evidentiary photography, generational changes in business, effective pretext models; and burn out/ PTSD. Our speakers include Toine Goorts, Eddy Sigrist, Bernhard Maier and Ed Kelly. Panels discussions will include Melissa Kelley-Hilton, Ryan Colley, Jeremy King, Mike LaCorte, and many more talented members and non-members.

Our social outings will include a tour of Milan, a visit to the famed Duomo, shopping outings, Italian pizza fest, trip to the wine country, and more. Our

networking events will include opening cocktail reception, nightly hospitality suite, awards luncheon, and a banquet at a very special venue.

So, why wait? Register now by going to [2019 AGM Registration](#) getting yourself booked for a great event in a great city.



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CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW

Membership News

CII SUMMER 2019 MEMBERSHIP NEWS

we now have

400

members

on the ground in

72

countries

with contacts and
associates, CII is in
force in well over
125 countries



We are pleased to welcome nine new members.

Roger Azupardo, ACM

Aztra Security & Investigation Services
Metro Manila, Philippines
joroger.coo@aztrasec.com

Oscar Bello, CII

Bello Lira Law & Investigations, Inc.
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From Bangkok to Belfast: Regional Meetings Done Right

Blast in Bangkok closes out 2019 Regional Meetings

By Peter Coleman

June 12th and 13th 2019 saw the CII Southeast Asia and Far East Regions host a joint members conference at The Continent Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. The event was a very successful one on many fronts.

We had 33 members in total attend the event which was a fantastic number and showed the strong interest in CII in these regions. Included were 6 new members many of whom had the opportunity to make a presentation to the members. All told we had members from eleven (11) different countries including Australia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Hong Kong, China, Korea, India, Nepal, and even the USA. The level of “networking” that occurred was truly amazing.

The event kicked off on Wednesday evening 12th June with a welcome reception in the rooftop bar of the hotel with spectacular views over Bangkok at night. The reception was, as it should be, convivial, noisy and lubricated with excellent Thai beers, Australian wines, soft drink and a few other interesting looking drinks. Some members were seen to “kick-on” after the bar had closed to continue their deep networking discussions. Safe to say nobody left while the bar was open.

Thursday morning, 13th June, the main event was held at The Continent Hotel. We were faced with a very nice problem of space, not enough of it. The organisers (well me) had planned for 25 to 30 and the room was set up for 25 so a quick reworking of seating arrangements and we managed to comfortably fit all 33 members into the room. I could tell that the members we keen to attend the meeting as most turned up a good 30 minutes before the agenda starting time (of course everyone reads the agenda).

The meeting was however able to start right on time with only one small additional problem, both of our invited guest speakers failed to turn up. One had been called out of the country the evening before and was unable to find a replacement from his organisation. The other had changed firms and didn't transfer his calendar to the new firm, he apologised profusely later in the day when he realised he had let us down.

But CII is nothing if its not resourceful. Our esteemed senior member, Ponno Kalastree stood in and gave a wonderful history of the CII for our new, and not so new, members and answered lots of questions from the room about various CII matters and how the investigations profession itself has changed over the years.



President David McLeod lead all of the members to give a brief introduction of themselves to the group so we could all get to know, and re-know, each other and have something to talk to each other about during the breaks.

New members, Andy Wharton and Nick Iorfino both from Australia, gave presentations about their journey as investigators and some of the fascinating areas they have worked in as well as some of the personal achievements in and around their professional lives. I feel there may be a push for an AGM or Regional Conference in Darwin following Andy's presentation which included a lot about fishing and crocodiles.

We also had a surprise speaker organised by our esteemed member, Ajit Singh, who was able to encourage his friend Dr. Bharat Dahiya who is an Ex. UN Habitat and Urban Development Specialist and lives in Bangkok to present to us. Dr. Bharat gave a sobering presentation on Sustainable Development and issues associated with the current Climate Crisis the world is experiencing. I think as professional investigators we appreciated the research and analysis of findings shown to us by Dr. Bharat. The presentation was very well received. We have to say thanks to Ajit for organising it.



Finally, we had an interesting presentation on an old murder investigation from Mick Symonds. The focus of the presentation from Mick was about focusing on the evidence and how easy it can be to make incorrect assumptions as to the guilt or otherwise of persons involved. As always Mick highlighted the importance of process, diligence and perseverance.

That evening the whole group travelled in a fleet of mini-busses to the Tawandeng German Brewery and Thai Cabaret. Bangkok traffic is legendary, and we were not disappointed as it took the first three busses nearly 30 minutes just to get out of the hotel. However once on the freeway the rest of the journey was quite easy.

For those who have not experienced this concept know that it is very popular in Thailand. The beer is very German, and it flows very freely. Some members were seen to be drinking some other forms of refreshment and enjoying it very much. The food at Tawandeng is a mix of Thai and German so lots of steamed fish, fried calamari, papaya salads, deep fried pork knuckle, pork sausages and pork ribs (a theme yes).

The cabaret show was very family friendly and the members enjoyed the variety of entertainment for a few hours. Some members returned to the hotel after a few hours and others were able to find other entertainments of which Bangkok has many.

Overall it would be fair to say that the meeting was a great success on many levels. The venue was just perfect for our needs and the hotel management were fantastic and making sure that all our members were treated very well. The food generally was outstanding, many were seen going back for second and even third helpings at breakfast and lunch.



Friday was a free and easy day. Some

members had meetings set up, some had to travel home. Others too a variety of tours. Andy Wharton went fishing and from the look of his Facebook page caught a couple of monsters.

Many thanks to all the members who helped with the organisation and smooth running of the event. It was one of those typical events where nothing went to plan but everything went so well that the plan was just a plan and the rest was what we actually did. Looking forward to another great event next year.

Belfast: Combined European and African Regional Meeting

By John Withers, Priority International

There were 59 registrations from 18 countries who descended on Northern Ireland for the first combined European and African Regional Meeting in April. The attendees included 39 members, 4 staff of members, 16 guests and 7 local invites!!

We started Thursday evening with a welcome meal in the renowned EDO restaurant in the centre of Belfast. This provided a great opportunity to meet and greet both new and old CII friends.

On Friday the meeting proper took place. The morning session included introductions from all of the attendees this took some time! Followed by a great session on being a private investigator in Ireland today, by Robert Nolan, chairman of the Irish Professional Private Investigators Association.

In the afternoon we focused



on Africa; this was kicked off by Mamoudou Ndiayne from Senegal who despite not getting his visa in time to attend in person, made a successful presentation via Skype. He was followed with by Sean Peirce and Kyle Condon both from South Africa all of whom gave excellent accounts of the varying issues of operating on the African Continent.

The meeting finished off with a African panel discussion that was very informative and a great demonstration of the huge knowledge base we have at our disposal in CII. The panel was expertly managed by Toine Goorts and consisted of Sean Peirce, Kyle Condon, Mike Warburton, Eddy Sigrist and Howard Griffiths.

We closed the day out with a tour and dinner at the famous Crumlin Road Jail. There is much that I would like to share about this evening, but I will limit myself to a couple of salient points. Firstly, the expert guitar and singing abilities of our President David MacLeod, a true musician!

Secondly, and most importantly the generosity of all of the attendees. Kyle Condon from South Africa donated two painted ostrich eggs that we able to auction between ourselves for charity. This was helped by the remarkable auctioneering skills of Honouree Member Jimmy Gahan, who managed to preside over an outstanding collection of £2240.15 which was given to Action Cancer NI.

The meeting closed off with an option tour on Saturday to Bushmills Whiskey Distillery (very popular) and a visit the Giants' Causeway. I would to acknowledge my team at Priority International, plus Howard Griffiths and Anne Styren who's assistance, advice and planning helped make the Belfast meeting a huge success.



Group dinner at the Crumlin Road Jail.

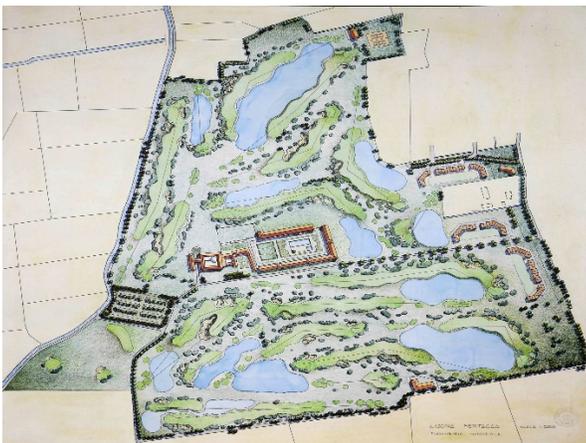


Not all fun and games -serious seminar in session.

The Bert Falbaum Memorial AGM Golf Tournament: Ambrosiano Golf Club

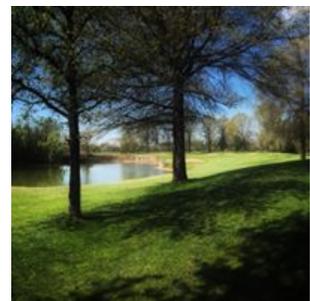
By Anne Styren

It's with great pleasure I invite all CII golfers to the 2019 AGM golf tournament. We'll be visiting the Ambrosiano Golf Club, situated in Bubbiano, just under an hour's drive from the CII hotel Tocq in the centre of Milan.



The Club was founded in 1992 when a group of friends bought 60 hectares of land, hired the American design studio Cornish & Silva and set about creating a golf course.

The course, 18 holes PAR 72 parkland, has undulated, wide greens, numerous bunkers and water of various sizes that adorns 12 holes. It's a challenging course for the



professionals, but still very enjoyable for us amateurs as we can choose a suitable tee and course length in order to have a great game. The Ambrosiano Golf Club has excellent facilities and we will be enjoying lunch there after our game.

The green fee is only 35 Euro per person (our special CII rate), a golf cart is 40 Euro (for 2 persons). We can also rent clubs and we need to know well in advance the exact needs for rentals (left/right, men/women, stiff/regular aso).

Our first tee time is 10 AM (strict) Monday 30th so golfers need plan for departure from the hotel around 8AM to have time to pay fees, do some practise swings and putts before teeing up. We'll be using the Ambrosiano shuttle service + taxi, transport costs to be split and shared.

We'll be playing a modified stroke play (par+5 max) with handicap reduction, played by the new golf rules. The ultimate goal is quite simply to have fun and enjoy a good game of golf with CII friends! Sign up now!!

Warm welcome,
your AGM Golf host, Anne Styren
CII regional director Europe



Resource Corner

Tracking Changes to a Webpage - New and Improved!

By Lauren Sowers

There are plenty of ways to track changes in a webpage, and I've always relied on Google Alerts to do so. However, I've recently been working on finding browser-extension services for things I frequently use, rather than manually go through the process of visiting a site and inputting the data. I've been using the Chrome Extension for distill.io to monitor pages, and the features it offers, coupled with ease of use in my browser extension bar, makes it an easy choice. Distill offers a check interval of as low as 5 seconds and as high as 30 days. Updates can be received via SMS in addition to email, etc. You can also filter alerts with conditions. This is a fantastic way to monitor news coverage about your subject, track changes to case laws, and keep an eye on a social media profile without having to calendar it.

Find the Chrome Extension here.

Enterprise solutions and other services they offer at <https://distill.io>

Watching the Detectives

Look for a new member in 20 years as word is out that **Alice Cappiello** is expecting. She's due in September, just in time to show off her new baby at the AGM...He never ceases to amaze, that man of men, **Walt Atwood**, (*below, right*) who last month attended his 80th high school reunion in Kansas.

We need to ask Walt how many people were there and what was in the water when he was growing up that would call for an 80 year reunion...**Jack Burke** has turned hipster, having moved from his long time roots of southside Beverly neighborhood of Chicago to the upscale downtown condo scene. He is also trading in his mom jeans for a pair of skinny jeans...



Speaking of moving, **Nancy Barber** (*below, right*) left her heart in San Francisco, but her body went upstate for

peace and quiet. Rumor has it that Nancy first went to Haight Ashbury during the Summer of Love and partied with Jerry Garcia...While on the subject of rock stars, who knew that our President, **Dave MacLeod** (*left*) was a rocker at heart? Those members in Belfast can attest that Dave plays a mean guitar and while in Chicago Dave spent a few hours at the Chicago Guitar Exchange

checking out a new "ax." Dave also rocked the house at his 50th Birthday party...Other recent CII visitors to Chicago included

Mick Symons and **Sanjay Kaushik**. Mick was in Chicago accompanying his partner **Diane** to the International Restaurant Show while Sanjay was becoming an instructor with the ACFE organization...**Kathy Kerr** did it again, raising tons of



funds for the troops with her golf outing, setting a new record for donations...While

on the subject of troops, New Hampshire member **David Duchesneau** (*left*) shared a pitch perfect rendition of Taps on bugle to his Facebook page in honor of Memorial Day. After a few years missing in action, **Jimmy Gahan** was in full form and voice as the auctioneer supreme at the Belfast AGM...

