SAP can do what the City won’t

For more than two years the City sang to its employees the praises of a new $50 million payroll system, SAP. The City called it one of the “most robust” systems in the world. Now two paychecks into the $50 million SAP’s actual operation, reality is not wonderful at all.

The phrase, “SAP can’t do that” has become synonymous with shockingly inaccurate paychecks and blatant disregard of the City’s contractual agreements with many of its labor unions. The City’s mistakes include everything from deducting child support twice to not paying an employee at all.

Though many colorful, imaginative names have been invented for the acronym SAP, the disappointingly correct name is Systems, Applications and Products (SAP). The City claims to have won awards for its implementation of the $50 million SAP—a system whose very name fails to deliver what the City has been promising. How could anyone win awards for implementing a payroll system that fails to pay employees accurately and sometimes entirely?

The City’s inept implementation of this $50 million system has created such a backlog of pay to our members, the City ordered the good people at Fiscal to speak with members about errors on their paychecks. Three issues of the Bureau publication Money Matters were devoted to SAP’s payroll changes including detailed instruction on how to inform Fiscal of paycheck errors—a phone call is not one of the listed options. In regard to the backlog of pay owed to our members the City has officially said, “We’ll get to it when we get to it.”

Now keep in mind the people at Fiscal and Strategic Services are twice to not paying an employee at all.

With the implementation of the $50 million SAP, the City’s 24-hour emergency service bureaus were forced to adopt timekeeping policies that would be better suited to a 9-to-5 office environment. A computer program dictated rigid, inflexible shifts and timekeeping for Portland’s fire and police bureaus, and BOEC. A system of timekeeping that has worked well for more than 30 years—timekeeping appropriate to 24-hour emergency service bureaus that flexes with changing workloads, extended shifts and adjusted days off—is suddenly considered impossible due to a computer program.

It is the wanton disregard of the PPA’s contract with the City and his team have generously offered our foundation their non-profit management expertise. They have helped us get off the ground by providing in-kind donations of up to $70,000 during the next year as we establish ourselves. Rich Baek has also personally given the Z Man scholarship a very generous cash donation to help us with our start up expenses.

As of today we have around 350 bureau members who have committed to participate in payroll deductions. I am so pleased and thankful to all of you for taking this step and donating your money to this cause. As I have stated before, it isn’t the amount people give that matters. When we set this up, part of the strategy was for folks to give $5 or less per check because of the insignificant impact that dollar amount would have on you.

However, combine those dollars given by everyone and look at the tremendous life changing impact we can have on other people through the gift of our scholarship. Thanks again and please continue to encourage others to participate. Donation forms can be found on our intranet. Please forward all completed forms to Lt. Kelli Sheffer at East Precinct.

I hope you have all had an opportunity to view the video on the intranet that was filmed on July 1 when we awarded four students and their families with the scholarship. It was a great day for our bureau and for the students as well as their families. We welcome Shaudae’ Yoakum, James Jones, Hosana Medhanie and Raeshell Duru as our new scholarship recipients. What a wonderful group of folks they all are. We are excited at the new friendships that have formed with these four amazing students and their families.

In the coming months you will receive an e-mail invitation to join the Z Man scholarship team as we meet to discuss further development of the scholarship. The next meeting is scheduled for August 19 at North Precinct in the community room from 1000-1200.

I know that Captain Bill Walker’s Admissions team, Sgt. Larry Graham and Officer Leo Besner’s mentorship team, Sgt. Tom Hunt and Lt. Pat Walsh’s Marketing team, and Officer Lisa Clayton and Lt. Kelli Sheffer’s Development team need additional support in the form of able bodied. We welcome everyone out there and ask that you lend us a hand.

I promise you that we will embrace the work that you give but the reality is that you will take away more from this experience than you could ever imagine. It is a humbling and
Beer summit fails to undo Obama’s damage

Racial profiling.
The phrase with which we are all so intimately familiar is now a hot topic at the highest level — for all the wrong reasons.

On July 16, Sgt. James Crowley of the Cambridge (Mass.) Police responded to a call of a burglary in progress. While at the call, Sgt. Crowley encountered a hostile man inside the residence claiming to be the tenant. Sgt. Crowley asked for identification and Crowley came away with a “thanks for being honest, sir” during what should have been a routine conduct.

The man, identified as Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates, did not reside at the house. Crowley also made references to the phrase “This is what happens to a black man in America,” during his arrest.

Gates was heard screaming, “This is what happens to a black man in America,” during his arrest.

As police officers we are keenly aware of the public’s perception that racial profiling is rampant in law enforcement. We also know that much painstaking work has been done to show that biased policing doesn’t generally occur. We’ve worked hard to erase the perception that racial profiling is the rule rather than the exception.

Much of that work was undone with President Obama’s remarks. For many in law enforcement, it felt like a chop block to the knees to have our country’s president comment negatively about a local law enforcement event which he admittedly knew little about.

Obama knew nothing about Professor Gates. A man well respected by the African American community in Cambridge; a man who teaches police officers about racial profiling; a man who once gave CPR to an African American star of the Boston Celtics, Reggie Lewis. Lewis ultimately died, a fact that haunts Sgt. Crowley.

The beer summit worked to clear the air between Sgt. Crowley and Professor Gates. Maybe one day it will help undo the damage done by President Obama’s remarks.

Continued on page 3.
**Z Man scholarship foundation**

very emotional experience to take part in a project where you can actually witness the impact that your work is having as it changes a person’s life for the better.

Finally I want to thank the entire Z Man scholarship executive board for their tireless efforts that have brought us to where we are today: Coach Roy Pittman, community leader and wrestling coach; community leader Pastor Rob Richardson, from Emanuel Temple; Tom Penn, Pam Donegan and LaMarcus Aldridge from the Portland Trail Blazers organization; Jim Linkous, VP and GM from Via West; Craig Sabina, president and CEO from Summit Projects; Thompson Morrison, president and CEO from i-op; Rich Baek, president and CEO from VTM Group; Courtlandt Cuffee from KGW News Channel 8; and Patti Zylawy and her family.

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**PPB’s Community Partnerships Program**

Brandi Gilbert
PPB Chief’s Office

Cops helping the community. The community helping cops.

It’s all part of the Portland Police Bureau’s Community Partnerships Program (CPP). Developed as a pilot program, CPP allows police officers to be hired in a temporary capacity while waiting for their academy date giving them an opportunity to get to know the community and the resources available to them once they are sworn in as police officers.

Since its inception in March of this year, 33 recruits have been a part of the CPP. The benefits have been two-fold. Recruits in the program go through a one-week seminar conducted by the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) where they learn about the social services available throughout the community. “During this week-long seminar, the recruits work with the Janus Youth Program, Outside In, the Gang Resource Intervention Team (GRIT), Harry’s Mother, the Medford House, SEI and others,” said Portland Police Sergeant Dave Virtue.

The recruits are then assigned to the Police Activities League (PAL) or the Sunshine Division where they get firsthand experience working with some of the community’s most vulnerable populations.

Many of the CPP recruits have gone above and beyond within their assignments at Sunshine and PAL. Mike Currier was one recruit who found himself totally immersed in the CPP. Mike was hired by the Bureau as a temporary on May 18, 2009, and since then has been assigned to the PAL Youth Center. During his assignment, Mike has been performing regular maintenance on the facility during the morning hours including refilling the bathroom and painting the facility. During the afternoon Mike spends his time mentoring the kids and helping them with their homework.

Most recently, Mike participated in a week-long PAL camp at David Douglas High School where he taught kids how to fish and helped them perfect their boxing and football skills. He even partnered with the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO) and arranged to take several kids out on the MCSO river patrol boat on the Willamette River.

“This program gives us an opportunity to meet the kids in the community and interact positively with them,” said Currier. “It allows us to learn and understand the different community services available to the public, so as officers we can inform individuals and families who need these great services the most,” added Currier.

Like Currier, Angela Luty participated in the CPP and was officially sworn in as a police officer on July 9, 2009. While going through the CPP, Angela was assigned to PAL and worked as a girl’s basketball coordinator at the PAL camp.

As a previous elementary school teacher, Angela also helped develop lesson plans to be used throughout the summer. “It is nice to use my skills as a teacher and make it meaningful during this experience,” said Luty. “Each week there is a theme and for each lesson there are a few activities. During environmental week, the kids will make bird feeders from pinecones, go on a scavenger hunt and learn about recycling,” explained Luty.

There are many notable benefits that have come from the recruits’ participation in the CPP pilot project, but, most importantly, the program has provided an opportunity to show citizens a different perspective and quell misconceptions about police officers. From a police officer’s view, the CPP provides new recruits a chance to gain a better understanding of the community and social service resources available within the city they will serve.

The Bureau’s CPP has gained national recognition. In August, Sgt. Virtue will travel to Washington, DC as a guest of the Casey Foundation, to speak at a workshop for Casey Foundation members and JDAI partners. Virtue will discuss specifics on the CPP, its development and what a great benefit it provides officers and the community alike.

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**For now, the president should work to develop a better understanding of the work law enforcement has done to address the misguided perceptions regarding racial profiling.**

Stay safe.

**PAL golf tournament set for September 25**

The PAL golf tournament is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 25, 2009, with an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start at Riverside Golf & Country Club located at 8105 NE 33rd.

West Coast Bank will again be a sponsor, and the Police Activities League is asking Travel Command to come on board as a lead sponsor again this year. More sponsors are needed!

The venue is new this year, and we were lucky to get a date on the course. Expect the same great golfing, refreshments, amenities and more.

Per person golf fee will be $125 this year.

There are numerous sponsorships available: corporate, cart, etc. Those interested in registering a team or sponsoring the event should call Maura White-Coeta at 503.823.5786.

About the course

Since its design and construction in the mid-1920s during the original American golf boom, Riverside Golf & Country Club has consistently been ranked among the elite courses in the Pacific Northwest. Recently, in a ranking conducted by Golf Digest publishing, a panel of golf course experts included Riverside in the top 125 classic courses in the country. Through the years, Riverside has been highly ranked by Golf Digest and other publications. Golf Digest rated it as one of Oregon’s top golf courses.

The ladies of the L.E.G.A. Tour consider Riverside one of their favorite courses in the country. Riverside has four sets of tees that vary from 5,725 to 6,626 yards. With a slope rating of 129-135, the course is challenging to all golfers. Riverside requires accuracy off the tee and the greens are some of the best in the Northwest.

Riverside’s classic design and expertly maintained course provides golfers with a challenging but beautiful escape.

Practice facilities located near the clubhouse include a driving range, two putting greens, chipping area and sand trap.

A new short game practice area is now located near the 8th tee and includes three greens to practice those shots up to 100 yards.

Standard speed of play is four hours or less.

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**statistics say:**

**60-80% of adults will suffer back pain**

we say 100% of them should know about us

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Lessons Learned

Stupid is as stupid does ... unless ...

The winds whipped up on Thursday, June 4, 2009, generating a “severe weather warning” which most Oregonians in the Portland area took to heart. Some could remember the devastating winds on October 12, 1962, on what came to be known as the Columbus Day Storm. The widespread damage throughout the city, and in fact, the entire state, can hardly be imagined today.

The Columbus Day Storm was classified an “extratropical cyclone” with wind gusts over 100 mph. Newport recorded a gust in excess of 120 mph. KGW TV lost their tower on Skyline Boulevard and KOIN radio lost one of two towers at Sylvan. Many homes and businesses remained without power for up to three weeks. That tremendous storm killed 48 people in the Northwest.

I was a sergeant working Traffic, First Night. It was Tuesday afternoon, and we had our paychecks in hand. Following roll call, I drove to my bank in Hillsdale and deposited my check. Upon coming outside, the wind was howling and a bunch of electrical wires came crashing down on the south side of Capitol Highway at Sunset Drive. Sitting in my patrol car, I passed this bit of information along to Radio. It was the last transmission I would make for hours. Units all over the city were trying to make similar reports, coming in on top of each other with the resulting unintelligible squeal. A short distance north on Sunset Drive, trees began coming down, some bringing more wires with them. There was no way traffic could get through.

I turned my black and white station wagon sideways in the street with its red dome light flashing on the roof. Electrical power in Hillsdale was gone now, and people were trying to reach their homes on foot. As they came by my location, I warned them about wires down. Portland Traction Company (now Tri-Met) buses were still dropping passengers off along Capitol Highway, and I led some of them around fallen trees and parts of houses. I became keenly aware of being the only police officer in this part of the city.

The skies were dark with storm clouds — darkness would come early this night. More wires had formed a major mess in the street. While most people in Hillsdale had headed home, bus passengers still arrived from downtown now and then. It would be hard to see those wires once it became dark. I could drag them off to the side — yet, we knew the grave warning that wires down might become energized at any moment. The argument with myself continued for what seemed a long time. Finally, the balance was tipped when I considered that damage to Portland’s electrical service was so wide-spread, it was most unlikely that someone would try to energize the mess I was looking at.

After saying a short prayer and putting on gloves, I dragged my immediate collection of wires off to the side and out of the way.

It became darker than night itself. A few buses made a passenger drop at Capitol Highway and Sunset, then turned around and headed back downtown. I led passengers up to the point where they could find their way home, then returned to the Traffic car. A couple in a nearby home with a gas range brought me coffee and something to eat. It was much appreciated.

Sometime after midnight, I headed back to the Traffic Division at S.W. 2nd and Pine. The damage to downtown Portland was unbelievable. Signs had crashed down on top of cars. Older buildings had walls that had partially given way, dropping bricks and mortar on the streets below.

In present times we have seen parts of our country devastated by storms, fires, earthquakes and floods. Sometimes people take foolish chances to help others. I certainly don’t recommend grabbing an armload of electrical wires, and yet...

Lessons Learned

1. Catastrophic events can sometimes overwhelm the public resources at hand to deal with immediate problems.

2. Such moments may require a risk assessment before acting.

3. I discovered “community policing” before I knew what to call it.

President’s Message

that is unsettling. Repeatedly hearing the phrase, “SAP can’t do that,” the natural assumption is that the $50 million SAP is lacking and unable to apply different payroll policies to different bureaus and situations. In a time where transparency and accountability are paramount in government agencies, it would be easy to conclude that the software overlooked the City’s contractual promises where pay is concerned.

At a meeting with the mayor’s staff in late June, we learned the truth. The $50 million SAP can do it all, but the City chose to limit SAP’s scope. Why would the City hobble a $50 million payroll system? The City’s only response is that it costs too much money to use it to its full potential.

As a resident of Portland and a City employee, I’m sure I’m not alone in thinking that paying $50 million for a “robust” financial system only to block its functionality is not money well-spent. The truth is SAP can work in concert with our contract’s specifications on pay. The City chose not to. I am incredibly perplexed and frustrated by the City’s attitude toward its employees as it relates to the implementation of this system.

Two paychecks into SAP’s operation, the complaint most frequently heard is the non-payment of overtime. Prior to SAP “going live,” we found that Fiscal Services had more than 500 overtime slips backlogged. A publication sent out with the July 16 paychecks said not to expect it anytime soon.

We recently learned why members aren’t getting their overtime pay. Even though the development and implementation of this new system has been in the works for more than two years, no one at SAP bothered to inform Police Fiscal Services of SAP’s ability to track overtime. As a result, Fiscal developed their own tracking system to ensure officers were properly paid. Incredibly labor intensive, this system required Fiscal to continue to track overtime on paper using a modified version of the old method as well as redundantly entering everything into the new $50 million SAP.

Most officers discovered the nonpayment of overtime in their July 16 paycheck. It wasn’t until the following day that the City’s SAP team identified the issue that caused the backlog. The $50 million SAP can track overtime quite well it turns out. The SAP team is currently working with Fiscal to help alleviate the backlog.

While the PPA has filed a significant number of grievances over this and other SAP issues, many members are asking what else can be done. The PPA has three avenues to pursue in a situation like this. The first is the grievance process, which we have engaged, which could take months or years to resolve. The second avenue would be the State of Oregon’s Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) wage and hour laws. The problem with this avenue is that law enforcement overtime is exempt from the state’s laws.

Finally, we have the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act which reads, “Overtime pay earned in a particular workweek must be paid on the regular pay day for the pay period in which the wages were earned.” With our system of reporting overtime, it is expected to be paid in the pay period worked or the following pay period. We have members who haven’t been paid overtime for hours worked back in April and May.

The PPA is currently considering filing an FLSA lawsuit over this issue as well. Of course, resolution would be years down the road. In the mean time we are continuing discussions with Bureau and City leaders in an effort to continue to identify and fix the remaining issues.

Until this system is fully operational and properly configured, please check the grievances section in July and August issues of the Rap Sheet to see if you have documentation that qualifies for our existing grievances. And keep talking with your representatives about potential new issues.
Grievance Update

Continuing from last month’s article on grievances, listed below are the non-disciplinary grievances the PPA has filed against the City/Police Bureau since last month. The City has made a number of sweeping changes in violation of our contract. Our intent is not to file a grievance wantonly, but to enforce our contract. Please continue to let your PPA representatives know about issues concerning your working conditions.

Grievance 2009-10

A member who had been off on disability was released to return to work. The Bureau required the member to undergo a brief background and other tests before allowing the member to return to work. This caused the member to be in non-paid status for nearly three months. FPD&R wouldn’t pay the member because the member was released to work, but the City wouldn’t pay the member because the member hadn’t completed all the re-screening tests. Once the member passed all required tests and was placed back in active service, the City refused to pay the member for the non-paid time. The PPA contends that the member was released to full duty and completed all tests required to return to service and should be paid. The City believes the member should have given more notice before signaling their ability to return to work.
Status: Grievance filed July 8, 2009.

Grievance 2009-11

A member sustained a broken leg while struggling with a suspect. The member continued to struggle with the suspect for a period of time after the injury occurred. The member was transported to an area hospital where the member was released five hours after their shift had ended. The member submitted an overtime slip for the five hours and it was denied. The City contends that the moment an officer is injured, the officer is transferred to FPD&R, and FPD&R does not pay overtime. The PPA’s position is that the member was still in active service even after the injury and should be paid per the contract.
Status: The Chief’s office has indicated support for this grievance and a settlement is in the works. Grievance filed July 8, 2009.

Grievance 2009-12

With the introduction of the new SAP financial system, officers who have worked overtime as early as April still haven’t been paid for that overtime even though the City promised there would be no impact on employees. The City has indicated that they are aware of the back log and are doing everything they can to fix the situation (see the president’s report for more details). The PPA’s position is that the City is violating the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and our contract by not paying employees’ overtime in a timely fashion.
Status: Grievance filed July 8, 2009.

Grievance 2009-13

The Fire and Police Disability System (FPD&R) voted to revoke what they called Resolution 271 which was enacted in 1994. This resolution had to do with retirement benefits that are separated due to a domestic relations order (DRO). From 1994 until last month, if a divorced spouse died before the member, the portion of the retirement earned by the member that was paid to the spouse was returned to the member. With the revocation of this resolution, FPD&R is asserting that the portion sent to the former spouse was absorbed by the fund.
Status: Grievance filed July 8, 2009.

Grievance 2009-16

This is a grievance over the SAP interpretation of our contract where K-9 officers who get paid overtime for what is known as “kennel time” are no longer allowed to take that overtime in comp time. This was originally worked out to have been configured into SAP, but the practice on K-9 officers’ checks is that the time has been converted to pay instead.

Grievance 2009-18

Two members were scheduled to appear in court out of county on a case resulting from their work with Portland Police. Instead of having the members drive to a far away county to testify in a criminal case, the District Attorney had them made arrangements for telephonic testimony. The members were given specific instructions to be available to testify by landline, and on their own time, and dedicated their time to be available to testify. After five hours of waiting, they were finally given word that they would not be needed. They submitted overtime slips which were later rejected. One member was paid nothing; the other member was paid for a half hour.
Status: Grievance filed on July 22, 2009.

Grievance 2009-19

Earlier this year, the City’s Bureau of Human Resources indicated they were changing some City rules as they relate to their policies concerning the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The PPA had assurances that these changes would not impact past practice in how FMLA would be applied to PPA members. On July 9, 2009, the PPA received an Executive Order regarding Directive 210.21 Leaves of Service where the Bureau now has a policy that has changed the past practice of how members can use FMLA. The addition to this directive discusses the “intent” of FMLA and how staffing, budget and other factors will dictate whether or not an FMLA request will be approved. The added requirements of Directive 210.21 are not required by FMLA, but are allowed. The PPA’s position is that any change that restricts a member’s ability to use FMLA is a violation of our contract. The City has been practicing intermittent leave, without these requirements, for many years and needs to continue to allow it through the end of our contract.

Read us online at www.ppavigil.org
A day in the life of a police officer

Gail Bernice Holland – Author of Love Each Day

After Jason Jones graduated from college with a Masters Degree in Behavioral Science he became a juvenile probation officer. He received special training in family violence and family dynamics, learning to look at the whole picture, not just the fragmented pieces of family life. He has now worked in law enforcement for over 13 years and is a police officer with the Portland Police Bureau, Oregon.

AUTHOR’S NOTE: As the author of Love Each Day I wrote this chapter about “A Day in the Life of a Police Officer.” As mentioned in my book, to add variety I wrote some stories in the first-person narrative and other stories in the third-person. After interviewing Jason Jones I felt his story would be more powerful if I wrote it in the first-person narrative.

The exciting thing about being a police officer is that every day is different. It can be a somewhat routine day when you’re dealing with neighborhood disputes or burglaries, or a dangerous high stress, high adrenalin day where guns are involved.

Early in the morning I responded to a 911 call from a teenage runaway. She said she was at a gas station and wanted to turn herself in. She also noted she might have something else to report and that comment was a clue. Having worked as a juvenile probation officer I am fully aware that runaway girls are often preyed upon and forced into prostitution.

I drove to the gas station to meet her. She was 15 years old and all her belongings were in her backpack. It was only half full. As I looked at her face I saw a hard exterior shell. Because she was a runaway she expected to be handcuffed and placed in the back of my police car but I surprised her by saying, “You can sit in front with me.” I know kids pretty well, especially since I have three kids of my own. I thought about my own 15-year-old daughter and how scared she would be in this type of situation. Instead of grilling the teenager with questions I just said, “How are you doing?” She answered, “I am not doing well.” I hadn’t been told where to take her and so I deliberately didn’t start the engine. We just sat in the car as I tried to assess the situation. She explained that Child Welfare had custody of her but she had a bad experience at a foster home and had been on the run for about five months. She now wanted help. As soon as I found out the name of her caseworker we started to drive to his office.

During the car ride she began to tell me more about her background. I think she sensed she could trust me. Her mother, who was armed, I had enough information to recognize that my police work regarding this teenager’s traumatic experience had just begun. Before I left the girl I discovered one other unfortunate fact. Her caseworker was so overloaded with work he hadn’t officially listed her as a runaway. The teenager had fallen through the cracks of our system. I took the time to make sure the young girl was safe, and received the medical attention she needed. My next challenge was to find the suspect who had sexually assaulted the teenager and also rescue the boy. To take further action required coordination with other agencies and a lot of paperwork. After following these crucial procedures I arrived at the apartment complex.

I learned from one of the neighbors that the young boy was still inside the man’s home. I entered the apartment, arrested the suspect, and placed the boy in the hands of people who could help him. I later discovered that his mother was a nude dancer, strung out on drugs. For practically all his life this five-year-old boy has been passed around from place to place.

I went home that night, hugged my kids, hugged my wife, and told them over and over again how much I loved them. They always know that when I come home and give them an extra hug for no apparent reason it must have been a challenging day at work.

My wife, who works as a consultant with a company that does background checks, had prepared a great meal. As the whole family sat down to eat we followed our usual evening routine where everybody talks about what we did that day. We turned off the television and all background music so we could focus on each other. My kids are always curious about my police work but I only described some aspects of the day’s work, leaving out inappropriate details. It was an opportunity to discuss not only the decisions this teenager made which ultimately harmed her, but the importance of individual choices, and how one choice can affect your whole way of living. We also stressed one other lesson of the day: It is possible to make a difference in people’s lives.

For more information about my book see my website: www.authorGBR.com. I can be reached at gbauthor@hotmail.com.
Movers & Shakers

Police Officer Larry AV (DPSST #50068) returned from Military Leave and is assigned to the Training Division.

Police Lieutenant Larry BAIRD (DPSST #11921) of East Precinct transferred to the Criminal Intelligence Unit.

Police Sergeant Jay BATES (DPSST #30707) of North Precinct transferred to the Drugs and Vice Division.

Police Captain David BENSON (DPSST #17995) of the Tactical Operations Division transferred to the Drugs and Vice Division.

Police Officer Christian BERGER (DPSST #90863) completed probation and was assigned to North Precinct.

Police Sergeant Mitch CCP (DPSST #17460) of Central Precinct resigned from the Bureau.

Police Officer Brian DALE (DPSST #23726) of the Mounted Patrol Unit transferred to the Gang Enforcement Team.

Police Officer Jason DOLAN (DPSST #42794) of Central Precinct resigned from the Bureau.

Police Officer Scott DUNN (DPSST #26973) of East Precinct was placed on Leave of Service.

Police Officer Ryan ESPANA (DPSST #88728) completed probation and was assigned to East Precinct.

Police Officer Nick FRANKUS (DPSST #37943) of the Drugs and Vice Division was appointed to the SERT/Detached.

Police Detective Brian GROSE (DPSST #98496) of the Detective Division transferred to the Child Abuse Team.

Police Officer Charles GRELLICH (DPSST #48742) completed probation and was assigned to East Precinct.

Police Captain Donna HENDERSON (DPSST #20228) of North Precinct transferred to the Family Services Division.

Police Officer Michele HUGHES (DPSST #68188) of Southeast Precinct transferred to Central Precinct effective.

Cheryl KANZLER (DPSST #7437) was appointed Temporary Senior Administrative Specialist and was assigned to the Detective Division.

Police Officer Thomas KAPLAN (DPSST #36823) of Southeast Precinct was placed on Administrative Leave.

Police Captain Mark KRUGER (DPSST #28044) of the Drugs and Vice Division will transfer to Central Precinct.

Police Detective Sergeant Susan KRUGER (DPSST #13798) of the Detective Division, Robbery Detail transferred to the Detective Division Fraud Detail.

Police Officer Benjamin LABASAN (DPSST #98628) completed probation and was assigned to Central Precinct.

Police Detective Kristi LAMONT (DPSST #4642) of the Detective Division retired from the Bureau after 28 years of service.

Police Officer Allison LANCE (DPSST #18743) completed probation and was assigned to Central Precinct.

Police Officer David MCGUFFEY (DPSST #50079) of Northeast Precinct was granted a Military Leave of Service.

Police Detective Michelle MICHAELS (DPSST #10400) of the Detective Division Assault Detail transferred to the Homicide Detail.

Police Captain Keith MORSE (DPSST #25057) of Southeast Precinct transferred to North Precinct.

Police Sergeant Tim MUSGRAVE (DPSST #20110) of the Drugs and Vice Division transferred to the Emergency Management Unit.

Police Officer Bert NEDERHUISER (DPSST #18488) returned from a Leave of Service and was assigned to the Telephone Reporting Unit.

Police Sergeant Brian OSSENKOP (DPSST #28330) of the Mounted Patrol Unit was placed on Administrative Leave.

Police Officer Greg PASHLEY (DPSST #208089) of Central Precinct transferred to North Precinct.

Police Officer Ryan PORATH (DPSST #34916) of Northeast Precinct was placed on Administrative Leave.

Police Officer Jeremy PRICE (DPSST #1048) of the Personnel Division transferred to East Precinct, remaining Cadet/Reserve Coordinator.

Police Officer Daniel ROMANOVSKI (DPSST #12427) of the Domestic Violence Reduction Unit was placed on a Leave of Service.

Administrative Supervisor II Kim RUST (DPSST #11801) of Fiscal Services retired from the Bureau after 30 years of service.

Police Lieutenant Eric SCHRODER (DPSST #13702) of the Criminal Intelligence Unit transferred to the Internal Affairs Division.

Police Captain Chris UHARA (DPSST #29390) of the Family Services Division was promoted to Commander and assigned to the Tactical Operations Division.

Police Lieutenant William WALKER (DPSST #15040) of Northeast Precinct will be promoted to Captain and assigned to East Precinct.

Police Lieutenant Arnold WARREN (DPSST #20936) of North Precinct transferred to the Training Division.

Police Officer Joseph WLD (DPSST #45342) of North Precinct was placed on Administrative Leave.
The Rap Sheet | August 2009

The County and the school of hate

David R. Stokes
Townhall.com

In June 2009, a Saudi Arabian man named Raed Abdul-Rahman Al-Saif, placed three bags on the Tampa airport security conveyor belt as he made his way toward his gate to board US Airways flight 1077 to Phoenix and Portland, Ore. He never made it to the gate.

A Transportation Security Administration representative saw something on his screen that made him curious. Upon further investigation, TSA officers found a knife “artfully concealed between the outside fabric and the expandable pull handles of the bag.” This bag, by the way, would have been easily accessed by Al-Saif had he made it on his flight.

It was a butcher knife. It turns out he had been living in the U.S. illegally for a while and had been previously arrested on drug-related charges and for driving without a license. He had been a student at the University of Tampa, but was dismissed this past May due to poor academic performance. Word is, though, he was a much better student back in high school. In fairness, that likely had to do with where he went to school and what he was learning.

Raed Al-Saif is a 2003 graduate of the Islamic Saudi Academy (ISA), the same institution that gave us the likes of Ahmed Omar Abu Ali, who was the school’s valedictorian in 1999. If that name rings a bell, it’s because he’s the guy who was convicted in 2005 on charges that included “providing material resources to Al-Qaeda” and “conspiracy to assassinate President George W. Bush.”

Then there were Mohammed Idris Idris and Mohammed el Yacoubi, both former ISA students, who were denied entrance to Israel in 2001. It turns out that they had written farewell letters before the trip for some kind of “suicide mission in the name of jihad.” And, let’s not forget Mr. Abdal I Al-Shabran, the ISA director who was arrested last year for failing to report child abuse.

Islamic Saudi Academy operates under the direct authority of the Saudi embassy, one of 20 or so such institutions around the world. It is also funded by the Saudi government and uses Saudi government “curriculum, syllabus and materials.” It is also virtually in my backyard—at least part of it. And they want to grow, that is, if the Fairfax County Government Planning Commission continues down its current path of blind accommodation and politically correct assuagement.

There is another meeting on the subject this Monday, July 13, at the county government center, and it should prove to be interesting. Last March, a handful of concerned citizens tried to speak over the disconcerting protests of about 600 ISA supporters. The few brave souls argued against a “special exemption” to zoning regulations that would allow “for the building of an expansion to the Islamic Saudi Academy in Fairfax.” By the way, the school now operates on property leased directly from the county.

As the pastor of a church in Fairfax County, and having for many of those years managed a private Christian school in the area, I can speak first-hand about how difficult it usually is to navigate the processes of county government here on behalf of a religious institution. But in the case of ISA, there appears to be an almost fawning and subservient approach on the part of many county leaders. Perhaps they are afraid of being politically incorrect. Perhaps they are just afraid.

Most likely, however, they are simply naive.

Some of those arrayed against ISA are doing so simply out of concerns about traffic and other logistics on a particularly picturesque stretch of Popes Head Road. But most opponents are involved because they see ISA as a training institution for Wahhabism, an ultra-dogmatic and extreme form of Islam. They see ISA as “a hate training academy.” One detractor has said of the school: “We feel that it is in reality a madrassa, a training place for young impressionable Muslim students in some of the most extreme and most fanatical teachings of Islam.”

Of course, one of the great challenges when dealing with issues like this is to think and work through it in the context of religious liberty and tolerance. But what happens when our best intentions to preach freedom and tolerance wind up being used as a cover for something more sinister—even deadly?

The Nazis twisted a cross and developed a quasi-religious cult, but such a group would be hard pressed to lease property directly from any county in America. Hitler and his henchmen, by the way, came to power in Germany by using their constitution, then once in power they shelved it.

The Ku Klux Klan used a fiery cross as its symbol of hate and preached a sordid synthesis of mysticism. But the religious element of it all was clearly a cover story. Are Islamists today using the guise of “religion” to gain cultural and ultimately political hegemony here?

One should not simply dismiss this as some of those arrayed against ISA are doing so simply out of concern for traffic. At what point, if ever, will some Americans awaken to the idea that a fair amount of what is passed off as Islam is, in fact, a cloak of unrighteousness; designed to use the guise of “religion” to gain cultural and ultimately political hegemony here? Sure, not all Muslims are advocates of the kind of hate that would overthrow a government and superimpose Sharia rule over the rest of us. But the evidence is growing that the number of Islamists in the Muslim fold is significant. And the battles are now being fought with the issues blurred.

What is needed now in America more than ever is an emergent group of leaders who are discerning—people who are wide awake to the threat from within.

Pontiac G8 police car to begin testing in the U.S.

GizMag.com

Criminals in the U.S. beware! A futuristic police vehicle based on the Pontiac G8, which has plate-recognizing cameras and a laser gun that shoots tracking bugs to cars pursued, is being developed by Melbourne-based National Safety Agency. The LAPD will serve as its test-bed for the latest technology.

GizMag report also states that the features of the concept car include a touchscreen embedded in the passenger dash, linking to computer systems in the boot, while supporting three digital cameras. One camera will be scanning faces and the number plates of passing vehicles. A live feed to police headquarters will also be made possible.

NSA operations director Des Bahr dished about the laser-guided projectile. He said, “It’s a laser-guided projectile which you sight on the vehicle in front and if they were to drive off as you get out of the vehicle you press the button on the key remote... It will laser guide that GPS tracking device on to that vehicle that’s driven off and they can’t get out of the vehicle quick enough to get it off, that’s how aggressive the glue is.”
Obama administration orders sheriffs to coddle illegal aliens

David Griffith
PoliceMag.com

“To live outside the law you must be honest.” -- Bob Dylan

I have always interpreted this line from the song “Absolutely Sweet Marie” to be a good bit of advice for people on the lam. If you’re wanted for something, keep your nose clean. It’s probably good advice for the illegal immigrant as well. When you sneak into a country and live in an underground culture and work in an underground economy, it’s a good idea to keep law enforcement officers out of your life.

Unfortunately, this no longer applies to illegal immigrants. Many large municipal and county law enforcement agencies have regulations and restrictions that prevent their officers from checking immigration status when responding to a call. The thinking here is that if officers check immigration status of people who need their help, the odds are illegal immigrants won’t call officers to help them. Grudgingly, I have to admit that this makes sense. We don’t want people being victimized by criminals just because they are illegal aliens.

But some cities and counties have taken this way too far. They don’t investigate a person’s immigration status even when they have committed an infraction or even a violent crime. And that’s just plain dangerous for all cops and all Americans.

If an illegal alien commits any further infraction of the law — beyond the federal misdemeanor of sneaking into the country in the first place — and comes on law enforcement’s radar, he or she needs to be deported in order to protect the American public. By committing multiple offenses that illegal alien is telling all of us that he or she doesn’t respect any of our laws.

Getting these dangerous people off the street and out of the country is the goal of Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Enacted in 1996, this law lets the Department of Homeland Security work with state and local law enforcement agencies. Specifically, it authorizes federally trained local law enforcement officers to perform immigration enforcement duties.

In recent years, dozens of really smart sheriffs across the country have been using 287(g) to check on the immigration status of people in their jails. Detainees who are illegally in the country are turned over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for deportation.

The Bush administration—even with its horrible record on advocating immigration enforcement—supported 287(g).

The Obama administration? Not so much.

Administration officials say they are reviewing the program because of overcrowding in federal detention facilities. But even if that’s true, it’s a smokescreen for a much larger agenda.

The Obama administration basically sees the illegal immigrant population as a semi-permanent constituency for the Democratic Party, much the same way the party views African Americans.

So anything that upsets illegal immigrants upsets Obama and his lieutenants.

That’s why DHS is now ordering some sheriffs to release illegal immigrants detained under authority of 287(g).

The Christian Science Monitor reports that the sheriff of Davidson County, Tenn. (Nashville) has been directed to release illegal aliens detained on “minor” charges on their own recognizance. This is a repeat of the disastrous “catch and release” immigration enforcement concept where detained illegal aliens are issued a request to appear in court for a deportation hearing and set free. The overwhelming majority are not stupid enough to show up for their hearing.

Now granted some of these Tennessee inmates were pulled in for fishing without a license and other infractions rather than offenses. Some would say that means they have been the target of “overzealous enforcement” by Davidson County deputies. However, my take on this is that if they want to live in America, they need to obey our laws or go home.

And let’s be clear here, not everyone detained under 287(g) is in jail for spitting on the sidewalk. The most common offense of most illegal aliens held under this program is drunken driving.

The Charlotte Observer reports that since the 287(g) program was instituted in Mecklenburg County, N.C., 6,300 illegal immigrants have been turned over to ICE for processing. Out of that number, 1,523 were pulled for DUI. Drunk driving by illegal aliens has a special resonance in the Charlotte area; the city has seen whole families wiped out by these idiots. Now, are all drunk drivers in Charlotte illegal aliens?

Absolutely not. But we know that 1,523 of the them are. And they need to be on the next bus to where they came from.

Despite such benefit to public safety, 287(g) is under fire. Immigration-rights groups say the process is unfair and inhumane.

And a recent congressional report says it is netting minor offenders, not serious criminals. Congress is, of course, bowing down to the all-powerful Hispanic voter.

I have news for Congress, I don’t know many Hispanic citizens (read: voters) who want us to keep illegal alien scowffaws in the country. They are, of course, more sympathetic to law-abiding illegal aliens.

Oh, and by the way, the Charlotte Observer (a very liberal paper) also reports that roughly 10 percent of the people turned over to ICE by Mecklenburg County’s 287(g) program were felons. That’s more than 600 criminals who are no longer victimizing the people of Charlotte and surrounding communities.

Despite what the Obama administration believes, isn’t the goal of enforcing all laws to enhance public safety and benefit? So maybe that poor illegal alien in Tennessee picked up for fishing without a license deserves some sympathy and mercy. But let’s remember, he broke the law coming into the country in the first place and then he was ignorant of or dismissive enough of our laws to get caught fishing without a license.

And ultimately, he broke the most important rule of living underground; he didn’t keep his nose clean.

This article originally appeared on PoliceMag.com on July 10, 2009, and has been reprinted with the permission of the writer.

David Griffith has been editor of POLICE Magazine since December 2001. A magazine award-winning journalist, his byline has appeared on hundreds of articles in POLICE and other national magazines. David can be reached at: david.griffith@policemag.com

POLICE Magazine's annual Detective Division dinner will be held on October 24, 2009, at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion. A no-host social hour will begin at 5:00 p.m. with dinner served at 6:45 p.m. All retired, former and current detectives, including non-sworn personnel are invited to attend. This year’s event promises to be one of the best ever.

The dinner buffet will include salmon, beef and an assortment of fruits, salads, side dishes and desserts. The customary raffle and silent auction will again feature an array of interesting prizes followed by a variety of casino games provided by Wild Bill’s. The cost will be $35 per person which covers dinner, raffle tickets and script for gaming.

Mark your calendars for October 24, 2009, and watch for further details in The Rap Sheet. Contact Mary Jane Gleeson at 503.816.5455 for further information or with questions.

JANET LEE HOFFMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW

HOFFMAN ANGELI LLP
1000 S.W. BROADWAY, SUITE 1500
PORTLAND, OREGON 97205
(503) 222-1125
E-MAIL: janet@hommanangeli.com

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Memories from ‘Old Sarge’

Sergeant John Harp
Retired PPB

I’d like to continue where my previous article left off with more stories from the old St. John’s Precinct. You may find them amusing… or not. Either way, I’ve been retired for 33 years so the statute of limitations has expired.

One night, when I had been working at the precinct for several months, I was walking the St. John’s beat. I made my hourly call in at about 9:00 and the desk officer told me to return to the station. The captain was there and wanted to see me. It wasn’t unusual for the captain to be at the station late at night, but it was unusual for him to want to see me.

I walked quickly to the station and was met by the captain who had an expensive looking citizen in tow. He introduced me to the citizen and said, “John, I want you to go with Mr. —— and give him a hand.”

Well, okay. We hopped into his Cadillac where a woman was waiting who I assumed to be his wife. She looked expensive, too. She was wearing rings and jewelry with rocks in them that I would not hang around it though. It was just one of the businesses he owned.

I brooded about the dock incident and had numerous angst attacks. I eventually made up my mind that, considering my status in the police hierarchy was only slightly higher than an insect, I would just forget it.

About three weeks later, I was working the desk when the captain’s plainclothes assistant wordlessly walked past and dropped a $20 bill on the desk in front of me. I looked at him in confusion and he winked at me, whispered “It’s from the captain,” and walked off. There I was in my brooding and angst again. And, it seemed I was riding that desk a lot more than usual, too. I never found out exactly what I’d been a part of that night.

Another interesting thing involving the Idle Hour happened a year after a later. The place was burglarized, and the officers taking the report noted that among things stolen were “poker chips.” No one picked up that on and the Idle Hour changed chips. A few nights later the perp came in, sat in on a game, and started using the stolen chips. The dealer quietly alerted the bartender who quietly notified the station and the police officers responded just as quietly and took the perp into custody. They arrested him for burglary and took the chips for evidence. In those days, that was the point where a St. John’s officer’s connection to a case ended. A detective team took it from there.

Well, the excretion hit the windmill. Gambling was illegal. The captain appeared like magic, but not as quietly. He ranted and raved, cursed and swore, and those two officers took the blunt of it. He also burned a lot of rubber between St. John’s downtown but, believe it or not, before the night was over, the case completely disappeared. The only thing left was the faint smell of brimstone — and that quickly dissipated, too.

In another incident, I was working the district in a one-man car, when I received a call to return to the station. There I was met by the captain who had a young fellow with him who looked to be in his early twenties. The captain said, “John, I want you to take this guy out and teach him how to drive so we can hire him.”

Huh? Is this in my job description? How am I going to write this up if a police car gets mangled or someone gets hurt? Who is this guy and why is he worth the risk? I kept my concerns to myself and took the guy down to the old Oregon shipyards and taught him as best I could. In a week or so he passed the exam and was hired. He was assigned to another precinct and only lasted a year or so.

Please remember that the things I am telling you are events that occurred over sixty years ago. That’s the way it was back then. The PPB has been evolving, growing and improving for many years. I am very proud of what it is today and proud to be identified with it.

‘Closing’ two precincts

Harry Swinford
Retired PPB Officer

Since I’m just a dumb retiree, let me see if I have the facts straight. SE Precinct is closed, but not really, because Traffic Division is back there again. North Precinct is closed, but not really, because Training Division has moved to that location.

All this “might” save 3 point whatever million dollars. As usual, the City is doing some kind of complicated book-keeping that ends up hurting only one group of people, the cops who actually sit in cars and take 911 calls. The only people whose presence is actually required by the public get hit in the shorts again.

This is nothing new, as a very similar stunt was pulled by the City in 1985. I was hired by the Bureau in 1984, after 9+ years with the Oregon City Police, serving as both a patrol officer and a detective. Immediately after Bud Clark came into office, it seems the Bureau had a money problem. It was decided that some cops would have to be laid off. All of those who might be laid off, including me, were called to a meeting by command staff. We were told that if we were laid off from the Bureau, we would not be without jobs, because they would give us other jobs, such as parking patrol. I raised my hand and asked, “If I would still work for the City, why can’t I stay in the job I have now?” I did not receive an answer. It was not really about money, it was politics. Some were laid off. I was not.

Unhappily, the current political stunt is on a much grander scale and hurts more people. If the City needed a few million dollars for an arts-farty project, or a dying whale washed up at City Hall, they would cough up the money in a hot second.

I recently spoke with a young woman who is interested in law enforcement. She said she is considering taking the Portland Police Test. I told her she should do better to apply in a small town. As a part-time court bailiff in Oregon City, I have many contacts. I do my best to spread the word that the Portland Police Bureau was once a great place to work, but is now being destroyed by politicians.

All of you out there thinking the calls and risking your lives have my highest esteem. I know your struggles because I was once one of you. The goofy City you work for and the people running it don’t deserve you.

Court to decide Miranda warning expansion

WASHINGTON D.C. (AP) — The Supreme Court will decide whether a suspect has to be told that he has a right to have a lawyer present during questioning by police.

On June 22, the court agreed to hear an appeal from Kevin Dwayne Powell, who was convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

When he was arrested, police gave Powell his Miranda warnings, which officers give at the time of an arrest by informing suspects of their right not to answer questions and obtain a lawyer’s help. The Miranda warning that Powell got included telling him he had a right to a lawyer before questioning. Powell’s lawyers objected, saying police did not tell him he had a right to have a lawyer during his police interrogation.

The Florida Supreme Court overturned the conviction, saying that Powell’s Miranda warnings was insufficient.

The state of Florida appealed to the Supreme Court, saying federal and state appeals courts have split on whether a suspect has to be expressly warned that he has a right to a lawyer during interrogation, as well as before.

The case is 08-1175, Florida v. Powell.
May 27 was “recycling day” and showed the benefits of “recycling”. This was the “Over the Hill Gang” lunch, and our speaker was Undersheriff Tom Slyter, a retired Multnomah County Deputy who was brought back into service by another recycled Sheriff, Bob Skipper. It sounds like the two of them will do a great job.

There was a good sized crowd present, with quite a few PPB retirees, such as Glen Griffitts, Dennis Baker, Harry Boggs, Bob Warner, Bob Cox, Dave Edstrom, Chris Christenson, Bob Dorney, and Bob Benson.

SHERIFF Tom Slyter talked about the operations of the office and what they hoped to do. The main drawback will be finances, of course. Part of the talk turned to the absurdity of sending a Sheriff with 30 years of experience back to recruit school for 3 or 4 months, when a short refresher would have sufficed.

The food was good, and others enjoying the affair were Dick and Doris Knut, Ed Clark, Larry Braaten, Lloyd Neilson, Dana Tawney, Mace Fyfe, Norm Rosenbloom, and I brought Linda with me since we had to take the newsletter to the Post Office.

Remember, these luncheons are held the 4th Wednesday of each month, 11:30am at The Refectory, located in the shopping center at NE 122nd and Halsey.

A recent article in the Oregonian caught my eye and referred to Camp Withycombe. The planned expansion of the camp, located just off I-205 and Highway 212-224 in Clackamas, will be a multi-million dollar deal and comes after the Pentagon was figuring on cutting back on Oregon. The Portland Police Bureau also maintains training there also, as well as the 41st Division.

Getting back to what caught my eye, at a ceremony being held there, a special guest had been invited, a WWII veteran, retired Reserve Col. Bud Lewis. Bud was given a standing ovation. Bud joined the National Guard in 1936 right out of Benson High. Five years later, he and the 41st Division were shipped out to the war in the Pacific.

We’re proud of Bud and his accomplishments, both with the Police Bureau and the 41st Division.

June 8 was a busy day. Starting at 5:30am, I crawled out of bed, knowing that by 7am, Denny’s would start receiving the first of the retirees for the monthly breakfast. I rousted my chauffeur out at 5:45am, (actually I drove, but misery loves company), and we arrived about 6:55am. The table already had about 10 present. Joe Murillo is usually first to arrive, and always promises if he will be the only one there.

Also early birds included Scott Field, Bob LaGae, and even Ray Brown surprised everyone with a rare appearance. The “beach boys”, Bruce Sherman and George Porter had gotten up real early and beat us there.

Rick Olsen rode his bike in again, and then some others started drifting in, such as Dallas Taggart, Glen Griffitts, Jerry Klinger, Gary Fentz, Ken Zapp, and Bob Dorney. Another rare face appeared, Roger Klick, who took time off from work to join us. Actually, the reason I brought Linda along was that we had to get to the funeral for Ray Jones in Scappoose by 10am. That event was a standing room only event, at the church.

We met at Denny’s, on SE 82nd, the second Monday of each month, about 7am, and all retirees are welcome. Please join us!

On one of our recent trips, we were waiting for our flight, and I thought I recognized a familiar face in uniform and it turned out to be James Harding. I hadn’t seen him in quite awhile, and we talked for a length of time. He has been working as a Port of Portland Police Officer since he retired from PPB. I’m beginning to believe that over half of the Port officers are retired PPB.

We learned that recently Wilsonville held a parade, celebrating the 150th year of Oregon’s statehood. St. Cyril’s Catholic Church entered a 31 foot float, and Sally Bible and her friend, Norma got to ride on the float. They were all dressed in costumes of the 1920’s. Sounds like fun.

The Fig N’ Pancake breakfasts on every Friday are still going strong. May 29 found 7 of us there. Bud Bladon joined the group, which included Lee Cromwell, Mel and Sue Nilsen, Linda and I, and Walt Wier. Walt reported that he had gone to visit Bob Cosby, who is in a facility on SE 181st, between Stark and Division, called “Encore.” We miss him at these breakfasts. Walt said they had a good visit and talked about the old times.

On June 5, Eleanor Nasby was between chemo treatments, and came, as did Hal Gowing, Al Dean, (between trips), Walt Wier, Lee Cromwell, who brought Jeanne, Mel and Sue Nilsen, Linda and me. We had a surprise visit by the showing of Fred Collins and Patty.

June 12, we had the usual crowd, but our snow bird from Coronado, California, Frank Smith, has returned to the fold. Also Eleanor Nasby felt good enough from her chemo to join us, and Hal Gowing came also, after some debilitating sessions with some kind of a bug.

Well the old North Precinct has closed down apparently for good. A closing ceremony was held on Sunday, June 7. I missed it. But spent many years at North, as a patrolman working motorcycles, as a Sergeant working 2nd night shift during the riots, and as a Lieutenant working all three shifts. At one point I was 3rd in seniority for Lt’s, and 1st and 2nd in seniority also were there at the same time, so I drew 2nd night shift.

Bob Warner reported that the ceremony lasted about an hour, and was held outside. Commander Donna Henderson led the program. Some of the attendees included Frank Springer, who was accompanied by his son, Larry and daughter-in-law, Ann Friday, Dan Kopetski, David Houck, Clyde Harmon, Dick Walker, George Carl, and Dennis Schmeling. Bob said that there was also a small band playing.

Many will remember the name of Marcelle Vivian Walker. She worked in the old Municipal Court at the police station as a Traffic Clerk.

She was born June 8, 1912 in Portland and died June 1, 2009, just short of her 97th birthday.

She used to relate stories about early life in Portland, and remembers riding with her dad in horse and buggy down to the waterfront to sell eggs to the ships at the docks. Her great-grandparents, the Richey’s traveled to Portland in 1852 over the Oregon Trail.

Some of the old timers will remember the tagon was figuring on cutting a knot out of a horse and buggy down to the waterfront to sell eggs to the ships at the docks. Her great-grandparents, the Richey’s traveled to Portland in 1852 over the Oregon Trail.

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Be mindful of the handcuff ‘rip’ tactic by violent offenders

George Demetriou
Retired NYPD Detective
PoliceOne.com

Editor's Note: The following article originally appeared on PoliceOne.com, the online resource for Law Enforcement, and is reprinted by permission of the PoliceOne editorial team. Visit PoliceOne to access articles, information and resources that help officers across the United States protect their communities and stay safe on the streets.

Since 2007, at least five police officers have been killed or seriously wounded while handcuffing — in some cases after getting one handcuff on the violator. The offenders “rip” or pull the handcuffed arm away suddenly after cooperating with the officer and then draw a concealed firearm and shoot the officer. It should be noted that in every case that this has occurred the officer was being placed into custody for a minor offense.

Being aware that the offender can resist or assault at any point will remove the element of surprise from his strategy. Officers must be cognizant of the fact that this is the stage of the cuffing process where the bad guy does not need to see you. You have made physical contact so he knows, basically, where you are without having to look at you. You are standing where he can turn, pivot, spin or drop down and he knows you are within arm’s reach.

Between getting the first cuff on and the second cuff on is the most crucial part of the cuffing process yet this is the point of handcuffing where many officers begin to mentally relax believing they have control.

Violent offenders who are not psychologically incapacitated by the officer’s presence and command of the situation, especially the subjects who have pre-planned and practiced for this opportunity, will fight at this point. The “click” of the first cuff is their cue to go into action. Serious offenders who consider fighting or killing cops may understand or believe several things:

- By initially behaving in a compliant manner the officer will often lower his guard.
- If the officer gets one handcuff on he’ll probably think the situation is “under control.”
- When the officer wants to take physical control he will have to step within striking distance of the suspect.
- When the officer is using both hands to control the subject and hold the cuffs he is not holding a baton, Taser, pepper spray, firearm or anything else that will do the offender harm.
- While the officer’s hands are, at least temporarily, occupied, the officer will not defend himself effectively.
- If the offender has a weapon that the officer did not find or see the chance of accessing it is better now that the officer is pre-occupied with maintaining cuff control.

You may not be able to stop a violent offender from attempting an assault, but you can control whether or not you are surprised.

Why the cuff rip works

An officer almost cannot help but to “chase” the handcuff that is pulled from his control. After all, the handcuffs are the officer’s personal property and he is responsible for them. No officer wants to lose a suspect or equipment.

Once the offender makes the explosive movement to pull the cuff and fight or shoot he has the time advantage. The officer will be reacting to the offender’s action. Controlling any violent resistor is difficult. Having to control an armed violent resistor at close range leaves little margin for error.

Prevention

The first step is checking arrest procedure mentality. It is impossible to determine a suspect’s capacity for violence based on the crime he committed when that crime was minor. All suspects, their family members and their friends are dangerous. Act accordingly.

All suspects are armed until you know positively that they are not. This includes the realization that wherever an officer is present there is at least one firearm present. The offender, during handcuffing, will be well within grabbing distance to the officer’s firearm.

Handcuffing is a time for heightened vigilance not a time to relax because the event is “over.” Being handcuffed may be “showtime” for the violent offender.

Physically combating the handcuff rip is difficult at best. The safest option is to assume the offender is going for a concealed weapon. This of course means the officer should disregard the handcuffs, move and draw his firearm. Quickly changing position and being able to get your firearm on target will be the life-saving action should the bad guy have a weapon. Better to have the suspect run off with the handcuffs than to try to regain control only to find that while you’re trying to grab the suspect’s arm he’s pulling out a weapon with his free hand.

It should be noted that “chasing” the handcuffs is unproductive time as the suspect’s arms will be moving too fast during the “rip” to gain control. It will