

U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Illinois

A. Courtney Cox, U.S. Attorney
February 2009



A Message from the U.S. Attorney

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

I recently spent an interesting week with the United States Secret Service in Washington, D.C., learning about what the Secret Service does and its operation. It was a fascinating and enlightening experience. Like many people, I thought about the Secret Service mostly in terms of its protection duties. I learned that the Service was originally formed to deal with counterfeit currency in 1865, at the end of the Civil War. In fact, the United States did not have a national currency prior to the Civil War. The percentage of counterfeit federal currency was so high that it threatened the national economy.

In 1883, the Secret Service was first recognized as a distinct organization within the Treasury Department, but did not assume full-time responsibility for protection of the President until 1902 when two operatives were assigned full time to the White House detail (they have a few more than that today). A White House Police Force was created in 1922 and placed under the supervision of the Secret Service. In 2003, the Service was transferred from the Treasury Department to the newly-formed Department of Homeland Security.

In addition to counterfeiting and protection duties, a primary focus of the Secret Service today is the safeguarding of payment and financial systems of the United States. This includes investigation of crimes that involve financial institution fraud, computer and telecommunications fraud, false identification documents, access device fraud, advance fee fraud, electronic funds transfers, and money laundering.

The Secret Service is home to an advanced forensic laboratory, which includes the world's largest ink library. Secret Service forensic analysts examine evidence, develop investigative leads and provide expert courtroom testimony. The lab is accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB). You can access the Secret Service website at www.secretservice.gov.

A. Courtney Cox

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Link to our website:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ils/index.html>

Benton Office:
402 West Main St., Suite 2A
Benton, IL 62812
Phone: (618) 439-3808
Fax: (618) 439-2401

East St. Louis Office:
750 Missouri Avenue
East St. Louis, IL 62201
Phone: (618) 482-9361
Fax: (618) 482-9302

Fairview Heights Office:
Nine Executive Drive
Fairview Heights, IL 62208
Phone: (618) 628-3700
Fax: (618) 628-3730

LECC Activities

January 20 and 22, 2009: The LEC made two presentations on “Learning Modalities and Neuro-Linguistic Programming based on Right and Left Brain Dominance” at the National Law Center for Program on Protecting Children.



LEC Ronald Shownes making presentations at the National Law Center Protects National Seminar held in Orlando, Florida.

Upcoming LECC Activities

February 25 and 26, 2009: The annual Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit will be held in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, at the Holiday Inn.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 25, 2009

7:00 - 8:15 a.m. Registration

8:15 a.m.

National Anthem

Ms. Leslie Cox

Honor Guard

Fairview Heights Police Department

Welcome

Honorable A. Courtney Cox

U.S. Attorney for the

Southern District of Illinois & Dignitaries

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Excited Delirium

Chris Lawrence

(Ontario Police College)

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

LUNCH - Kreiger's

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Omaha Mall Massacre

Detective Todd Kozelich

Sergeant Teresa Negan

(Omaha Police Department)

5:30 p.m. Hospitality Room Opens

(Kreiger's)

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Sandwich & Appetizer Buffet

THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 26, 2009

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Managing & Winning Extreme Encounters

Dr. William Lewinski, Ph.D.

(Force Science Research Center)

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

LUNCH - Kreiger's

(DUI Ignition Interlock Device - Susan McKinney)

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Dr. William Lewinski cont.

3:30 p.m. - Closing & Drawings

Questions? Call Cary Trame at 618-346-3616 or email trameca@isp.state.il.us.



Registration 2009



Please type or print. If registering more than one person, please complete a separate registration form for each person attending.

Section I - General Information

Name _____ Title _____

Agency _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail address _____

Section II - Conference Registration Fee

Conference registration is \$100 per person. Registration fees include room for one night, meals, training sessions, and breaks. If you will not be staying overnight, the fee is \$75. **If you are sharing a room, the first person will be \$100 and the second person will be \$75.**

On-site registration will not be available. Please make check or money order payable to:

LECC (Law Enforcement Coordinating Council FEIN# 32-012 7696).

CONFIRMATION BY EMAIL ONLY ★

**If this is an agency payment for more than one person attending, each individual's registration form must be submitted together with the payment.*



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2009

CANCELLATION POLICY: No refunds will be made after February 19, 2009.

Section III - Preferences

LODGING: Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009 Yes _____ No _____ **All rooms are non smoking.*

Special Needs _____

If you are sharing a room, please give the person's name: _____

**Mail Registration Forms and Payment to:
Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit, Attn: Elizabeth Carver
(Phone: 618-346-3742 and Email: carvere@isp.state.il.us)
1100 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234.**

Upcoming LECC Activities, continued

April 15, 2009: Project Safe Childhood will conduct a First Responder Training at the Four Points Sheraton in Fairview Heights, Illinois, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The program is being hosted by the United States Attorney's Offices for the Southern District of Illinois and the Eastern District of Missouri, and presented by Fox Valley Technical College. This is an on-line registration. Please see information below to register.

1. Go to the website:

<https://www.fvtc.edu/apps/mytraining/Public/Home.aspx>

2. If the student has already created an account, skip this step. If not, enter your social security number (or National ID #) and requested information. This will generate a student ID number that is necessary to register for all our classes going forward.

3. Log onto the "My Training" registration portal using the student ID number or SSN and your password.

4. Ensure that all your personal information is correct. It is imperative that we have both a phone number and an e-mail address. Without both, we cannot complete the registration process.

5. Click on "Register" on the left hand side of the screen.

6. Enter class number and hit "Submit." The class number for this program is: **35539**.

7. Click on the "Register All" button under the listing.

8. Fill out the form. In the Approving Authority section, be sure to enter the information for the student's supervisor or whoever is approving the student's attendance at this training from the student's agency.

9. Registrants need to select their Task Force authority as well. Please select your Task Force from the list.

10. Click "Submit" at the bottom of the page.

If you have any questions related to this class, please feel free to contact:

Vicki O'Brien

Program Specialist

Internet Crimes Against Children Training & Technical Assistance Program

Fox Valley Technical College c/o University of New Hampshire

10 West Edge Drive

Durham, NH 03824

(603) 862-3846 – direct (877) 798-7682 - toll free (603) 862-2477 - facsimile

vicki.obrien@unh.edu www.icactraining.org

Upcoming LECC Activities, continued

April 29 and 30, 2009: The Fourth Annual Metro East Meth and Other Drugs Conference will be held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, Illinois.

Save The Date!

APRIL 29 & 30, 2009

4th ANNUAL METRO EAST Meth + Other Drugs Conference

Triangle of Hope
 PREVENTION TREATMENT ENFORCEMENT

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows
 Belleville, Illinois

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
 Internationally acclaimed speaker
 Dr. Ira Chasnoff
 (Children's Research Triangle)

TOPICS
 Current Drug Trends
 Developing Multi-Agency Response Teams
 Illinois Meth Project
 Pseudo Tracking
 Meth Mouth
 Women's Substance Abuse Treatment
 The Meth Home Crisis
 Domestic Violence Issues
 Prenatal Exposure to Drugs and more...

GREAT PRICE
\$20

For more information, Tanya Cell Winters
 618-583-2116
 CEU's will be available.

This conference is sponsored by MECAM+
 (Metro East Coalition Against Meth + Other Drugs)

Awards and Accomplishments

**COMMENDATION PRESENTED TO
 RECEIVER OF MERCY REGIONAL AMBULANCE SERVICE**

A. Courtney Cox, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, is pleased to announce that at a meeting of the Southern Illinois Health Care Fraud Task Force on February 10, 2009, Tom Jordan of West Frankfort, Illinois, was presented a memento and commendation in recognition of his outstanding service as the receiver of Mercy Regional Ambulance Service (Mercy Regional). Mr. Jordan was appointed receiver by the United States District Court on March 26, 2008, and served until February 13, 2009. As receiver, Tom Jordan ran the operations of the ambulance company during the pendency of criminal proceedings against Mercy Regional and then oversaw the transition of ambulance service from Mercy Regional to Cardinal EMS. Since the transfer of the ambulance service to Cardinal EMS, Tom Jordan has been overseeing the winding up of the affairs of Mercy Regional and the liquidation of its assets.

U.S. Attorney Cox is pleased to announce that more than \$415,000 has already been collected for the benefit of the victims of Mercy Regional. This has allowed all of the individual victims of Mercy Regional to receive their court-ordered restitution payments in full. There is still a substantial balance on the restitution due the Internal Revenue Service.

U.S. Attorney Cox offered his personal thanks and congratulations to Tom Jordan for serving as the receiver of Mercy Regional. Mr. Jordan stepped into a difficult task during a difficult period and helped to provide uninterrupted ambulance service for the citizens of Franklin County as well as to the Marion VA Hospital. His efforts exemplified the spirit of public service and helped to sustain many jobs in the area.

Awards and Accomplishments, continued

On February 6, 2009, the Hoyleton Children’s Home Foundation held its 26th Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet at the Lady of Snow’s Shrine in Belleville, Illinois. The United States Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Illinois was awarded the Safe Neighborhoods Award. The award was based on the more than \$1.5 million of grants being given to the region’s law enforcement agencies since 2000. As a result of the grant monies, law enforcement was able to conduct 168 “special details.” On a “special detail,” law enforcement members are assigned to work in designated high crime areas which resulted in 1,253 arrests, including 569 marijuana arrests, 439 weapons arrests, and 173 cocaine arrests. Present to receive the awards were United States Attorney A. Courtney Cox, First AUSA Randy G. Massey, General Crimes Chief and Project Safe Neighborhood and Gang Coordinator Suzanne M. Garrison, and Law Enforcement Coordinator Ronald Shownes.



Awards were presented by Chris Cox, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Hoyleton Children’s Home Foundation. Pictured from left to right are First AUSA Randy G. Massey, General Crimes Chief Suzanne M. Garrison, U.S. Attorney A. Courtney Cox, LEC Ronald Shownes, and Chris Cox.



Project Safe Neighborhoods

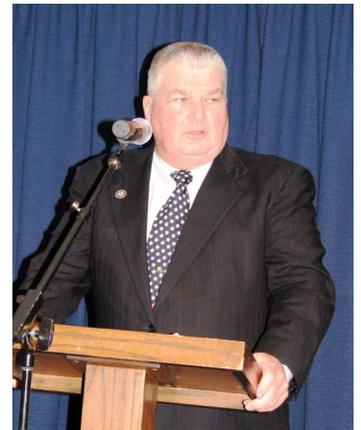
More than \$1.5 million awarded to the region’s law enforcement agencies since 2000.

168 “Special Details” performed

1253 Arrests made, including:

- 569 Marijuana Arrests
- 439 Weapons Arrests
- 173 Cocaine Arrests

PROJEKT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS
America’s Network Against Gun Violence



Project Netwise

Project NetWise is a community-based effort to promote safe internet practices to students and senior citizens in Southern Illinois. It is one part of the Connect SI in Action programs. Connect SI is a 20-county initiative that promotes the adoption and expansion of broadband internet access. The NetWise initiative began after the Southern Illinois Cyber Crimes Awareness Conference last fall at John A. Logan College. During this event many were shocked at the use and misuse of technology, learning that cyber-predators and scam artists trolled the internet at an alarming rate.

The concept of Project NetWise evolved from a general internet safety concept based on six specific activities including: Speakers Bureau, Train-the-Trainer Opportunities, Public Service Announcements, Curriculum Development, Resources and Materials, and Marketing and Promotion. Project NetWise is supported by volunteers from many walks of life in the region including law enforcement, education, business professionals, print and electronic media, and senior citizen advocacy groups.

Currently, Project NetWise is working with John A. Logan College and Southern Illinois University to bring the nationally-acclaimed i-SAFE organization to Southern Illinois to provide an internet safety training event for educators, law enforcement, and community members. The two-day event, scheduled at this time for June 9 and 10 at the John A. Logan College Conference Center, is designed to educate teachers and community groups about internet safety issues and risks.

On the first day the focus will be on teachers, who under Illinois law will be required to teach internet safety curricula in their classrooms beginning in the next school year. i-SAFE will lead discussions designed to better prepare teachers to present material factually, but with sensitivity. The all-day conference will result in i-SAFE certification to participating teachers.

Once certified, educators will have access to over 350 lesson plans, internet safety videos, and virtual training courses on the i-SAFE website. Participants completing the training will also have an opportunity to become part of a volunteer Speakers Bureau dedicated to speaking to community organizations about on-line dangers and safe internet practices.

The second day will focus on law enforcement officers and anyone from throughout Southern Illinois who want to learn more about internet safety and who might wish to carry the message into their communities through the Speakers Bureau.

Educational videos and Public Service Announcements are planned and in the development stages to reinforce the message of safe internet practices. The cost of conference attendance has not yet been established pending possible sponsorships designed to keep participant costs as low as possible.

For more information about Project NetWise, please contact Ms. Kristan Simonton via email (kristans@siu.edu) or phone (618.453.5921).

Recent Noteworthy Cases

COCAINE

On January 15, 2009, [DEREK DIXON, JR.](#), a/k/a "D-Dix," age 29, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. **DIXON** was sentenced to 70 months' imprisonment and three years' supervised release and was fined \$200.

DIXON had previously pled guilty to two counts of distribution of crack cocaine. Those distributions took place on September 14 and 15, 2006, in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

The investigation in this case was a cooperative effort between the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

On January 26, 2009, [FREDDIE E. PAYNE](#), a/k/a "Freak," age 29, of Hayti, Missouri, formerly of Murphysboro, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **PAYNE**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with unlawful distribution of crack cocaine, was sentenced to 105 months' imprisonment and six years' supervised release and was fined \$500.

The violation took place on October 6, 2006, in Murphysboro, Illinois. The investigation was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and the Murphysboro Police Department pursuant to their participation in the Jackson County Project

Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

TAX EVASION

On January 22, 2009, [RICKI LEE JONES](#), age 55, of Wood River, Illinois, pled guilty in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois, to a one-count information charging him with tax evasion.

The violation took place regarding tax year 2003. Sentencing has been scheduled for April 23, 2009. The maximum penalties that can be imposed for this violation are five years' imprisonment and three years' supervised release, \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment.

The case was investigated by agents of the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Stephen B. Clark.

METHAMPHETAMINE

On January 21, 2009, [PAUL E. CARPENTER](#), age 57, of Carbondale, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **CARPENTER**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, was sentenced to 120 months' imprisonment, four years' supervised release, and a fine of \$400.

The violation took place between May 2006, and March 14, 2008, in Jackson County, Illi-

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

nois. The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative for the Southern District of Illinois.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On January 30, 2009, [LARRY W. FERGUSON](#), age 55, of Dongola, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **FERGUSON**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, was sentenced to 70 months' imprisonment and three years' supervised release and was fined \$300.

Evidence supporting the guilty plea and sentencing established that between at least January 2007 and March 13, 2008, **FERGUSON** and others were manufacturing methamphetamine in Union County, Illinois. A co-defendant was previously sentenced to 42 months' imprisonment for her role in the methamphetamine conspiracy.

The investigation was conducted by the Union County Sheriff's Office, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Illinois State Police, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On February 3, 2009, [SHAWN M.](#)

[HARMON](#), age 28, of Carterville, Illinois, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Benton, Illinois, in a one-count indictment, charging him with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine. The violation is alleged to have taken place between December 2005 and December 18, 2008, in Jackson and Williamson Counties, Illinois.

The offense carries a penalty of five to 40 years' imprisonment and four years' supervised release and a fine of up to \$2,000,000.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Williamson County Sheriff's Office, Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative for the Southern District of Illinois.

The case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson for prosecution.

CHILD EXPLOITATION/PORNOGRAPHY

On January 21, 2009, [LARRY A. BECHEL](#), age 62, of Wood River, Illinois, was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in East St. Louis, Illinois, in a three-count indictment charging him with sexual exploitation of a minor (Count 1); transportation of child pornography (Count 2); and possession of child pornography (Count 3). The violations are alleged to have taken place between February 29, 2004, and March 7, 2004, and July 28, 2006, in Madison County, Illinois.

Count 1 carries a potential term of imprisonment of not less than 15 years or more than 30 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and a term of supervised release of five years to life. If con-

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

victed on Count 2, **BECHEL** faces a term of imprisonment of not less than five years or more than 20 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and a term of supervised release of five years to life. Count 3 carries a potential term of imprisonment of not more than ten years, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and a term of supervised release of five years to life.

BECHEL was arraigned in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, on January 22, 2009. He was ordered detained pending trial.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Wood River Police Department.

The case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott.

On February 5, 2009, **DENNIS LEE "LEEROY" STOUT**, age 47, of Dennison, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **STOUT** was sentenced to 180 months' imprisonment and lifetime supervised release and was fined \$1,000.

STOUT had previously pled guilty to a two-count federal indictment. Count 1 of the indictment charged that on December 11, 2006, **STOUT** distributed several images of child pornography in interstate commerce by any means, including by computer. Count 2 charged that on December 14, 2006, **STOUT** distributed several images of child pornography in interstate commerce by any means, including by computer. The evidence at sentencing established that **STOUT** had been possessing and distributing thousands of images of child pornography for a period of several years.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Southern Illinois Cyber Crimes Task Force, along with assistance from the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Clark County Sheriff's Office pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Childhood initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys George A. Norwood and Jennifer Hudson.

PHARMACY BURGLARIES AND DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS

On January 30, 2009, **REX I. HATFIELD**, age 52, of West Virginia, received a life sentence in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

HATFIELD, formerly of Oceana, West Virginia, and Lebanon, Virginia, was convicted on October 30, 2008, following a three and one-half week jury trial. A federal jury found **HATFIELD** guilty of conspiracy to commit pharmacy burglaries (Count 1) and conspiracy to distribute controlled substances with deaths resulting (Count 2). **HATFIELD** received concurrent sentences of ten years on Count 1 and life imprisonment on Count 2.

Approximately 100 witnesses testified for the government at trial in October. According to the evidence presented, **HATFIELD** and his brother, Everly Hatfield, led a group that committed about 85 pharmacy burglaries in ten states. Some of these burglaries occurred in small towns in southern Illinois, including Fairfield, Mattoon, Metropolis, Flora, McCleansboro, Eldorado, Herrin, and Harrisburg. The group also committed burglaries at pharmacies in Missouri, including those in Crestwood, St. Charles, Seneca, and

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

St. Joseph.

The **HATFIELD** group stole pain pills such as Oxycontin, morphine patches (fentanyl), and other controlled substances valued at nearly \$500,000 between 1998 and 2004.

Rex and Everly Hatfield transported these stolen pharmaceuticals back to West Virginia and Virginia for sale to dealers who worked with them.

The jury returned special verdict forms which found that drugs distributed by the **HATFIELD** brothers caused the overdose deaths of Deborah Smith of Honaker, Virginia, in 2001; Mark Honaker of Lebanon, Virginia, in 2000; Carol Walker of Glen Fork, West Virginia, in 2002; and Jimmy Dishmon (the Hatfields' brother-in-law) of Oceana, West Virginia, in 2003. The jury also returned a special verdict form which found the **HATFIELD** brothers had provided drugs which caused life-threatening injuries to Richard Ward of Glen White, West Virginia, in 2003.

According to multiple trial witnesses, the **HATFIELD** brothers suspected that Smith, Walker, and Ward were police informants. Walker died just a week before she was scheduled to testify against Everly Hatfield in West Virginia on a state charge of unlawful sale of Oxycontin. Witnesses testified at trial that the **HATFIELD** brothers had bragged after Smith and Walker died, claiming that "those who snitch on us tend to wake up dead."

At the time Richard Ward nearly died of a fentanyl overdose, he had been scheduled to testify against the **HATFIELDS** concerning a pharmacy burglary committed in Princeton, West Virginia. Witnesses testified that when Ward collapsed and stopped breathing, Everly Hatfield instructed bystanders, "Don't revive him. Let

him die."

Everly Hatfield's own sentence hearing is scheduled for March 20, 2009, in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

The four-year investigation which resulted in the convictions of Rex and Everly Hatfield was conducted under the auspices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force with the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; the Oceana, West Virginia Police Department, and other law enforcement agencies in Illinois, Virginia, and elsewhere.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert L. Garrison and Nicole E. Gorovsky.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

On February 2, 2009, [JENNIFER LYNN KRIEGER](#), age 39, of Marion, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois, for distribution of fentanyl, a controlled substance, which resulted in the death of Jennifer Curry, 19, of West Frankfort, Illinois. **KRIEGER** was previously indicted on the distribution of a controlled substance charge under a statute which provides for a maximum sentence of 20 years' imprisonment. However, because the distribution resulted in Curry's death, the statute also required a minimum mandatory sentence of 20 years' imprisonment. The violation took place on November 23, 2005, in Williamson County, Illinois. **KRIEGER**, who was ordered to voluntarily surrender at the prison designated by the Bureau of Prisons, was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment and three years' supervised release, and was fined \$100.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

KRIEGER pled guilty to distribution of fentanyl on November 18, 2008, and a two-day sentencing hearing was held to determine if the distribution caused the death of Curry. The evidence established that on November 23, 2005, Curry, of West Frankfort, Illinois, was found dead on the couch at her father's residence in West Frankfort. Curry's lifeless body was discovered by her mother at approximately 4:30 p.m. Curry's father called 911 and West Frankfort police officers arrived at the scene a short time later. Curry was pronounced dead at the scene by the former Franklin County Coroner, Steven Leek.

West Frankfort police officers conducted a search of the residence and located Curry's purse lying on the night stand in her bedroom which was adjacent to the living room where her body was found. Inside Curry's purse officers found a Duragesic patch which appeared to have been chewed.

On December 1, 2005, a confidential source came forward and told police officers investigating this case that **JENNIFER LYNN KRIEGER** was selling Duragesic patches for \$50 each. **KRIEGER** was selling the pouches from her residence in West Frankfort. According to the evidence, **KRIEGER** had a prescription for the patches which she would fill at a pharmacy in Herrin, Illinois, and then sell.

When she was arrested, **KRIEGER** admitted to providing Curry with a fentanyl patch on November 23, 2005, as alleged in the indictment. Evidence at the sentencing hearing established that Curry died of a drug overdose of fentanyl, a prescription pain reliever marketed as a Duragesic gel patch.

This case was investigated jointly by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and West Frankfort Police

Department. The COMIT drug task force also contributed to the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys Thomas E. Leggans and Michael C. Carr handled the prosecution.

MARIJUANA AND COCAINE

On January 26, 2009, **KENNETH THOMAS**, age 50, of East St. Louis, Illinois, was sentenced to 300 months' imprisonment and five years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay a mandatory \$200 special assessment and \$500 fine.

THOMAS was convicted on October 22, 2008, following a jury trial in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, of one count of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and marijuana, and one count of possession with intent to distribute "crack" cocaine. The convictions arose from an investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration into the drug related activities of **THOMAS** and others during the time frame of August 2005 through October 2007. The jury returned a special verdict as to the conspiracy charge that the amount of cocaine was at least five kilograms; however, in sentencing **THOMAS** to 25 years of imprisonment, the district court judge found that **THOMAS** was involved in the distribution of in excess of 50 kilograms of cocaine as well as marijuana and cocaine base commonly referred to as "crack." Seven of **THOMAS'** co-defendants previously pled guilty and have been sentenced.

The investigation was conducted under the auspices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force with the Drug Enforcement Administration as the lead agency.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ranley R. Killian.

On February 9, 2009, [KERRY L. SMITH](#), age 37, of Carbondale, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **SMITH**, who had previously pled guilty to a five-count superseding indictment charging him with conspiracy to distribute marijuana, engaging in an unlawful monetary transaction, concealment of material information from the Social Security Administration, and making a false statement (two counts), was sentenced to 92 months' imprisonment and four years' supervised release, and was ordered to pay a \$500 assessment. **SMITH** was also ordered to pay restitution to the Social Security Administration and the Illinois Department of Human Services in the amount of \$41,802. Additionally, **SMITH** was ordered to forfeit seven Carbondale residences, two vehicles, \$10,576.03 cash, and other personal property to the United States.

The written stipulation of facts entered into by the parties at the time of **SMITH's** guilty plea established that, from at least May 2001, through February 2007, **SMITH** was involved with others in the distribution of marijuana in the Jackson County area. **SMITH** acquired certain properties and assets as a result of the marijuana distribution. On December 6, 2007, **SMITH** used over \$12,000 in marijuana proceeds to purchase a 1998 Chevrolet Corvette. **SMITH** concealed certain information from the Social Security Administration and the United States Department of Agriculture, including information that **SMITH** was working and was acquiring real estate and other assets, in order to collect Supplemental Security Income and food stamps.

The investigation was part of an Organ-

ized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force operation and was conducted by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Division, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Social Security Administration - Office of Inspector General, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services - Office of Inspector General, Murphysboro Police Department, United States Marshals Service, Illinois Department of Corrections - Southern Region Intel Unit, and Drug Enforcement Administration. The Union County Sheriff's Office, Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, and Carbondale Police Department also participated in the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Amanda A. Robertson and Michael Thompson.

On February 5, 2009, [STEPHEN DODD](#), age 29, of Ballwin, Missouri, pled guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute marijuana.

The charge stemmed from **DODD's** transportation of marijuana for co-conspirators. The offense charged carries with it a penalty of a term of imprisonment of up to 20 years' imprisonment, a fine of not more than \$1,000,000, or both, and a term of supervised release of at least three years. Sentencing is scheduled for May 22, 2009, in East St. Louis, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted under the auspices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. The Drug Enforcement Administration led the investigation.

The case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel T. Kapsak.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

MAIL FRAUD

On February 3, 2009, [JUNE D. BAILEY](#), age 71 of Cisne, Illinois, in Wayne County, was indicted by a federal grand jury for mail fraud involving the deprivation of right to honest services of the Berry Township road commissioner. The offense carries a maximum statutory penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment and three years' supervised release, and a fine of up to \$250,000 and mandatory restitution. The indictment contains an additional count seeking forfeiture of the proceeds of the criminal offense.

The indictment alleges that **BAILEY**, as the Berry Township road commissioner, in Wayne County, Illinois, engaged in a scheme to defraud the General Services Administration and the residents of Berry Township in acquiring numerous pieces of federal surplus property, including 16 FEMA travel trailer/campers that were not put into use by Berry Township but were used personally by **BAILEY** and sold to family members and friends.

The investigation was conducted by the General Services Administration, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.

IDENTITY THEFT

On February 9, 2009, [LARRY AMBROSE RAY](#), age 36, of Tennessee, was sentenced to 42 months' imprisonment and three years' supervised release and was ordered to pay \$699 in restitution following his convictions for identity theft, misuse of a social security number, making false statements, and aggravated identity theft.

RAY had previously pled guilty to the charges on July 21, 2008.

According to information presented to the Court at the plea and sentencing hearings, **RAY** was arrested on October 18, 2007, by the United States Marshal's Service, pursuant to an arrest warrant from the State of Tennessee for escape. When arrested, **RAY** was in possession of the Missouri driver's license in the name of the victim, and an identity theft investigation was commenced by the United States Postal Inspection Service. The investigation revealed that, while on escape status, **RAY** impersonated the victim during the time period of August 6, 2004, through October 18, 2007, using the victim's identity in a number of transactions.

On August 6, 2004, **RAY** obtained a Missouri driver's license in the victim's name. Thereafter, **RAY** used the Missouri driver's license as a form of identification. On August 7, 2007, **RAY** purchased a truck in the name of the victim, financing \$10,156 of the purchase price, and also applied for insurance in the victim's name. In October 2007, **RAY** rented a car in the victim's name. On January 8, 2007, **RAY** opened a bank account at U.S. Bank in the victim's name, claiming the victim's social security number as his own.

On July 22, 2007, **RAY** was arrested by the Troy Police Department. During booking, **RAY** falsely identified himself to the Troy Police Department as the victim and also used the victim's social security number as his own.

On October 3, 2007, **RAY** made a false statement to the United States Postal Service when he applied for a post office box and falsely identified himself as the victim.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

DRUGS AND GUNS

On February 12, 2009, a jury in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, convicted [LAWRENCE O. DANIELS](#), a/k/a "L-DOG," age 51, of East St. Louis, Illinois, of three counts of distribution of crack cocaine, possession with the intent to distribute crack cocaine, possession with the intent to distribute cocaine, possession of a firearm by a felon, and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The offenses occurred in St. Clair County, Illinois, between October 17, 2007, and December 18, 2007.

DANIELS remains in federal custody pending sentencing, which is currently scheduled for May 11, 2009. At the time of disposition, **DANIELS** will face a potential sentence of life imprisonment.

Evidence supporting the conviction was obtained in an investigation conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Illinois State Police.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Deirdre A. Durborow.

HURRICANE KATRINA SCAM

On February 13, 2009, [DEANGELA LYNNE DIXON](#), age 49, of Fairview Heights, Illinois, received ten months' imprisonment following her conviction for committing a Hurricane Katrina related mail fraud. **DIXON** pled guilty to the charges on October 3, 2008. The factual stipulation filed at the time of the plea indicated that **DIXON** applied for Hurricane Katrina expedited assistance on September 5, 2005. **DIXON** represented to FEMA that, due to the Hurricane Katrina disaster, she was not able to access her

residence, had suffered damage to her personal property, and had relocated to O'Fallon, Illinois. The New Orleans address listed on **DIXON's** FEMA application did not exist, and at the time New Orleans was devastated, Dixon was residing well outside of Hurricane Katrina's path in Gary, Indiana. **DIXON** illegally collected \$2,000 in FEMA aid and has been ordered to repay that amount as well as a fine of \$250. Following release from imprisonment, **DIXON** will be on supervised release for three years.

The United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Illinois is a member of the Department of Justice's Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force. The Task Force is comprised of federal, state, and local law enforcement investigating agencies and the United States Attorney's Offices in the Gulf Coast region and nationwide. Information for the **DIXON** indictment was obtained in an investigation conducted by the United States Postal Inspection Service.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Suzanne M. Garrison.

KEY DATES IN FEBRUARY

February 1-28:

U.S.: Black History Month

February 1:

Iraq: Ansar al-Sunna attacks Kurdistan Democratic Party and Patriotic Union of Kurdistan facilities, kills 117 and wounds 221 (2004)

Ecuador: U.S. hostage Ron Sanders found shot to death (2001)

February 2:

France: ETA's Iglesias Chauvas and Conchita Alvarez arrested; both suspects in 1995 plot to assassinate King of Spain (2000)

February 3:

Syria and Sudan: Countries sign agreement on fighting terrorism in compliance with Arab Anti-Terrorism Convention (2000)

February 4:

Sri Lanka: Independence Day

February 5:

Algeria and France: Countries sign accord to cooperate in fighting terrorism (2001)

February 6:

Russia: Unknown group detonates explosives in Moscow metro, killing 40 and wounding 122 (2004)

United Kingdom: Arlana Afghan flight hijacked; 20 hostages released unharmed; hijackers surrender on February 10 (2000)

February 7:

United Kingdom: Attack on Number 10 Downing Street; mortar rounds fired at Prime Minister John Major's residence injure three; Provisional Irish Republican Army responsible (1991)

February 9:

Turkey: Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) announces formal halt to war; adopts new name, Kongra-Gel, and re-elects Abdullah Ocalan as leader (2000)

February 10:

Iraq: Unknown group bombs job applicants at police station, killing 55 and wounding 67 (2004)

February 11:

Iran: Revolution Day

February 12:

Syria: Imad Mughniyan, believed responsible for April 18, 1983, bombing of U.S. Embassy in Beirut, killed by car bomb in Damascus (2008)

U.S.: Abraham Lincoln's, the sixteenth President of the United States, birthday; February 12, 1809 – April 15, 1865

February 13:

Colombia: Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, the National Liberation Army stage attacks, kills 12, kidnapping 16 (2000)

February 14:

Lebanon: Former Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri is assassinated by car bomb in Beirut; United Nation investigation in October finds Syria responsible (2005)

U.S.: Valentine's Day

U.S.: DeKalb, Illinois, the Northern Illinois University campus shooting (2008)

February 15:

Turkey: PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan arrested and returned to Turkey; arrest sparks Kurdish protests across Europe (1999)

February 16:

Lebanon: Hizballah General Secretary Abbas Musawi killed in helicopter ambush (1992)
U.S.: President's Day – Federal Holiday

February 18:

Israel: Policeman killed by suicide bomber; al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade claims responsibility (2002)

February 19:

UK: Terrorism Act 2000 enacted (2001)

February 20:

Saudi Arabia: Gunman ambushes car at stoplight, killing UK citizen; Yemen-born naturalized Saudi later arrested (2003)

Japan: Japanese Red Army member, Tustomu Shiosaki, sentenced to 30 years for attack on U.S. Embassy in Indonesia (1998)

February 21:

Uganda: Lord's Resistance Army attacks refugee camp in Northern region, killing 239 and wounding 60 (2004)

Israel: PFLP-GC bombing of Swissair jet kills 47 (1970)

February 22:

Iraq: Destruction of al-Askari (Golden Dome) Mosque in Samarra' triggers retaliatory attacks that kill nearly 400 in subsequent week; al-Qaeda in Iraq claims responsibility for attack (2006)

Israel: Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigade bus bombing in Jerusalem kills eight, wounds 72. (2004)
Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine founded (1969)

February 23:

Colombia: Politician Ingrid Betancourt and three U.S. military contractors – Marc Gonzales, Thomas Howes, and Keith Stansell – kidnapped by Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, (FARC) (2002)

Worldwide: Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda issue fatwa urging the murder of Americans wherever they are found (1998)

February 25:

Israel: HAMAS bombs buses in Jerusalem, killing 28 and wounding 80 (1996)

Israel: Massacre of 39 Arab worshippers at Tomb of the Patriarchs (1994)

Iraq: Ground offensive launched in Operation Desert Storm (1991)

Christian: Ash Wednesday. In the Western Christian calendar, Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and occurs 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays). It falls on a different date each year, because it is dependent on the date of Easter.

February 26:

U.S.: World Trade Center bombed, six killed and 1,000 injured (1993)

February 27:

Afghanistan: Suicide attack on Bagram Air Base during visit by Vice President Dick Cheney, killing 23 and injuring 20 (2007)

Colombia: M-19 seizes Dominican Embassy, holds 20 ambassadors and 65 others hostage; last hostage released April 21 (1980)

February 28:

Iraq: Two vehicle-borne Improvised Explosive Devices attacks kill more than 160 Iraqis; Abu Musab al-Zarqawi group claims responsibility (2005)

UK: Irish Republican Army kills nine police officers in mortar attacks (1985)