JOURNAL

South Carolina Association of Legal Investigators

SCALI Journal April-May-June-2010 - Vol. 26, No. 2

Highlights of the Spring Conference



Overcoming Terrorism



IN MEMORY OF ED FEWELL



SCALI^{President's Message:}



I recently became the host of an internet radio talk show thanks to a referral from Don Myers. Below is upcoming show news. Every week I will talk about PI topics. I hope you can join me. thanks, Vicki

YOUR BODY LANGUAGE: WHAT ARE YOU & THEY REALLY SAYING? Your chance to ask ⊚Ragin⊚ Cajun⊚ body-language expert Jan Hargrave on The Vicki Childs Show, PI Answers. Listen, chat or call Thursday, 11am-12pm EDT Listen over phone or call & ask ??? Call (646) 652-2071

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I am pleased to announce that Mike Spane has been added to the Advisory committee to replace Ed Fewell who died earlier this year. Welcome Mike!

We had another great annual conference in May. Thank you Don Wilson for hosting. Congratulations to our award winners this year. Mike, Guy, and Tracy are always willing to pitch in and help SCALI. Also, congratulations to our Scholarship winner Rebekah Cheek. We look forward to our Fall conference in Columbia hosted by Mike Spane and Ken Robison. Next Spring, we will meet in Myrtle Beach with the guys from Excalibur hosting.

Welcome new members who joined since the last issue. I hope you will find that our Journal is helpful to you and I hope you will attend an upcoming conference, especially if you have not been able to yet. Feel free to ask other members for information and advice anytime.

I hope you have all become familiar with the new website look and I hope you have gotten your username and password established for the members only section. Thanks Bob Joseph for keeping up with us all and monitoring the website.

Vicki D. Childs

As always, I want to thank our executive committee for your help and Ken and Donna for a fabulous Journal.

Vicki D. Childs Blazer Investigative, Charleston, SC 843-224-2224 bigblaze@aol.com

Víckí

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TO MONITOR AND
TAKE
ACTION ON ANY
LEGISLATION THAT MAY
AFFECT OUR
PROFESSION

TO UPGRADE THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF OUR ORGANIZATION AND ITS MEMBERS THROUGH CONTINUED EDUCATION

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From The Editor's Desk:



I was really torn about how to approach this subject, but it needs to be discussed.

My purpose of bringing this
to light is not to
criticize, ridicule, or
embarrass Tommy
Blackwood.
I want to make that clear
right up front!

It is my hope that his story will be a wake up call for ALL of us. Things can go wrong very fast. Picking up the pieces seems to last forever..

What has happened is why this association is so important to us all!

I looked up the dictionary definition of 'professional' to find this, "characterized by or confroming to the technical or ethical standards of a profession."

SCALI, once a fledgling group, is now over 300 strong. If anything positive is to happen to or for our profession, WE, the SCALI are the people who need to make it happen.

"But By The Grace Of God"

In order to define technical or ethical standards, we, as a whole need to openly discuss situations in our cases where things went wrong and why, as well as how we have avoided trouble. Only by the sum total of our vast ex-

perience are we able to learn, teach, and monitor. We are the ones who should set the standards for our own profession, not clients, lawyers, judges, or courts.

Only by discussing the many varied settings and scenes, and scrapes we find ourselves in, will we be able to set standards that will not only keep us out of trouble, but will teach those who follow what a professional is.

All of us tout ourselves as professionals, but what is a 'professional' private investigator? What standards to we adhere to as legal, ethical, and wise?

SCALI is our way to show South Carolina and the world what a professional private investigator is!

So I urge you to join me in thinking about all those little situations that by the pure luck of the draw or grace or God, that you found yourself in and managed to get yourself out of and bringing them to light as we learn best when we make a mistake.

Let's not lie to ourselves and others, we have all made mistakes. We've all had moments of weakness, carelessness, or overconfidence that was almost our undoing.

Too many people are afraid to discuss their mistakes. It is imperative to learning and teaching to do so. Because as another investigator commented to me about this incident, "I know everyone in this association thought to themselves, but by the grace of God!"

I wish Tommy the best in this situation and make no judgments about him or this situation. I think that we all should support him in any way we can, because good or bad, right or wrong, whatever the outcome of this situation, it will affect us all in some way. Let's try and make it a positive outcome for Tommy and for us!

Donna

More Details On Former North Charleston Mayor's Suicide:

Private Investigator Speaks Out By Brooke Katz | Reporter / Producer Published: June 19, 2010

Updated: June 19, 2010

A stakeout gone terribly wrong, that's what attorney Mark Peper described the night former North Charleston Mayor Bobby Kinard killed himself, after allegedly shooting a man in bed with his wife.

At a press conference Saturday, Peper said Kinard hired his client, private detective Tommy Blackwood, about three weeks ago to find out if Kinard's estranged wife Susan was cheating on him. Peper said Blackwood and Mr. Kinard were very good friends and had known each other for years.

Here's a timeline of events that Peper released to News 2:

By way of review, on or about June 1, 2010, Mr. Kinard enters into a written contract with Blackwood Investigations, LLC for purposes of initiating surveillance on his wife, as he believes she is committing adultery with an unknown male.

Thursday June 17, 2010:

6:45pm: Mr. Kinard informs Mr. Blackwood that Susan has called and will be bringing their daughter to his house for the night. Given the fact that the daughter normally stays with Susan most weeknights, Mr. Kinard is suspicious and requests that Mr. Blackwood investigate her whereabouts.

7:30pm: Mr. Kinard informs Mr. Blackwood that their daughter has been dropped off and Susan is presumably heading to her apartment.

7:50pm: Mr. Blackwood arrives at the apartment complex and sets up his surveillance. Susan's car and the paramour's vehicle are already parked outside her apartment.

8:20pm: Mr. Kinard sends a text message to Mr. Blackwood inquiring as to whether both parties' vehicles are there, and Mr. Blackwood confirms.

8:45pm: Mr. Blackwood calls Mr. Kinard to inform him that it appears the paramour is there to spend the night. He tells Mr. Kinard that he is going to position his surveillance camera and return the next morning to film them exiting the apartment.

8:49pm: Mr. Kinard contacts Mr. Black-wood and is adamant that he remain on the scene so to catch them in the act. He specifically states that he wants a video or picture of them.

10:20pm: Mr. Blackwood sends a text message to Mr. Kinard informing him that the lights have been turned off and it appears that the parties have gone to bed.

10:26pm: Mr. Kinard contacts Mr. Black-wood informing him that he is on the way. Mr. Blackwood implores Mr. Kinard not to come.

10:49pm: MPPD responds to the scene to investigate a noise complaint. They leave at 10:53pm.

11:21pm: Mr. Kinard calls Mr. Blackwood and tells him that he is leaving his house at Isle of Palms, and requests that Mr. Blackwood leave immediately. Mr. Blackwood again implores him not to come and decides to stay in order to reiterate his position in person to Mr. Kinard.

11:40pm: Mr. Kinard arrives at the apartment complex. Mr. Blackwood approaches Mr. Kinard and again requests that he return home. Mr. Kinard is adamant that he wants his wife and the paramour caught in the act, so he asks Mr. Blackwood to videotape the entrance to the apartment.

Mr. Kinard decides that he is going to call his wife to alert her that their daughter is ill, in an effort to "flush" the parties out of the apartment together so Mr. Blackwood can videotape their exit together.

Out of caution, he asks Mr. Kinard to confirm that he is not carrying any weapons. Mr. Kinard adamantly denies possession of any weapon and allows Mr. Blackwood to frisk him to confirm the absence of any weapon.

Mr. Blackwood positions himself with his handheld video camera at the top of the flight of stairs, looking down on the first floor apartment door. Mr. Kinard walks to the front of the breezeway and turns the corner, presumably to place the phone call to his wife. Mr. Kinard re-enters the breezeway and informs Mr. Blackwood that she won't answer his call and notifies him that he is entering the apartment with

the extra key in his possession.

Mr. Blackwood comes down the stairway and stands just outside the apartment door as Mr. Kinard enters. Upon entering, Mr. Kinard leaves the door open and calmly walks down the hallway and into the first bedroom on the right. Immediately upon entering the bedroom, Mr. Blackwood hears two gunshots and retreats to the parking lot to take cover, under the guise that the paramour has opened fire on Mr. Kinard.

Upon hearing Susan screaming at Bobby to put the gun down, Mr. Blackwood re-enters the breezeway and sees Susan pushing Mr. Kinard backwards out of the entrance to the apartment. Mr. Blackwood sees Mr. Kinard holding a 357 Magnum Revolver cocked and loaded, and immediately asks Mr. Kinard to drop his weapon. Mr. Kinard refuses to do so and instructs Mr. Blackwood to leave immediately.

Mr. Blackwood, out of concern for his own safety, runs to his car and immediately calls MPPD to report the shooting. He witnesses Mr. Kinard get into his vehicle and leave the scene. As Mr. Kinard leaves the scene, he sees Mr. Blackwood on his cell phone and attempts to flag him down. Mr. Blackwood declines to pull over and sees Mr. Kinard do a U-Turn in his rear view mirror and head back towards the apartment complex.

Mr. Blackwood remains on the phone with MPPD and agrees to return to the apartment complex once they have Mr. Kinard in custody and the scene secured. Upon receiving confirmation, Mr. Blackwood returns to the apartment complex to meet with MPPD and then accompanies them to the police department to give a written statement. He turns over the video camera to MPPD and cooperates fully with their investigation.

At the press conference, Peper said that at no time did Mr. Blackwood feel that any party was in imminent danger, especially, after he confirmed that Mr. Kinard did not possess a weapon.

Peper said Mr. Blackwood has cooperated fully with MPPD in their investigation, and will continue to do so.

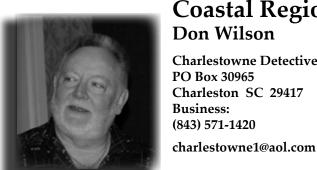


Upstate Region Marty Henderson

Don't forget our luncheon!

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Coastal Region Don Wilson

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The SCALI Coastal Region will schedule a meeting prior to our SCALI Fall Conference. All Coastal members are encouraged to attend the SCALI Fall Conference in Columbia, October 22, 2010, to be hosted by Mike Spane and Ken Robison of Hawkeye, which is expected to be a great conference, as always. Just be careful on those marble bathroom floors; ouch. The preceding Coastal Region meeting will be held in Beaufort this time, probably in late September, and the details will follow.

A special thanks to all who helped, supported and attended Coastal's Spring Conference; the members made it happen, again.

Don



Midlands Region Dave MacDougall

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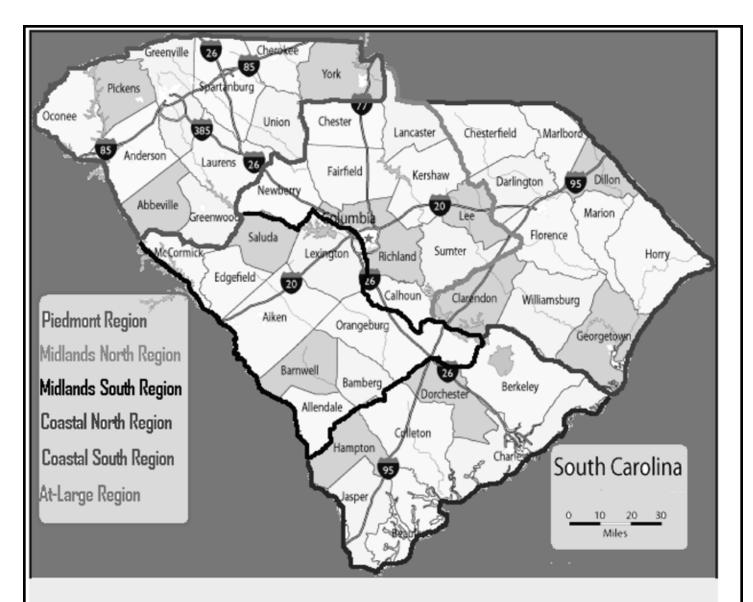
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No Report.



At Large - Frank Rimsek

Savannah Investigative Security Consults, Inc. Savannah, GA 1-800-256-2067 SISC2000@aol.com No Report



APPROVED REGIONAL CHANGES

The graphic above is the suggested, or as reported in the last Journal "approved" map for redistricting the regions, creating six as opposed to four regions. As you can see by the map, the large Midlands and Coastal regions would be divided into, allowing room for two more Regional Directors.

If you have a comments or concerns about this matter, please contact the Executive Committe. The Regional Directors contact information is provided on their page.

Operating a Digital Office on a Shoestring

Austin W. Troxell, MSc, CISSP, ACE

"In these difficult economic times...." How often have we read articles over the past couple of years that start off with those words or contain them somewhere in the body of the text? Certainly, times are financially challenging for most of us, but especially, it seems, for us private investigators. Many potential clients have to choose between engaging our services and making their mortgage payments. Even attorneys are bemoaning the sharp drop-off in the number of divorce cases they are seeing in these days of "austerity." The saying, "It's cheaper to keep her," is no longer a joke, but a sad fiscal reality for many.

By contrast, computer hardware has never been more affordable. For many years, it was a truism that a "decent" PC with the features that most people considered "standard" at any given time would cost around \$1500. In the past decade, though, due to decreased production costs as well as increased processing power, a very suitable office computer may now be had for as little as \$500-\$750 – often including monitor and printer.

The real kicker comes when one discovers that their "bare-bones" PC comes with a limited set of stripped-down "light" versions of popular software titles or, even worse, "time-bombed" editions that must be "upgraded" to full versions after only a couple months – at considerable cost.

In this article, I briefly discuss the cost of adding various commercial software products to a computer and then review about a dozen open-source programs and application suites that I consider "must-haves" for any office or home PC which are available at no cost.

The Software "Gotcha!"

Okay, so you found a great deal on a PC and, when you power it on at the

office, you discover that it is loaded with "whiffle -ware" like Microsoft Works and a three-minute trial of Symantec/Norton's latest "Security Suite." Now what? Well, you could go out and purchase a full retail copy of "real" software so that you can actually do something other than surf the Web. Got your shopping basket handy? Here's a quick rundown on some basic office-productivity tools and their retail cost:

Microsoft Office (for documents, spreadsheets, email) \$360

> Quickbooks Pro (keep those records straight!) \$150

Adobe Photoshop (to edit photos) \$1500

Adobe Acrobat (to create PDF files) \$270

Nero (to record data to CD or DVD) \$100

PowerDVD (to play DVDs when you need some "down-time") \$100

...and, oh yeah, Norton 360 (anti-whatever) \$35

Et cetera, et cetera...

\$???

Total? Approximately \$2500.

Um... yeah. Right. The phrase "sticker-shock" comes to mind with a new digital twist. So much for a "cheap" computer!

Open-Source/Free Alternatives

"True Confession" time: I don't care HOW good or bad the economy is; I don't like to spend money on software. Period. I have many more areas that demand my finances: food, clothing, shelter, health insurance, attorneys, post-divorce celebrations... I became a fan of "Free and Open-Source Software" (FOSS) during the dot-boom days of the mid-1990s when software packages were still relatively affordable. Cheap is nice; free is always better. Why spend money if you don't need to?

In these days of "bloat-ware" and "bloat-cost," I offer the following as open-source (read: "free") alternatives to commercial applications. NOTE: I have used most of these products for quite a number of years and have no reservations as to their usefulness. There is only one product listed that I have not used. My reason for not using this application is explained below.

OpenOffice

I have used this collection of document processing applications since 1999, when it as known as "Star Office." This office-productivity suite does about 90% of everything that Microsoft Office does. Additionally, OpenOffice can be made to run as a "portable" application, meaning that it can be made to run from an external source, such as a USB flash drive. The only major downside that I have found is that it does not play the audio portion of Microsoft PowerPoint presentations. Also, be aware that you must change the default "Save as" format from OpenOffice to one of several Microsoft-compatible (i.e. ".doc", ".xls", ".ppt", etc.)

Firefox

Mozilla Firefox won my heart years ago as the first alternative to Microsoft's Internet Explorer to offer tabbed browsing. In other words, you only need to open Firefox once and then generate new tabs for each of multiple websites. For several years, Firefox was also much more secure than IE, although that standing has faltered in recent months.

To get the most from Firefox, you'll want to install a couple of really useful add-ons, InvisibleHand and Download Helper.

InvisibleHand automatically finds the best prices for items you search via Google or Yahoo. Type in an item of interest and within a couple seconds, InvisibleHand pops a little banner across the top of your browser telling you which site has the best deal and giving you a one-click button that will take you directly there.

Have you ever wanted to save a video from YouTube or some other web site, but couldn't figure out how? The Download Helper add-on makes video (and MP3 audio) downloads child's play. When the add-on detects a downloadable file on a web page, its icon on the browser menu bar changes from grey to a colorful animated one. Simply click on the down arrow to the right of the icon and select the video or audio file you wish to save and Download Helper does the rest.

Thunderbird

Also from Mozilla, Thunderbird is an email client that is a more-than-worthy competitor to Outlook (any version). It offers good compatibility as a client for SNMP, POP3, and IMAP email systems and can be used with AOL, Gmail, etc.

Today, web-based email access almost eliminates the need for a stand-alone mail-reader except for one vital feature: Thunderbird stores messages on your PC for easy retrieval and archival, even from AOL, Gmail and the like. It's nice to be able to save emails in folders dedicated to each case so that these may be included with our notes.

GIMP

"GIMP" stands for the GNU Image Manipulation Program. Don't want to pay for Adobe Photoshop? Don't. Try GIMP. Edit pictures; manipulate objects and layers... save money. As with OpenOffice, GIMP does >90% of the things its commercial counter-part does, but without cost.

IrfanView

Maybe you don't need to edit images, just view them? Try IrfanView. It is a lightweight application, meaning it loads fast, even on PCs with marginal amounts of memory and it handles dozens of file-types, many of which I'd never heard of. It will even play several varieties of audio and video files. My favorite feature of this application is that if you open a JPG image file, it features a button that says "EXIF". Click on it and you will be presented with a detailed summary of information of that image, including what brand and model of camera was used, date and time, as well as details of the

camera's settings, such as lens and f-stop. Great for anti-repudiation! ("Hey, I didn't take that picture!" Really? You do own a Canon Model XYZ, do you not? The same type of camera that was used to take this photo...?")

Foxit

Foxit is a light-weight viewer for Adobe Acrobat PDF files. Although there are some compatibility issues with some PDFs, the speed with which Foxit loads these files is impressive. Try it; you've nothing to lose.

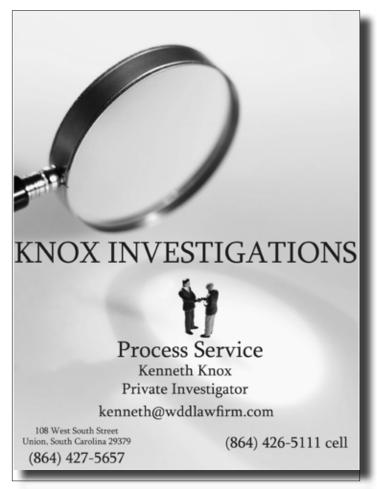
VLC This utility is also a "portable" application, in that it can be made to run from a flash drive as well as can be installed on your desktop or laptop. Its interface is far from glamorous; but it will allow you to play DVDs and many other video formats. Run it in full-screen mode and you won't care about its lack of glamour.

Winamp

I've been a fan of Winamp since the days when Napster was a music-downloader's dream come true. With hundreds of plug-ins to customize file formats and appearance, Winamp is just the utility to play MP3s, music CDs and even a number of video formats.

Audacity

Perhaps you need to edit audio files, either for fun, home recording or to clean up surveillance recordings. If so, Audacity has a clean interface and is loaded with features for even demanding audiophiles. *cont. pg.* 15



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CDBurnerXP

CDBurnerXP is simply my favorite CD/DVD recording application. Its interface is clean and almost intuitive. It only takes a few minutes to get used to its controls. Compiling a disc is drag-and-drop easy. An added bonus is that it can handle ISO (disc image) files and recreate the original disc upon recording

HP USB Disk Storage Format Tool

Aren't multi-gigabyte flash drives one of the neatest things to come along? It's simply amazing -and convenientto be able to store the equivalent of several DVDs worth of files on a device the size of a pack of chewing gum and carry it with you in your pocket or purse. How many of us, though have needed to reformat one of these drives only to be told that access is denied or that we can only format a 2-gigabyte section of a 32-gigabyte drive? This is where HP's USB Disk Storage Format Tool comes in handy. You can select which file system you'd like (FAT, FAT32, or NTFS) and even make the USB drive bootable. It's simple, fast and free.

PostBooks

This is an open-source alternative to the ubiquitous home and small business accounting package, Quickbooks. This is also the one product on my list which I have not used. Why? I never used Quickbooks longer than about 10 minutes. As much as I love technology, I still am squeamish about keeping my records in electronic form. When it comes to my money, I like the feel of paper. As it comes in, as it goes out and as I make a record of it. The other reason I avoid Quickbooks is that it is notoriously grumpy on local-area networks and even more so over VPN connections over the Internet.

But, for those of you that do use Quickbooks, I ask one question: Aren't you tired of expensive annual upgrades with their associated hassles? Try PostBooks and let me know how it works for you.

7-Zip

Windows has been able to read and extract files from compressed Zip archives since version XP. That's nice, but if you wish to make your own compressed files or if you encounter a compression format other than Zip, such as .rar, .tar or if you wish to extract a single file or folder from an ISO disc image, the built-in Windows utility will not do the job. WinZip and Win Rar are both good products, but in order to avoid the annoying "nag screen." you have to pay for them. 7-Zip, on the other hand, is nag-free and quick. Again, why pay when you don't have to?

SyncToy

According to Microsoft, "SyncToy... is a free application that synchronizes files and folders between locations. Typical uses include sharing files, such as photos, with other computers and creating backup copies of files and folders." You read correctly, SyncToy is a free utility from Microsoft to make backups easy. Plug an external hard drive into your PC install and run this nifty intuitive application and you will have no excuse for failure to backup.

A Word About Malware

By now we should all be alert to the dangers that our Internet connection can pose. Viruses, worms, Trojan Horses, oh my! Collectively known as "malware," these pieces of nasty programming can destroy data and render a computer useless in a matter of moments. All new PCs come with some subscription-based antimalware package loaded. Many users neglect to renew their subscription, thus rendering their computer essentially unprotected after the initial trial period has expired.

This is totally avoidable... and for free! Do a Google-search for free anti-virus or anti-malware products and you will be presented with numerous options from which to choose. I won't make any recommendations here, except to say "Get Something!" You'll need

to download your new free program, disconnect from the Internet, uninstall the old program, install the new one, reconnect to the Internet, download and apply updates and then run a COMPLETE scan of your system. Yes, it will take awhile. Trust me, recovering from a malware infestation will take MUCH longer. Currently popular options include AVG and Clam-Win.

Also, download and install Zone-Alarm. It is a software firewall that will alert you if someone or something is trying to attach to your system without your permission. It will also alert you if a program on your PC is trying to act as a server of malicious programs, such as unwanted email ("spam"). Just because your Internetprovider said the router they plugged you into has firewall capabilities, don't be complacent. Even if your ISP configured the router/firewall correctly, both hardware and software firewalls are necessary as part of a "defense in depth" strategy to protect your com-

To Make Things Simple...

I recently learned about a web-site that automates the installation process of most of the above-mention applications, along with many others. The site is located at http://ninite.com

At last count, it has links to 75 free and open-source applications that can be selected by placing a check-mark next to the item of interest. Once you've made all of your choices, click "Get Installer" and Ninite will gather all of the setup and installation files for your applications and perform a batch install of everything. Ninite even checks to see that it downloads the correct version of each software package for your PC, such 64-bit versus 32-bit. Do be sure you have at least a reasonably fast Internet connection as some of the packages exceed 100-megabytes each and choosing several items can easily mean a 1-gigabyte download.

cont. pg. 16

And Finally... An App Worth Paying For!

That's right, you read correctly. "Mr. Cheap-Cheap" is about to recommend a nifty little piece of software that allows the user to remotely access their office or home computer from the Internet. LogMeIn makes it almost seem that are you are sitting at your main computer, even though you may be hundreds or thousands of miles away. I stumbled on this product while trying to find a remoteaccess solution for a client whose main interest was being able to update his Quickbooks data from the road. As mentioned earlier, Quickbooks does not play nice over a network.

After a bit of research, I downloaded and installed LogMeIn without a hitch and, get this! The product works as advertised! I tested it from several remote locations and asked the client to give it a spin. He was happy with it! The nicest part, other than that it works, is that LogMeIn comes as a 30-day free trial. (You knew there had to be SOME "free" angle for me in there!)

If you like it and wish to use it beyond the trial period, it only costs \$200 per year. For road-warriors, that is the next best thing to "free" when it comes to reliable remote access.

The Bottom Line

That's what this discussion has been about, The Bottom Line. We've all heard the saying, "It's not how much you make, but how much you keep." Selecting high-quality software to help

you be as productive as possible need not break the bank. As we've seen, there are many open-source products that can help you in just about every aspect of your business-computing needs. Pick the task and you'll find a free application that will handle it. Make more; keep more. Where to Find:

7-Zip http://www.7-zip.org/

Audacity http://audacity.sourceforge.net/

CDBurnerXP http://cdburnerxp.se/

Download Helper https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/3006/

Foxit http://www.foxitsoftware.com/pdf/reader/

GIMP http://www.gimp.org/

HP USB Disk Storage Format Tool: http://files.extremeoverclocking.com/file.php?f=197

InvisibleHand http://www.getinvisiblehand.com/

IrfanView http://www.irfanview.com/

LogMeIn https://secure.logmein.com/

Mozilla Firefox http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/personal.html Mozilla Thunderbird http://www.mozillamessaging.com/ en-US/thunderbird/

OpenOffice http://www.openoffice.org/

PostBooks http://sourceforge.net/projects/postbooks/

VLC http://www.videolan.org/vlc/

Winamp http://www.winamp.com/

ZoneAlarm http://www.zonealarm.com/security/ en-us/home.htm?lid=en-us

About the Author: Austin W. Troxell has been tinkering with computers in some way shape or form since 1970. He even occasionally earns an income from this! Austin holds a Masters degree in Information Assurance from Norwich University. He also holds both the **Certified Information Systems** Security Professional (CISSP) and AccessData Certified Examiner (ACE) designations and is a member of InfraGard and ISSA. Austin may be reached via email at awtroxell@aol.com or by phone at (864) 357-9521.

My client called and stated that her husband had called her to tell her that she can inform her Private Investigators to stop calling his house. She told him that she didn't know what he was talking about. He said, WELL, the ID caller read out says "PRIVATE".

Tracy Hoshell CIS

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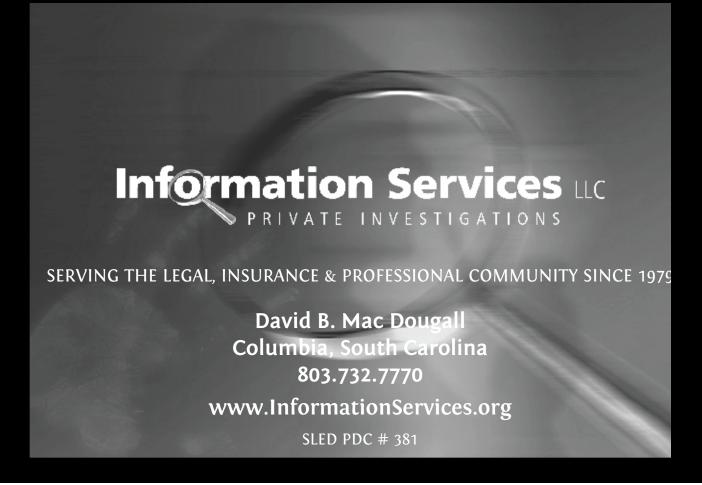
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Getting Caught with Your Pants Down...

As we all know, we can wait around for hours for the fifteen seconds of action and Lord knows it will always come around at the most inconvenient times. Here is one such story...

For the purposes of this article, the names have been changed to protect the innocent (and/or embarrassed.)

Being in a resort area, we are a target for the opportunistic criminal element that preys on unsuspecting tourists. Many visitors don't think twice about leaving their balcony door open or ajar to allow the ocean breeze to flow through. This is generally not a problem, but they often leave the room and leave the sliding glass door unsecure, which is easy to spot from public areas.

Acouple of years ago there was a serious problem with thieves wandering around and taking advantage of this mistake and it eventually ended up occurring at a few of our client properties. It became clear that these were not spontaneous incidents, but a fairly well planned enterprise believed to be carried out by one or two small groups of individuals. The burglaries were happening in concentrated areas and several were occurring each evening around dinner time.

Due to the volume of incidents the local police dedicated an undercover street crimes unit to the problem and we set up a few rooms with covert cameras and all the accoutrements of a tourist occupied room. Our "control room" was a few doors down from one of the set-up rooms and held all of the recording devices, radios and monitors. It looked like we were prepared for a huge undercover operation or possibly a back-up control center for a NASA shuttle launch. We were ready for these knuckleheads if they hit in our area again, leaving the balcony doors on the set-up rooms slightly ajar.

The operation manager in the control

room (I'll call him "Joe Huff") was ready and had his eyes peeled for any suspicious activity. Joe was in contact with undercover security officers and the police street crimes unit, identifying any strange activity around the exterior of the rooms.

Joe Huff is a very dedicated, hard working, single father of three daughters and as luck would have it, on the third evening of the operation, Joe's babysitter could not help him at the last minute. Joe knew that the control room was a safe place and knowing that there was no way to have someone else take over at the last minute, brought his daughters with him. Joe figured that they could just watch TV and play video games in the comfort of the control room.

As the completely uneventful evening wore on, "nature" came a knocking on Joe's door, so he asked his oldest daughter to watch the monitors while he went to the restroom. He told her to let him know if she saw anything unusual happening and left for some quality reading time. Joe had not even gotten past the third paragraph when his daughter calmly knocked on the door and said, "Daddy, some man is in the other room putting things in a pillow case." Knowing the jokester his daughter was, Joe laughed and replied, "Yeah, okay honey", continuing with his article. About a minute later, his daughter knocked on the door again and said, "Daddy, Dale is fighting with that man in the hallway." Dale was one of our undercover officers and Joe could now hear sounds of struggling and yelling out in the hallway area.

Joe immediately realized that his daughter WAS NOT joking. He exclaimed, "Oh Shoot!" while simultaneously throwing down the magazine and jumping to his feet. We can only hope there was one other action involved, but to this day we are still unsure. I'm not sure if Joe evens

By: Mike Arrington

knows honestly.

Agent Huff quickly told his daughters to stay in the room as he ran out into the hallway to find Dale struggling to hold the suspect down on the floor with the filled pillow case right beside them. Joe assisted Dale in getting the suspect handcuffed and turned over onto his back.

Now that everything was under control, Joe fixed his pants so he would not be mistaken as a wayward plumber and contacted the street crimes unit by cell phone. As soon as Joe hung up with the police, the suspect sprung straight up to his feet and started running down the hallway in a failed attempt at escape.

The suspect was found to have been released from prison three months earlier after serving a few years for similar burglaries. He was charged and later convicted for twenty-six burglaries within a thirty day span and sentenced to a lengthy stay at an allinclusive resort owned by the State of South Carolina.

There are three things to remember based on this story:

Whenever you think things are quiet.... watch out;

Never assume that someone is joking with you; and

Stay away from fried foods and bran products when on a lengthy surveillance.

*Please forgive the horrible pun of the title.

(Mike Arrington is President of Excalibur Security and Investigations in Myrtle Beach, SC, having been in business since 1996.) See Ad Page 36

Hunt begins for discredited medical examiner

Saturday, April 17, 2010 **By:Monica Mercer (Contact)**

A local defense attorney said he doubts it will be easy to force a discredited state medical examiner back into a Hamilton County criminal courtroom to face allegations that he botched yet another autopsy.

The former Dr. Charles Harlan already has lost his medical license and apparently now is living with his mother in Missouri after officials concluded he had been making false statements on Tennessee autopsy reports for years, defense attorney Dan Ripper said.

Mr. Ripper estimates his client, convicted killer Stephan LaJuan Beasley, is just one of many defendants across the state continuing to use Dr. Harlan's ruined reputation as fuel in bids for new trials.

PDF: Stephan Beasley petition "Probably as many people who are in jail (after cases in which) Dr. Harlan testified is the number who could be challenging their convictions because of him," Mr. Ripper said.

Mr. Beasley's appeals kicked into high gear in 2005, the same year then-Dr. Harlan lost his medical license when the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners concluded he had committed numerous acts of malpractice, fraud, deceit and unprofessional conduct.

The Tennessee Supreme Court denied Mr. Beasley's appeal once, but a new motion he made in Hamilton County Criminal Court in 2008 convinced Judge Don Poole to set a hearing. The proceeding will examine Mr. Beasley's claims that the doctor's autopsy in his girlfriend's death led to a felony murder conviction and life in prison with no possibility of parole.

The hearing has been set for June 7 after many delays, but Mr. Ripper said

that's only if Mr. Harlan can be found. "I'll need to ensure he's unwilling to come here, which I don't think will be much of a stretch, and then take the appropriate measures to get him here," Mr. Ripper said.

Mr. Harlan could not be reached for comment.

Medical examiners such as Mr. Harlan was perform thousands of autopsies over the course of their careers and frequently testify at murder trials. Although there are no records showing how many times Mr. Harlan testified as an expert witness, the professional investigation against him, as well as another prominent state murder trial in which the convicts are challenging his work, highlight the many problems still swirling around the former doctor.

ABC's national news program "20/20" profiled Mr. Harlan on March 5 regarding a murder trial in Blount County that sent defendants Gary Sutton and James Dellinger to death row for the 1996 killing of Tommy Griffin. In that case, Dr. Harlan testified it was possible for a body to be in rigor mortis three days after death and that blood still can look bright red and wet after days. That supported the prosecution's theory that Mr. Griffin died on a Friday when he was with the defendants, even though police found his body with rigor mortis and fresh wounds the following Monday. Rigor mortis, or the gradual stiffening of a dead body, goes away within 36 hours of death, according to other medical experts.

Mr. Sutton and Mr. Dellinger deny the killing.

Mr. Beasley's case is different, since he confessed to the 1993 killing of his estranged girlfriend, but he still alleges that Mr. Harlan's testimony seriously hurt him at trial.

Mr. Beasley wants to prove at the June 7 hearing that Dr. Harlan purposely made a gash to victim Ugandra Shibley's throat during the autopsy, thereby making him look like a "monster" to the jury.

He also alleges the former doctor deliberately made markings to her fingers, leading jurors to believe Mr. Beasley stole her rings before shooting her.

Such evidence, which showed that he supposedly committed a separate felony during a killing, led to the felony murder conviction and a life prison sentence without parole. At his 1994 trial, Mr. Beasley was the only person at the time ever to receive such a punishment in Hamilton County. The prosecution denies Dr. Harlan's testimony had anything to do with the outcome of Mr. Beasley's trial.

"(Mr. Beasley) fails to identify any newly discovered evidence nor how the newly discovered evidence would have resulted in a different judgment," Executive Assistant District Attorney Neal Pinkston states in court documents

Continue reading by following these links to related stories:

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Medical examiner arrested



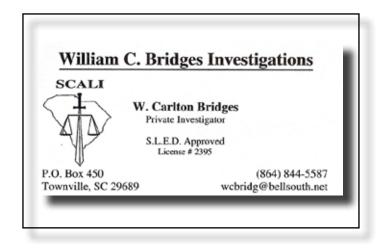
I'm doing well here...a little dicey at times (see bunker picture).

It looks like this project may be seriously curtailed,
and I am looking at other "in-theater" options. Besides, this has
been austere to say the least. I started out in a tent with 27 bunks,
then moved to a wood hut with twice that many. Now I've been promoted
to a tent with five other guys...mmmm, luxurious!

Anyway, the chow is good and we are treated to Baskin-Robbins ice cream.

Stay in touch and say hey to the rest of the bunch for me.

12 miles from Pakistan, Dave



Beer Distributorship Shooting

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, Conn. -- The ware-house driver who fatally shot eight co-workers and himself at a beer distributorship apparently targeted managers who had hired a private detective to tail him and forced him to resign because he stole beer from work, police said Wednesday.

Omar Thornton's girlfriend, meanwhile, told The Associated Press that he had complained of racial harassment and had shared evidence of it with her: photos of racist bathroom graffiti and a surreptitiously monitored conversation allegedly involving company managers.

Thornton carried two 9mm handguns to Hartford

Distributors inside his lunch box Tuesday and left a shotgun in his car, police said. At a disciplinary hearing, he watched video that showed him stealing beer and then resigned after

being asked whether he wanted to quit or be fired.

He then asked for a drink of water and went to a kitchenette where his lunch box was, Manchester police Lt. Christopher Davis said Wednesday. He took out his guns, walked out into the hall and began shooting immediately, Davis said. All the weapons were registered, he said.

The first people shot were managers or executives involved in Thornton's firing, Davis said. It's not clear whether every victim was targeted or whether some were shot randomly, Davis said.

Thornton left the office area and went into a large section of the warehouse where more victims were found, Davis said. He chased one or more of them outside into a parking lot, shot a locked glass door to get back into the building and continued shooting.

One man who was fatally shot tried to evade Thornton on a forklift, which crashed into an electrical conduit and started a small fire, Davis said.

Thornton also passed by at least two people and did not shoot them, Davis said, including one woman in a wheelchair. In all, Thornton killed eight people and wounded two others. suspicious that he was stealing. The amount of beer Thornton took wasn't clear.

Holliday said his nephew told his family that he was the only black employee at the company. None of the victims were black, Davis said.

Friends and family of those who died said they couldn't imagine their loved ones doing what Thornton said, and the company and union said Thornton never reported any harassment.

Among the people shot were several in positions of responsibility at Hartford Distributors.

The warehouse driver who fatally shot eight co-workers and himself at a beer distributorship apparently targeted managers who had hired a private detective to tail him and forced him to resign because he stole beer from work, police said Wednesday.

Finally, Thornton called his mother to say goodbye, said his uncle Wilbert Holliday. Thornton, who is black, had complained of racial harassment for months to family and friends and indicated he did target people -- but because they had harassed him.

"I shot the racists that was bothering me," he told his mother.

Police found Thornton dead in an office

Davis revealed Wednesday that the company had hired a private investigator to follow Thornton outside of work for a few weeks after becoming Steve Hollander, 50, was a member of the family that owns the company and met with Thornton at the disciplinary hearing. Hollander was shot twice but survived.

The dead also included Bryan Cirigliano, 51, the president of Teamsters 1035 who had

been Thornton's representative at the hearing. Another slain worker, Louis Felder, was operations director, according to The Stamford Advocate.

Kristi Hannah, 26, Thornton's girlfriend of eight years, said he had told her months ago that he was racially harassed, and he showed her photos he took with his cell phone. One was a drawing on a bathroom wall of a stick figure with a noose around the neck and a racial slur, she told the AP. Another scrawl said the writer hated black people and had Thornton's name on it, she said.

One day, Hannah said, he called her

from a bathroom stall and held up his phone. She said she could hear a company official, apparently unaware Thornton was in a stall, tell someone else that the company was going to "get rid of this dumb n-----."

Brett Hollander, who also works at Hartford Distributors, has denied any charges of racism.

"I can assure you there has never been any racial discrimination at our company," he said.

Said Hannah: "He was being racially profiled and no one would listen to him."

Hannah said Thornton gave her a long hug and kiss goodbye on the morning of the shooting. He looked dazed and confused, so she asked him whether something was wrong, but he said no.

"I think he did it because of the racial stuff," she said, adding that Thornton "said he was very hurt."

One driver at the company who was killed, Edwin Kennison, had mentioned Thornton before but never in a derogatory way, said Mark McCorrison, a close friend. Kennison was not the type to make bigoted remarks, he

said.

"I can tell you right now: Eddie is not that person," McCorrison said.

Craig Pepin, also a slain driver, was never angry, let alone someone who showed any hint of racism or bigotry, said a neighbor who knew him for 25 years.

"Craig, who was active as a coach in town with all kids -- all races of kids -- for years, he didn't care. He just worked with the kids," Ted Jenny said. "There was no way Craig Pepin was racist."

Steve Hollander told the AP on Tuesday that the people Thornton targeted appeared to be "absolutely random."

"He killed so many good people today for absolutely no reason at all. People who've never said an unkind word to him," he said. "He was just shooting at anyone that was near him and just cruelty beyond cruelty."

Hartford Distributors never had any complaints filed against it, the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities said.

Also Wednesday, police released cop-

ies of emergency calls made after the shooting.

In a nearly three-minute call, Steve Hollander calmly told a dispatcher he had been shot in the head and was hiding in an office.

"Omar Thornton's shooting people. I just got shot," Hollander said. "Get the cops here right away, please." He said "people were running all over the place" and that Thornton was chasing people in the parking lot.

"He's still shooting," Hollander said. "He's shooting at a girl."

In another call, an emergency dispatcher is heard trying to elicit information from a woman hiding in her office.

"Do you know what kind of car he drives or anything?" the dispatcher asks.

The caller replies: "I don't know anything. He's a tall black guy. He's like the only black guy that works here, almost."

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The Extreme Temperatures???

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Terrorism:

Why Today and Can America Overcome Its Deadly Messengers?

By Dr. George Hoshell, Ph.D

Various studies present multiple forms of terrorism in today's world, particularly in the United States, i.e., religious, economic, eco/green, criminal, race-based, etc., where they are categorized to be either left-wing extremist (Marxist- overpowering the ruling class and equalizing all members of a population) or right-wing extremists (disrupting government authority through specific social/political issues, i.e., abortion, environment, animal rights, etc.) (Wilson, 2004). The most prevalent form of contemporary terrorism is religious/political (I feel it is improbable to separate religious and political context since research indicate they are mutual when speaking of modern objectives of al Qaeda or the Taliban- the establishment of a Theocracy in the countries of occupation or operations). Eco or environmental terrorism has raised its ugly head the past few years, and is projected by terrorism professionals to be more public in the near future, predominantly involving oil excavation along the coasts.

Antecedents of Terrorism:

Historically, religion in general and certain interpretations of the Muslim religion have inspired various ways of murdering political opponents or nonbelievers to include; "assassination" by cutting edged weapons (Wilson, 2004, p.1), bombings of restaurants, Olympic gathering, and suicide bombings via trucks and planes into non-military civilian populated buildings (Ward et al, 2006, p.15). Where did terrorism as a strategy for overthrowing governments or undermining authority begin? A review of the literature provides evidence of terrorism, as a strategy or tactic, practiced throughout history, i.e., "assassins" during the period of

Mohammed (610-632 CE), considered the world's first terrorists (Wilson, 2004, p.1); and more recent, as pointed out in another source,

The French Revolution provided the first uses of the words 'Terrorist' and 'Terrorism'...The agents of the Committee of Public Safety and the National Convention that enforced the policies of 'The Terror' were referred to as 'Terrorists'... The French Revolution provided an example to future states in oppressing their populations (Early History, 2010, p.1).

Methods of frightening individuals and populations into slavery or total submission used throughout history remain strategies of military and paramilitary groups currently, as occurred in Rwanda in 1994-800 thousand persons murdered (Compassion, 1994, p. 280). Thus, various strategies have been used successfully throughout history for fanatical leaders to gain and maintain control of groups of people or countries and their populations, i.e., Stalin, Hitler, Mao, Hussein, Pol Pot, etc. In addition, researchers place Bin Laden, Khomeini, Al Zarqawi, and other fanatical religious extremist's leaders in the same categories since their strategies maintain forceful direct or indirect control of fatalities by means of bombings and suicide bombers, and of followers offering themselves as suicide bombers. One of Bin Laden's most effective terrorist strategies took place when, "...he issued his own self-styled 'fatwa' calling on Muslims to drive American soldiers out of Saudi Arabia (Commission, 2004, p.48). This selfproclaimed pronouncement appears to have been carried over into Iraq and Afghanistan manifested as IEDs against American troops and supporting allies.

Domestic Response to Terrorism:

In the United States most of these types of mass murder events occurred within the past 20 years, but could Public Safety officials have prevented them or can they be prevented in the future? Of course the answer is, "who knows?" Public Safety organizations prepare for what they are provided intelligence information and resources, and both are premised upon fixed budgets within a limited jurisdictional tax base (county, city, federal, etc.). Studies have also inferred in the terror counter-terror profession, "hindsight is 20/20," in which government organizations, legislative bodies and terror experts contribute to subsequent iterations of preventive measures, to hopefully preclude further catastrophic terrorist events.

Studies also reflect extremist groups such as al Qaeda, are difficult to usurp or negotiate diplomatically among by Western countries, since their leaders and most members believe in the distorted interpretation of the Muslim faith that, as presented by the 9/11 Commission Report (2004) "...Americans [infidels] should abandon the Middle East, convert to Islam, and end the immorality and godlessness of its society and culture" (p.51). Therefore, if my assumption is accurate; all Americans must change their religious beliefs and way of life, and submit to one way of thinking about God, government, society and a worldview. Call me narrow minded, but wasn't it factual that our founding fathers fled England/Europe to escape this form of oppressive government?

Unfortunately, Islam's extreme

(cont. page 26)

(cont. from page 25)

belief system is emergent in the United States, particularly among incarcerated offenders and exconvicts, which may be a challenge for Public Safety officials to deal with in the near future. The question remains, can Public Safety Officials preclude further attacks? In the United States, post 9/11 Public Safety strategies have drastically altered, at all levels of government, but is it enough? In my opinion, in a free society these types of changes will never be enough given that the Constitution's Bill of Rights will continue to provide an avenue for criminals and terrorists to commit these types of offenses. The American voters must maintain vigilance during these times and be extra cautious of not sacrificing remaining liberties in the name of security. A review of these Public Safety changes provides food for thought: The Patriot Act (2002) with its various assistance to law enforcement of surveillance and electronic data collections; The Department of Homeland Security

(DHS- 2002)- consisting of 22 separate agencies; The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act 2004-reforming the government intelligence sector; The National Counterterrorism Center (2004)- assesses all intelligence collected by the United States pertaining to terrorism and counterterrorism; The U.S. Northern Command (NORTHCOM- 2002)-defense of the United States, etc., (Ward et al, 2006).

Conclusion: Can Americans Adequately Respond?

Of course there is always room for improvement for most any system, and I believe that the government is as capable and prepared as any huge bureaucratic system can be, but are the citizens as prepared? Are they prepared psychologically... to fight for their rights and liberties, electing legislators that minimize the enormous financial burdens to

the country's tax system? Are they willing to educate themselves to the criteria of an effective political process, beyond the superficial tripe inundating our current political and media systems? In these times I refer back to one who lived through trying times as we currently experience, I'm speaking of Thomas Jefferson when he expressed, "Educate and inform the whole mass of the people... They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty" and "I have no fear that the result of our experiment will be that men may be trusted to govern themselves without a master" (Jefferson, p.3). Perhaps the American population should become more engaged in local community activity via establishing relationships with neighbors, (this was successful years ago prior to mass media) law enforcement and local government. It would be an interesting exercise to interview Mr. Jefferson today following his assessment of the current condition of the United States



and the difference in the application of his Constitution today. What would he say about his and his contemporary's experiment? What advice would he forward to us?

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SAN FRANCISCO CRIME LAB AT CENTER OF GROWING SCANDAL

Associated Press By PAUL ELIAS and TERRY COLLINS Monday, April 19, 2010

Associated Press Writers SAN FRANCISCO — The tape recorder started rolling as two police investigators sat in their car in a hospital parking lot with Deborah Madden on Feb. 26. "You're causing a huge nightmare for the city," said one officer. Now the 60-year-old technician and the obscure police crime lab where she worked for 29 years stand at the center of a scandal that has led to the dismissal of hundreds of criminal cases. and jeopardized thousands more. Police have accused Madden of skimming cocaine evidence from the lab, but she hasn't been criminally charged in the case.

Forensics experts say Madden is not the first crime lab worker suspected of stealing drugs or other illegality, and San Francisco's lab joins several other cities in suffering a loss of credibility. A Houston man was awarded \$5 million last year after spending 17 years in prison on rape charges overturned because of a discredited criminal lab. Detroit shut down its crime lab in 2008 after outside auditors uncovered serious errors in the way evidence was handled.

"It's real hard to build a good reputation and it's very easy to destroy it," said Ralph Keaton, executive director of the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors. "And it takes even longer to rebuild it."

The fallout from San Francisco's lab scandal is still unfolding and experts say it could take years to clean up, especially if authorities fail to establish which criminal cases were compromised.

"I don't think we have a full grasp on the magnitude of this yet," said Jim Norris, former head of the lab. "A lot of this runs on trust that the lab results have been correct, but now people don't think they are. So the whole system has grinded to a halt."

Madden's attorney, Paul DeMeester, said last week that her February talk with police was honest and forthright, and she "talked about all of the wrongdoing she had committed at the lab, which is very minimal."

In the taped interview, investigators pleaded with Madden to confess to skimming significant amounts of cocaine from drugs seized during arrests. A confession, they said, would take pressure off co-workers who also were being questioned and would help begin to repair the damage.

"And it will take years for the people in that lab and the San Francisco Police Department to come back from that, even if it's one person," Inspector Peter Walsh told Madden on the tape. "If it's a mistake, you just need to tell us it's a mistake."

"I didn't do it," she said, admitting only to snorting small amounts of cocaine spilled on her work station. An internal review turned up significant shortages of drug evidence in several cases she handled. But Madden said she was not surprised by that because weight discrepancies occurred frequently at the lab.

San Francisco's 13,500-square foot crime lab, on a former U.S. Shipyard in the rough Hunter's Point section of the city, is five miles from headquarters.

"A converted warehouse in the middle of nowhere on a toxic dump site," said Fred Tulleners, a former California De-

partment of Justice crime lab manager. "The forensic scientists in San Francisco have been working in abysmal conditions."

The drug unit employed Madden, two other criminalists and a supervisor. Madden's co-workers said they got along with the San Mateo woman, but that she displayed increasingly bizarre behavior in the last months of 2009 culminating with a stint in an alcohol rehabilitation clinic.

Madden, who lives alone with two dogs and a cat, appeared beset with personal problems.

A jury convicted her in 2008 of domestic violence and vandalism in neighboring San Mateo County for opening a gash on her longtime partner's forehead with a thrown telephone, records show. Madden called the incident during their breakup an "unfortunate accident," enrolled in an alcohol treatment program and was sentenced to 30 days in jail.

Police now concede they had a legal requirement to disclose the conviction to defense lawyers handling drug cases Madden analyzed. And the omission is expected to play a role in attempts by some prisoners to have their convictions overturned. By late last year, Madden's behavior and job performance were attracting attention outside the lab, according to records.

San Francisco Assistant District Attorney Sharon Woo sent a Nov. 19 e-mail to Chief Assistant District Attorney Russ Giuntini complaining of Madden's behavior. Woo said Madden appeared to be purposely sabotaging cases by calling in sick on days she

cont. pg. 30

(cont. from pg. 29)

was to testify in court.

The e-mail and the transcript of the tape were among 1,000 pages of documents in the case made public by prosecutors following a judges order. San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris, who is vying for the Democratic nomination for state attorney general, said she was unaware of any serious problems at the lab until just recently.

The police department was tipped off to problems at the lab on Dec. 16 when Madden's sister notified Madden's direct supervisor that she had found a vial of cocaine on her sister's dresser. The supervisor, Lois Woodworth, told police Madden had begun to act erratically in September 2009. Woodworth said Madden was arriving late to work and staying alone after hours, but not claiming overtime. Woodworth also confronted Madden with evidence that she had rummaged through a colleague's evidence locker without permission.

Police did not question Madden until Feb. 26. Then Police Chief George Gascon shuttered the lab on March 9, and testing was farmed out.

Assistant Police Chief Jeff Godown, who this month took over the lab's supervision, said the lab has suffered from mismanagement, as recent audits also have found. "It's just going to take some time" to repair the damage, he said.

Madden was arrested March 3 after investigators found one-tenth of a gram of cocaine and a gun at her house. Madden has pleaded not guilty to a felony cocaine possession charge in San Mateo County Superior Court. "One person went sideways and now that's tarnishing everybody's work," said Tulleners, the forensic science director at the University of California-Davis. "Ideally, the next best step would be for the state take over that lab. But I doubt that will happen, not in this current budget crisis."



BELOW IS PUBLIC LETTER, TYPED VERBATIM, ON LETTERHEAD OF DANIEL M. HORRIGAN, SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO CLERK OF COURT:

"APRIL 19, 2010

CLERK OF COURTS OFFICE NEWS

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

The Summit County Clerk of Courts will enforce the Summit County Common Please Court Order filed on June 23, 2009 in that all summons requiring service on Civil matters other than Foreclosure cases will be issued through FedEx process in place of certified mail.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2010

Pursuant to the Rules of Practice and Procedures of the Court of Common Pleas Rule 11.10; The Summit County Clerk of Courts will enforce the Court's Local Rule in that Service of In-County Foreclosure Complaints will be served by the Summit County Sheriff's Office.

Summons required to be served outside of Summit County will be served by FedEx process and if service is not able to be made then plaintiff may then avail itself of service by publication and/or by other methods of service as previously set."

PHIL PAVARINI, JR.,
PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR
CLEVELAND SERVICE AGENCY

Privacy Groups Want Feds to Investigate Targeted Ads By Ryan Singel

A trio of privacy groups want federal regulators to take a close look at ad networks that track web surfers' and sell targeted ads.

The groups want the Federal Trade Commission to open an inquiry into whether these networks, including Google and Yahoo, are unfairly tracking Americans and profiting from their data.

The World Privacy Forum, the Center for Digital Democracy and U.S. PIRG (public interest research groups) argue that online marketers are secretly combining online data with offline data and using that to run real-time ad auctions.

"Consumers will be most shocked to learn that companies are instantaneously combining the details of their online lives with information from previously unconnected offline databases without their knowledge, let alone consent," said U.S. PIRG Consumer Program Director Ed Mierzwinski. "In just the last few years, a growing and barely regulated network of sellers and marketers has gained massive information advantages over consumers."

Companies named in the complaint (.pdf) include Google, Yahoo, Pub-Matic, TARGUSinfo, MediaMath, eXelate, Rubicon Project, AppNexus and Rocket Fuel.

At issue is a growing market of targeted, real-time ads, where advertisers can choose to show ads to people based on their age, gender, income and location — as well as their recent online behavior — often on unrelated sites that let third parties track users (for instance, Wired.com uses Double-Click to serve ads and it tracks users across the web using cookies.)

Third-party cookie tracking isn't new
— but as the complaint points out,
marketers are increasingly trying to
augment that data with other data sets

 such as the social network data that Rapleaf harvests and re-sells.

Google has long held that its model of displaying ads based on the content of a web page or search term trumped the advantages of user tracking, but entered that market as well after it purchased the display ad giant, DoubleClick. However, the company says its advertising cookies and tracking are separate from users' account cookies, so its advertising database does not know your real name or Google login credentials.

Tying ad cookies to personally identifiable data would let marketers successfully combine online and offline data on website visitors to build a complete digital dossier on a user.

The groups want the FTC to investigate whether the companies are violating fair business laws. They also demand that the companies get users' permission to sell them at auction, pay them for the use of their data, and update their privacy policies to let users know that personally identifiable information is being used to sent them ads.

As for whether the FTC will investigate, it's hard to say — but it's not too likely. The complaint doesn't seem to allege any clear-cut violations of law. The practices are murky, and the laws about privacy not much clearer. The FTC does not confirm or deny ongoing investigations, announcing them only when a settlement or action has been finalized.

The online advertising industry has resisted new regulations, arguing that self-regulation works just fine. However, in their draft of new self-regulatory rules, the industry banned only collecting financial account numbers and info about a user's prescriptions, leaving all other health and financial information available for harvesting.

The FTC has shown some interest

in online advertising in the last two years, holding hearings and issuing an advisory report (.pdf) in February 2009. But Center for Digital Democracy director Jeff Chester say its "inaction has encouraged the data-collection and ad-targeting industry to expand the use of consumer information for personalized advertising."

Read More http://www.wired.com/ epicenter/2010/04/privacy-groupswant-feds-to-investigate-targetedads/#ixzz0tQ98E0SY

BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Event: SCALI Annual Conference Location: Charleston, S.C. Marriott Hotel

Group: Minutes for SCALI Executive Meeting

Date: 5-13-10

Read on the SCALI website the minutes from last meeting

1. Old Business

- a. Voting on division of regions into 6 vs 4
- b. Voting on changes of verbiage pertaining to the constitution in relation to these divisions
- 2. Financial report:
- a. See profit/loss statement distributed to attending members
- b. Also will be placed on the website

3. **New Business:**

- a. Bob Joseph presents Power Points of division of regions prior to voting on approval:
- i. Coastal and Midlands larger
- ii. Coastal North
- iii. Coastal South
- iv. Midlands South
- v. Midlands North

4. Constitutional Changes:

- a. Section 1
- i. The constitution can only be amended by affirmative vote by 2/3s of the general membership
- ii. Voting can take place only when present at scheduled meetings (conferences)
- b. Section 2
- i. Any proposed changes to the SCALI constitution will be submitted to the general membership for voting by the executive committee following discussions and approval of the executive committee.
- ii. APPROVED
- c. Section 7
- i. Identity by county and region
- 1. Piedmont- Abbeville, Anderson, and Cherokee
- 2. Midland North
- 3. Midland South
- 4. Coastal North
- 5. Coastal South
- 6. At large
- ii. Reasons for change-
- 1. Regions are so large, further division allows better management of meetings and contact with SCALI members
- 2. Robert's Rule of Order 2 minutes to respond and 1 minute to rebuttal
- 3. **APPROVED**
- 5. Article IV- Organizational Structure

- a. Section 2
- i. Whenever the term "Executive Committee" is used in the constitution, it shall mean and include the State and sic Regional Directors, and all previous State Directors in "good standing."
- ii. All previous State Directors in "good standing" shall serve without voting privileges at Executive meetings.
- iii. Motion to change- Good Standing Order
- 1. Tommy Blackwood
- 2. Second- Don Wilson
- 3. **APPROVED**
- iv. Former Directors must:
- 1. Have all licensing current and in order
- 2. Participate in functions/meetings
- 3. Attend all EC meetings
- 4. Attend majority of conferences- 50% per calendar year

6. Article VII- Election of Officers

- a. No person shall be eligible to hold any SCALI office unless he/she has been a member in "good standing" for four (4) consecutive years
- b. Immediately prior to the upcoming annual conference
- c. **APPROVED- 2 opposed.**
- 7. Motion to accept financial report
- a. **APPROVED**
- b. Motion to accept Fall Conference- in Columbia sponsored by Mike Spane
- i. **APPROVED**
- 8. Vicki recommends to combined SCALI conference with NCISS
- 9. Proposed Spring conference 2011- held in Savannah at Marriott
- a. **NOT APPROVED**
- b. Will be held in Myrtle Beach at the Excalibur– sponsored by
- i. Mike Arrington
- ii. Robert Todd
- iii. Mike Bower
- 10. Legislature AG option & SLED
- 11. Computer Forensics- Kenny McClain constable but SLED requires him to be a licensed PI-
- a. A dead issue at this point
- 12. Guy Johnson- Awards Committee
- a. WHOs WHO will be awarded to Ed Fewell's posthumously via daughter and son attending the conference
- b. PI of the year award
- 13. Journal- Donna Brooks Brisbin
- a. Discussed journal layout
- b. E-mail with suggestions for improvements
- c. Need to have paralegals and attorneys reading the journal
- d. Advised members to send articles to Donna- she'll clean it up for publishing
- e. Experiences good and bad
- f. Need more members to advertise
- g. Pick-up speaker and write on it
- h. Ken is the advertisement contact & money guy
- i. Submit a change of address to Vicki or Donna or Ken



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Mr. David B. MacDougall Information Services 1421 Cactus Avenue Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: SCALI

Dear Dave:

I think we can finally get out State organization on the road.

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I have applied with the South Carolina Secretary of State for a Certificate of Incorporation as a non-profit organization. I should have this within a week or so.

As of this date, I have spent \$135.39 out of my own pocket, not counting postage. Luckily, I was able to do the art work and copying myself on some old paper I had.

I would sincerely appreciate a contribution toward payment of these costs.

In any event, I would appreciate your contacting any legal investigators you may know in your region and see if we can get a good membership enrollment going.

Hopefully, we can get together in the near future to disuss our future course of action.

With best regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

Robert H. Joseph, CLI

RHJ/cgm

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Stumar's Sleuths Are On The Case: Gumshoes Investigate Everything From Fraud To Counterfeiting

Philadelphia Business Journal

by John George Staff Writer

Friday, April 2, 2010 | Modified: Monday, April 5, 2010

NORRISTOWN — Stuart Drobny wants to clear up one misconception right from the start.

"Most people think I run around after cheating husbands," said the 50-yearold private investigator. "That is such a misnomer."

Drobny is the president of Stumar Investigations, a 38-person firm he founded 25 years ago.

His staff is comprised of a combination of former military veterans, former law enforcement officers, and recent college graduates with degrees in criminal justice.

"We've had a lot of success hiring veterans from the armed forces," said Drobny, a Temple University graduate who grew up in Vineland, N.J. "They bring in good qualities that we can work with. They are able to adapt well to situations and handle working in different environments.

"We look for people who are detailed, self-motivated and comfortable in any environment," he said. "We look for people who are good at reading other people and who have integrity, because sooner or later they'll have to testify in court" about something they observed while on an assignment.

Drobny said the firm, which expects to generate about \$5 million in rev-

enue this year, is organized like a law firm. It's divided into departments that include surveillance, intellectual property, business intelligence, family law and telecommunications.

The tools of the private investigations trade — video and digital cameras, surveillance equipment, computer databases and old-fashioned shoe leather — often don't change from department to department. But by diversifying, Drobny said, the firm is better able to weather a downturn in the economy, when the type of work that the firm is hired to do changes.

Stumar is often hired by insurance companies to conduct covert surveillance needed to verify claims. "If somebody has a bad back and says

cont. page 39



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S.C. Councilman Accused In \$19 Million Insurance Scam

Published: Wednesday, May. 12, 2010 / Updated: Thursday, May. 13, 2010 06:53 AM

KRISTY EPPLEY RUPON - krupon@thestate.com

A Blythewood Town Council member is accused of being involved in a health insurance operation led by an Isle of Palms businessman that left at least \$19 million in unpaid claims, state insurance

S.C. Director of Insurance Scott Richard-

son issued an

officials said Wednesday.

emergency cease-and-desist order against William M. Worthy III and Kathleen D. Cauthen, a Blythewood attorney, along with four other people and 13 companies from throughout the country.

Worthy sold fake medical insurance through a network of unlicensed corporations and associations and in concert with several Pakistani organizations.

Richardson said in a statement.
Cauthen worked with Worthy as an attorney, according to the order.

The department said at least 269 S.C. residents bought policies, though the number policies nationwide is unclear. As of last month, the operation left \$19 million in unpaid claims, the order said.

"Unfortunately, scams such as this one leave those South Carolinians who can least afford it stuck with unpaid medical bills, which they thought were covered by insurance," Richardson said.

"Unfortunately, scams such as this one leave those South Carolinians who can least afford it stuck with unpaid medical bills, which they thought were covered by insurance," Richardson said.

At least eight other states recently have issued or requested similar orders against some or all of the people involved in the operation, Richardson said. And the Tennessee attorney general last month seized and liquidated two unauthorized insurance businesses, named in the order and run by longtime associates of Worthy, he said.

Worthy had his S.C. insurance license

revoked in 2006 after a finding that he had misappropriated premiums from insurance companies and consumers, the department said.

Attempts to reach Cauthen and Worthy on Wednesday were unsuccessful. Those named in the order have 10 days to respond.

The order says Cauthen's father, John C. Schultz, a 72-year-old retired

Columbia salesman who died in February, also was involved in the operation as president of one of the 13 companies, Viking

Administrators.

The company was incorporated in Tennessee, using the address of a mail box at a UPS store, documents said. Schultz, however, signed a power of attorney last fall, authorizing Cauthen to negotiate and sign his name to a contract, which she did, according to the order.

He also told the Oklahoma Department of Insurance that he was president of the company in name only and that it was run by Worthy and Cauthen. In addition, e-mails were sent from his account several days after his death, the order said.

The S.C. Attorney General's office will investigate, the insurance department said.

Read more: http://www.heraldon-line.com/2010/05/12/2164380/sc-councilman-accused-in-19-million.html#ixzz0tW5oBgkb

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cont. from pg. 37

they can't work, the insurance company wants to know they have a bad back," he said.

On one occasion, the firm was hired to conduct surveillance on a woman who wasn't working because of a workers' compensation claim. Drobny said they followed her to a "gentleman's club," where she was working on the side, and were able to prove her claim was fraudulent.

Drobny said false insurance claims tend to increase in bad economic times.

When the Philadelphia Phillies made the World Series run in 2008, then again in 2009, Stumar — which has extensive experience in anticounterfeiting — was brought in to work with Major League Baseball and the city's Police and Licenses and Inspections departments to not only identify vendors selling merchandise with phony MLB logos, but also to track the people manufacturing the fake merchandise.

This year, his firm was involved in an investigation that led to the arrests of three men charged with selling fake Ugg boots and other counterfeit merchandise from a delicatessen in Deptford, N.J.

Drobny said counterfeit merchandise is a growing problem for manufacturers, with people selling everything from fake cologne to imitation brandname sneakers, pocketbooks and even toner cartridges.

With the downturn in the economy, Stumar is getting more work investigating potential new hires and the people involved in potential business deals

"In the past we used to get hired more to help with the due diligence in a merger or acquisition," Drobny aid. "Now people want to know not just about the company but also about the people they are going into business with. They want to know if a person is a person they should be doing business with."

Drobny said the firm does sometimes get involved in divorce case, but only to ensure the provisions of a divorce agreement are being upheld — such as "no cohabitation" rules that are common in cases that involve alimony payments.

So, is being a P.I. dangerous?

"It's not like it's portrayed on television," said Drobny, whose first job as an investigator came when he was hired by a local law firm after graduating from Temple with an undergraduate degree in political science. "Every precaution is taken to keep the danger level to a minimum. You go out with another person. You work earlier in the day. We work with law enforcement and let them know if we are going to be somewhere."

Rather than being dangerous, Drobny said, the work can be tedious.

"A lot of time is spent waiting for something to occur," he said, "Or you might read through a 1,000 page document where 855 pages are not important. There's a lot of detail work."

Drobny said among the cases he looks back on with the most pride include assisting the Joint Terrorism Task Force in an investigation, which involved the sale of stolen prepaid cell phones, that led to the arrest of 26 alleged Hezbollah operatives and sympathizers.

He also cited the firm's work with a local attorney involved in the Innocence Project, a national litigation and public policy organization dedicated to exonerating wrongfully convicted people through DNA testing, in getting a man out of Graterford Prison 10 years after he was wrongfully convicted.

Drobny said Hollywood comes closest to portraying private investigative work accurately when it eschews gun play in favor of more cerebral or methodical approaches to catching the bad guy.

"The closest thing they did to getting it right was that Bruce Willis show 'Moonlighting' a couple years back," he joked. "And, of course, {"The Rockford Files"] was wonderful. He was always going around knocking on doors. Even the detective in Hawaii (Magnum P.I.) was OK, although I can't imagine anybody doing surveillance in a bright red Ferrari." No Secrets

With firms like Stumar Investigations around, its tough to have secrets.

Stuart Drobny, president of the private investigation firm, wanted to demonstrate how quickly his staff could dig up information on somebody knowing only a few facts about the person. So, during my conversation with him, he picked up the phone and asked one of his investigators to investigate me - giving him only my name, the area where I lived and a guess on my age (which was four years off). In less than five minutes, Drobny was reading through a report that contained my name, date of birth, Social Security number, my last four addresses and the names of my wife, brother, sister-in-law and brother-in-law. In addition, he knew I had no criminal record.

He also had some more obscure facts like the name of the company that the guy who used to own my house ran out of a spare bedroom, and the name of my landlord in an apartment I lived in more than two decades ago. I was waiting to hear if he knew my SAT scores or my Little League batting average, but that probably would have taken another five minutes.

John George

We had another successful and educational conference in Charleston.

Thank You don Wilson for hosting and providing a great venue.

Much appreciation to Carol and Roy Turner and Marisa for working the registration table and selling nearly \$2000 in raffle tickets.

I am happy to announce this year's outstanding members in the following areas:

Tracy Hoshell - PI of the Year

Mike Spane - Editors Award



ED FEWELL- WHO'S WHO AWARD This award will now be called the ED FEWELL WHO'S WHO AWARD.





A Special 'PI of the Year Award' went to Guy Johnson. As chair of the Awards Committee, Guy has not allowed himself to be considered for this award, so this year we decided to surprise him with one.



Rebekah Cheek was awarded the college scholarship.

A special recognition of **Captain Joe Dorton** was presented for all of Joe's hard work to increase professionalism in our industry and to work with SCALI to make regulations that are good for PIs and the public.





Thank you to our vendors Yergey Insurance, IRBsearch, Don Kneece, PI Magazine, PINow, and a special thanks to Tracers Info for being a vendor and sponsoring the Poker tournament won by Tommy Blackburn and Marty Henderson.

I want to pay special thanks to Donna Brooks Brisbin and Ken Walter who continue to work hard to produce a high quality Journal and cover the PI industry for us. I encourage you to write articles for and advertise in the Journal.

Our Fall conference will be hosted by Mike Spane in Columbia. The 2011 Spring Conference will be hosted by Excalibur (Mike Arrington and Robert Todd) in Myrtle Beach.



Thank you Regional Directors Dave MacDougall, Frank Rimsek, Marty Henderson, and Don Wilson for all that you give to SCALI. Financial reports and meeting minutes will be posted in the members only section of the website.

As always, thanks to all of you for you continued support of SCALI. We have the best state association in the country.

Vicki D. Childs Director

Vicki D. Childs, Director



SCDCA Announces Relaunch Of Mortgage Fraud Hotline

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs April 19, 2010 Release #10-016

Columbia, SC....In partnership with the Attorney General's Office, the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) is pleased to announce the relaunch of South Carolina's Mortgage Fraud Hotline. The hotline, which is available to all South Carolinians at 1-800-553-7723, is now open from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Hotline is designed to connect consumers with resources to help them combat mortgage fraud and other housing-related scams and avoid or stop foreclosure. Mortgage fraud experts staffing the hotline are eager to provide consumers the needed information to stay on course with their housing and financial decisions. "South Carolina remains an area where the risk of mortgage fraud is

above average. Consumers should be aware of these risks and report suspicious activity," said SCDCA's Adam Protheroe, who manages the hotline.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation listed South Carolina as a "Top 10 Hot Spot" for mortgage fraud in 2006. Presently, the state is dealing with a record number of foreclosures, which typically correlates with a higher than average number of mortgage fraud incidents. According to the FBI's 2008 Mortgage Fraud Report, Greenville, SC, had the highest percentage change of units in foreclosure between 2007 and 2008 compared to cities nationwide. Charleston, SC, appeared fifth in the same category. As a whole, South Carolina ranked seventh among all states.

Initially launched during June 2008 in collaboration with the Attorney General's Office, the concept of a Mortgage Fraud Hotline developed as SCDCA

and other members of the South Carolina Mortgage Fraud Task Force looked for ways to combat a growing problem statewide. Within seven months of operation, the Hotline handled over 400 calls. Staff provided needed educational information and assistance to consumers and referred several calls to appropriate state and federal agencies, credit counselors, and other organizations specializing in legal assistance.

Consumers can fill out a Mortgage Fraud Complaint Form online at www.scconsumer.gov or request a form by calling toll-free at 1.800.922.1594. For more information on the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs or to receive educational brochures on foreclosure scams, mortgages or credit counseling contact the Public Information Division at call 803-734-4296, toll-free at 1.800.922.1594, or visit us online at www.scconsumer.gov.



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Centurion Professional Services is licensed and insured in North and South Carolina and specializes in Confidential Investigations tailored to meet the unique requirements of our clients.

M.F. Barnes is a 30 year veteran of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department and graduate of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte and the FBI National Academy. He has considerable experience conducting criminal investigations along with threat assessment and internal investigations for the business community.

J.E. Barnes has 29 years of banking experience. She has considerable experience with banking laws. She is certified in areas of recovering judgments and asset tracking.

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