Germany

PRIVACY RIGHTS TRUMP NEED TO CAPTURE CRIMINAL

In a recent incident in Hamburg, four male subjects forced a Congolese male out of his vehicle, after which one of the subjects began stabbing the Congolese male. Passersby intervened, resulting in three of the subjects being apprehended by police, but the stabber escaped.

The three assailants were interviewed and released since the offense was relatively minor, i.e. there was no proof that they intended the victim to be seriously hurt or killed. Police were precluded from notifying the public of the stabber’s description, since there was no evidence that he intended to kill the victim and releasing his description would therefore violate his right to privacy.

Odd Law

Bicyclists using a cell phone in Germany face a €25 ($31) monetary fine, unless they use a handsfree system with speaker, but it is not forbidden to listen to music with ear plugs unless they are unable to hear warning signals. Bicyclists are considered too intoxicated to “pedal and steer” if they have a .16 or higher Blood Alcohol level.

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MASS DNA TESTING...

After four robberies with one victim dead and no suspects, police detectives in Kiel, Germany, plan to ask about 3000 males between 16-35 years of age who have lived in that city during the past five years to appear for DNA testing.

SOUTH KOREA

South Korean Customs officials seized thousands of pills containing flesh from babies. The pills are smuggled in from China and some believe that taking them can increase your stamina and endurance. It is unknown where the babies whose flesh was used originate from.

Medical experts in South Korea warn of significant health risks, including death, when taking these pills. One pill can sell for as much as $34. During the past ten months, customs seized more than 17,000 such pills.


HIV/AIDS AMONG POLICE

AFRICA

While African countries have some of the highest incidence of HIV/AIDS, a particular problem is the challenges this presents to a country’s national defense and police. HIV rates within police and military in Africa are generally at least the same as for the general population but with higher rates considered more likely.

Map: CIA World Fact Book

Mozambique

About 150 police officers die of AIDS every year. Officers found to be HIV positive or suffering from AIDS are not dismissed. Their duty assignments are adjusted to accommodate their health needs.

Miguel dos Santos, the commander of the police, feels that the high AIDS death rate of police officers is critically diminishing the capacity of the police to combat crime.

Aids is „mowing down“ Mozambique’s police.

POLICE WITH HIV/AIDS...

TANZANIA

Every 16th resident of Tanzania is infected with HIV and the infection rate among male police is thought to be at least double that and among female officers three times higher. To date, however, only 21% of police officers have been tested. In parts of Africa AIDS is the most common cause of death for police and military personnel.

UGANDA

In Uganda about 13% of all police officers are infected with HIV. One article states that rapes are common place and that the power held by police allows them to exert direct or indirect pressure on others to engage in intercourse. It also indicated that there is general knowledge that agreeing to sex with some of of much higher ranks is can lead to a promotion.

MALAWI

In the Malawi Police Service, the hardest hit are female officers, and in 2008 about 32% of female officers in the Malawi police service were HIV positive.

The Malawi Police Service website, however, makes no mention of HIV in the police service.

http://www.saps.gov.za/

HIV IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

One study concluded that 40% of police in the South African province of Kwazulu Natal were HIV positive. Though the findings were shocking, the data has not been disproven.

Looking at the country of South Africa as a whole, Bruno Meini writes that “with an increasing number of HIV-positive police officers falling ill and dying, impacting on the availability of experienced personnel, the capability of the police to prevent, investigate and respond to crime could be substantially diminished”. (p.1)

HIV/AIDS, Implications for Law Enforcement, Public Safety and Policing in South Africa


http://www.ipes.info/WPS/WPS%20no%204.pdf
In Spain the national police does not permit HIV positive persons to join the police and the government insists that such persons would be a risk and could also infect others.

El Gobierno mantiene la exclusión de enfermos de sida del Cuerpo Nacional de Policía

In Argentina a 37 year old police corporal found to be HIV positive was forced to retire.
Un suboficial de policía con VIH demanda al estado.

The military in Brazil, which also provides most uniformed policing, rejects applicants with HIV, though the country’s health ministry calls this practice a blatant violation of human rights.

Ejército brasileño exige análisis del Sida a aspirantes y genera polémica

The BBC reports on an HIV positive police officer of the London Metropolitan Police.

The officer is given a flexible work schedule to allow him to adjust to his changing health needs and problems caused by his illness and/or the aftereffects of medicine.

Positive Reaction to HIV
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/4442424.stm

The website based recruiting message of the Metropolitan Police (MET) proclaims that the MET will attempt to accommodate persons with disabilities by adjusting their job responsibilities.

Disability and health queries
http://www.metpolicecareers.co.uk/eligibility_requirements.html

http://content.met.police.uk/Home

READ ABOUT HIV POSITIVE POLICE IN THE USA in the June issue of this Newsletter.
THE OFF CAMPUS GRADUATE PROGRAM

Chief Janet DAVIS of the Clovis Police Department has offered the use of the agency’s modern training room for off campus degree programs.

While all courses in the undergraduate degree completion program and the Friday evening classes in the graduate program will continue to be held at the Fresno County Sheriff’s office, Saturday day classes in the off campus graduate program will meet at the Clovis Police Department effective June 2012. Having classes at two different agencies should help to generate more interest in the Fresno State University off campus criminology degree program among agency personnel.

The Clovis Police Department training room has a ceiling mounted video projectors and faculty will be given WiFi access to the internet. There are several high tech rooms available, including a breakroom.
CLOVIS POLICE DEPT......

Lobby of Police Department

Typical room used for meetings or training

The first class using CPD facilities on Saturdays is CRIM270T, Crisis Management in Criminal Justice, taught by Dr. Jim SCHMIDTKE and Dr. Bill BOMMER of the Craig School of Business. It will first meet at CPD on 9 June 2012.

SUGGESTED READINGS

GUESTS OF THE AYATOLLAH
by
Mark BOWDEN

Though many years have passed by since the hostage crisis at the American embassy on 4 November 1979, a lot can be learned from reading the Guests of the Ayatollah.

While most of the hostage takers were students yearning for an end to autocratic rule by the shah, along with greater freedom, the fall of the shah’s regime did not result in the hoped for freedom. One repressive regime replaced another. Bowden follows the experiences of the hostages and their tormentors over 444 days until their release after the election of President Ronald Reagan.


FAST AND FURIOUS

This ATF operation is considered as bad if not worse as the Watergate scandal. Katie Pavlich, the book’s author, shows how how the White House and Attorney General’s office have colluded to cover up the scandal and to keep the American public from knowing the truth. This book is a must read.