

ATTORNEY NOTES . . .

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF DEPUTY



DISTRICT ATTORNEYS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

IN THIS ISSUE

ERCOM VICTORY <i>What Now?</i>	1
ADVANCED DEGREE IN PROSECUTION SCIENCE	1
ADDA AWARDS NOMINATIONS DUE ON 8-31-07	1
NAILING THE MESSENGER Sheriff Restricts Access.	1
Awards Dinner Update, Nomination Form, & Announcement	2 & 3
Court of Appeals Ruling on Constructive Demotions	4
Condensed Hearing Officers Report	5
Review of ERCOM Evidence	6
PAST AND FORMER DDA'S TEAM UP WITH MATTEL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL	9
MINUTES OF THE ADDA BOARD OF MEETING	10

AUG 2007

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VICTORY!

By ADDA Newsletter Editor Steven Lopez

The ADDA has won a major victory in the first step to establish a bargaining unit to represent the interests of Deputy District Attorneys and further the quest for safety retirement. On August 9, Employee Relations Commission Hearing Officer Robert D. Steinberg issued his ruling and recommendation in the hearing regarding the ADDA's petition to form a bargaining unit. Rejecting the forceful opposition launched by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Hearing Officer Steinberg filed a recommendation that the Commission "find a unit of

ADDA PREVAILS IN 1ST CLASH OVER CERTIFICATION ISSUES.

IF UPHELD, DECISION WILL ALLOW DDAs THEIR OWN BARGAINING UNIT. Decision may be reviewed as early as Monday, September 24.

DDAs, grades I-IV, constitutes a unit appropriate for collective bargaining, and that it grants this petition." Helen Schwab and Derald Brenneman of the Law Firm of Green and Shinee had represented the ADDA in the Hearing. Schwab said "[w]e believe the decision of the Hearing Officer to recommend that the deputy district attorneys have their own bargaining unit affords the DDA's the opportunity for the fullest freedom in pursuit of their collective bargaining rights protected by the Employee Relations

(Continued on page 2)

First Ever LL.M. Degree in Prosecutorial Science for Working Prosecutors:

Scholarships Now Available

By DDA Richard Ceballos

Chapman University School of Law in Orange has just announced the first ever
(Continued on page 11)

National District Attorneys Association Summer Conference

By DDA Richard Ceballos

The National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) held
(Continued on page 11)

NOMINATIONS FOR ADDA AWARDS DUE SEPTEMBER 15

DDAs AND INVESTIGATORS ELIGIBLE

The ADDA has opened nominations for the Annual ADDA Awards. The ADDA Awards will be presented at the 2007 ADDA Awards Dinner. The dinner will be on Tuesday, November 6, at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel.

(Continued on page 2)

NAIL THE MESSENGER

By Newsletter Editor Steven Lopez

In July Sheriff Lee Baca attempted to block access to the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs' ("ALADS") website from Sheriff's Department computers. Baca's move follows criticism by ALADS of his

(Continued on page 11)

ADDA PREVAILS IN FIRST CLASH!

(Continued from page 1)

Ordinance." Green and Shinee, a firm renowned for specializing in labor representation, had been contacted by ALADS, the Association of Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs, to represent the ADDA.

The ruling is an important victory for DDAs in LA County. Because DDAs are not in any collective bargaining unit, the CAO has refused to even meet with ADDA representatives to discuss issues such as safety retirement and compensation. The CAO has also blocked the release of information necessary in seeking safety retirement. Likewise, attempts to meet with the DA's administration during the last round of salary negotiations also proved fruitless.

This status quo has now been challenged. Ms. Schwab explained, "[t]his decision assures the attorneys in the DA's office an effective voice in determining their wages, hours and working conditions, no less than what is mandated by the [Employee Relations] Ordinance." If a certified bargaining unit is approved, the ADDA will gain the right to change the status quo. Members of the ADDA Board, who are elected by rank and file DDAs, will be able to represent DDAs and meet with County management.

But this decision does not only benefit DDAs. Other County lawyers stand to gain. Ms. Schwab noted, "[t]

his decision also benefits all County attorneys by preserving their freedom of self-organization." "No longer will the DDA's have to exist in an environment where collective bargaining for these professionals has been entirely defeated."

But the fight is far from over. Members of the CAOs office may be planning a counterattack to derail this victory. During the following months, they will have a number of procedural opportunities. Ms. Schwab explained, "[t]he decision of the Hearing Officer stands as a recommendation to the County's Employee Relations Commission who, before reaching a final decision at a meeting in the near future where the decision will appear as an agenda item, will entertain objections to the report from the parties, should any be filed." "We anticipate that the County will file objections to the decision." The County has the opportunity to object to the decision under ERCOM Rule 5.07(d).

The monthly Meetings of the Employee Relations Commission are public. They are held on the 3rd floor of the Board of Supervisors Building, (500 W. Temple St., LA), Room 374. According to the staff at ERCOM, the earliest the ADDA Petition could be calendared would be the September 24 at 1:00pm

**PAGE 5: Condensed Report Of Hearing Officer STEINBERG
PAGE 6: Summary of Evidence Presented at the ERCOM HEARING**

NOMINATIONS FOR ADDA AWARDS DUE SEPTEMBER 15

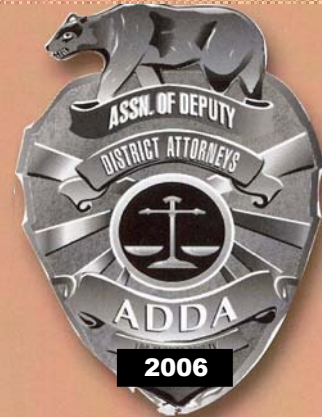
(Continued from page 1)

The Board of Directors of the ADDA invites all members of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office to submit nominations. Nominations are being accepted for The Prosecutor of the Year for 2006, The District Attorney Investigator of the Year for 2006 and the 2006 Career Achievement

Award.

The Prosecutor of the Year Award honors the Deputy District Attorney who demonstrated the most outstanding trial or courtroom performance during the previous calendar year. The Board of Directors invites nominations for trial or courtroom efforts demonstrated by

ADDA ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER



**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007
LOS ANGELES OMNI HOTEL**

Deputy District Attorneys during 2006.

The Career Prosecutor Award honors a Deputy District Attorney who has made lifelong contributions to further justice, public safety and the prosecution of crime. In evaluating these candidates, efforts made during the candidate's entire career are considered

The District Attorney Investigator of the Year Award recognizes the heroic efforts made by Los Angeles County District Attorney Investigators. This award considers all contributions made by individual District Attorney Investigators, both outstanding investigatory efforts during the previous year and lifelong contributions to field of criminal investigation.

Nominations must be received by the ADDA by close of business September 15, 2007. Nominations will be accepted at the ADDA's mailing address:

**ADDA AWARDS COMMITTEE
C/O ADDA Awards Committee
Co-Chairs Frank Tavelman
and Steven Lopez,
18000 CSFJC,
210 West Temple
Los Angeles, CA 90012.**

Nominations should provide sufficient detail for the selection committee to evaluate candidates, even if the contributions and efforts of those candidates are obvious and well known, or even if a petition has been attached.

National District Attorneys Association Summer Conference

(Continued from page 1)

their annual Summer Conference in Portland, Oregon July 29th through August 1st. Prosecutors from all over the country attended the four day conference to discuss issues of common concern. Keynote speakers included Chris Hansen, correspondent for NBC News's award-winning news magazine "Dateline NBC's To Catch a Predator"; Dayle L. Hinman, Special Agent Retired, and star of Court TV's "Body of Evidence: From the Case Files of Dayle Hinman"; and true crime author Ann Rule. District Attorney Steve Cooley and Director Jan Maurizi also discussed foreign prosecutions and extradition issues. The conference also marked the transfer in presidency from Mathias H. Heck, Prosecuting Attorney, Montgomery County, Dayton, OH. to James Fox, District Attorney, San Mateo County, Redwood City, CA.

The NDAA is the national voice for all American prosecutors. Its education division operates the National College of District Attorneys in Columbia, South Carolina on the campus of the University of South Carolina. Membership in NDAA is open to all prosecutors. You can log onto their website at www.ndaa.org or call DDA Richard Ceballos at (213) 974-3732 or rceballo@lacountyda.org.

First Ever LL.M. Degree in Prosecutorial Science for Working Prosecutors: Scholarships Now Available

(Continued from page 1)

LL.M. Degree in Prosecutorial Science. In collaboration with the California District Attorneys Association (CDA), this two year program is specifically designed for the working prosecutor in mind with classes consisting of live, interactive, on-line, distance-learning, supplemented by just two weeks of residency at the law school each summer. This is not a correspondence course. It is a graduate level program taught by actual law school professors and others experienced in criminal law and procedure, including

those with previous experience as prosecutors and public defenders. Students will also be required to participate in the *Chapman Journal of Criminal Justice*. Candidates must be working prosecutors with five or more years of experience (although individuals with three or more years of experience may be considered in limited circumstances.) The program currently has openings for five more prosecutors, and those interested should immediately contact Dean John C. Eastman at (714) 628-2587 or email him at jeastman@chapman.edu.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters can be sent to theverdict@sbcglobal.net

This Scheduling Notice Has Been Sent to the ADDA:
The following Conference was announced in **Attorney Notes** last month:

September 5-7. "Gangs, Drugs & Immigration,"
a training conference hosted by the
Citizens Protection Alliance.

THIS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN CANCELLED.
Please direct any questions to the Citizen's Protection Alliance at www.citizensprotection.org.

NAIL THE MESSENGER

(Continued from page 1)

handling of Paris Hilton's incarceration, and also ALADS' publication of its survey of rank and file deputies which gave the Baca administration low marks.

The *Los Angeles Times* reported that ALADS President Steve Remige stated "Baca's decision to block access to the website was spiteful and petty and has hampered deputies' ability to get information about benefits, overtime, and other issues."

Remige further explained to the *Times*, "[what's the Sheriff afraid of?]" "You can measure a man's character by what bothers him." "How can something this petty bother him?" "What's that say about him?"

Undersheriff Larry Waldie defended Baca's actions, stating that they were justified because the union's newsletter, *The Dispatcher*, had unfairly criticized Sheriff's Department management. Commenting to the *Times*, Waldie stated "I don't think it's good for the deputies because they might think [department managers] are doing bad things – and they're not."

But Remige responded "The sheriff, it seems he'll do anything he can to make it harder for the union to communicate to its members." "It puts us in a difficult position."

Your ADDA has also faced obstacles to keeping our fellow deputy district attorneys informed. The ADDA Newsletter (*Attorney Notes*) was established to respond new restrictions imposed by the Cooley administration against ADDA communication to rank and file DDAs. As the June 2006, inaugural issue of the newsletter reported, "[r]ecently several members of the ADDA were advised

by the District Attorney's administration that the ADDA could no longer utilize externally sent e-mails to communicate to members about upcoming events." "Since these e-mails were sent from outside the office through a private company to each individual DDA, we did not believe that such actions violated the administration's e-mail policy." "Although we respect the administration's authority to set policy, we are consulting legal authorities about this restraint."

The ADDA Newsletter continues to be published and will soon be renamed *The ADDA Verdict*. *The ADDA Verdict* will be printed by Union Press, which also prints ALADS' newsletter, *The Dispatcher*. Union Press also printed most of the issues of *Attorney Notes*. Union Press is a member of the Allied Printing Trades Council of Southern California.

**The Newsletter of the
Association of
Deputy
District
Attorneys
of Los Angeles County**



**The Association
by and for the
Deputy District
Attorneys
of Los Angeles
County**

**Email:
theverdict@sbcglobal.net
Mailing Address:
1800 Clara Shortridge
Foltz Criminal Justice
Center
210 West Temple
Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

ATTORNEY NOTES . . .

SAVE THE DATE

August

August 10- (Friday) **LPF Hollywood Bowl Night** "Sgt. Peppers at 40 a Beatle's Celebration" Tickets will be available from LPA/LPF board members for \$55.00 (includes shuttle, appetizers and sangria)

August 21-ADDA Board of Directors Meeting. 5pm, Younger Conference Room, 18th floor, CSFCJC

August 27, thru Friday, August 31- 2007 International Terrorism and Organized Crime Conference. Presented By Asian Gang Investigators' Association of California, Inc. (AGIAC)
Inquiries contact:
Detective Supvr. Bill Park (LAPD/MCD) (626) 523-3131 (Registration / Conference Coordinator)
Email: billpark202@earthlink.net
Fax Number: (626) 858-0820
Inv. Edward Yee (714) 651-6710 (OCDA). Email: ed.yee@da.ocgov.com
Senior Inv. Long Nguyen (909) 816-3882 (RCDA) www.agiaconline.org

September

September 18-ADDA Board of Directors Meeting. 5pm, Younger Conference Room, 18th floor, CSFCJC

September 24-26. Prosecuting Physical & Sexual Abuse of Children Seminar. Sheraton Pasadena Hotel, Pasadena. California District Attorneys Association. Register online at www.cdaa.org/training/index.asp or register by faxing this form to:
CDAA • www.cdaa.org • (916) 443-2017 • Fax (916) 443-2886
PHONE REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

October

October 16-ADDA Board of Directors Meeting. 5pm, Younger Conference Room, 18th floor, CSFCJC

November

**November 6.
(Tuesday),
THE ADDA
AWARDS DINNER.
The Bunker Hill
Room at The Omni
Los Angeles Hotel at
California Plaza
251 S. Figueroa, Los
Angeles. For
Directions call
(213) 617-3300.**

November 20-ADDA Board of Directors Meeting. 5pm, Younger Conference Room, 18th floor, CSFCJC

December

December 18-ADDA Board of Directors Meeting. 5pm, Younger Conference Room, 18th floor, CSFCJC

Your ADDA Board of Directors

Steve Ipsen
President
Antelope Valley
Frank Tavelman
Senior
Vice President
Target Crimes
Marc Debbaudt
Junior
Vice President
Pasadena
Bjorn Dodd
Treasurer
Hardcore Gang
Division
Bobby Grace
Secretary
Major Crimes
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Sera Boyadian
*Specialized Litigation-
Psychiatric Section*
Dennis Fuhrman
Long Beach
John Harrold
El Monte
Robert Jordan
West Covina
Sue Lasicka
Health Care Fraud
Division
Steven Lopez
Hardcore Gang
Division
Frederick Mesropi
Van Nuys
Paul Moll
*Antelope Valley Juve-
nile*
Loren Naiman
Auto Insurance Fraud
Division
Edward Nison
Van Nuys
Sandra Olivares
Major Fraud
Karen Rizzo
San Fernando
Guy Von Shirley
Antelope Valley
Marc St. Hippolyte
Central Trials 15
Alan Yochelson
Central Trials 15