

WHERE THE BATTLE OF THE LITTLE BIG HORN BEGAN  
CELEBRATING THE PRESERVATION OF WESTERN HISTORY

# CUSTER BATTLEFIELD MUSEUM

Town Hall P.O. Box 200 Garryowen, Montana 59031-0200  
Museum 406.638.2020 FAX 406.638.2019 [www.custermuseum.org](http://www.custermuseum.org)



July 22, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Christopher Kortlander. I own and operate the historic town of Garryowen Montana, the only town inside the perimeter of the Custer Battlefield. I am also the founding director of the Custer Battlefield Museum in Garryowen.

In 2005 a small army of federal law enforcement agents descended on Garryowen with drawn fully automatic machine guns. Federal agents pointed guns at Garryowen employees and museum interns while executing a search warrant that was obtained by deceit and the twisting of truth.

This 'raid' was conducted as a military style assault on a domestic terrorist cell. The federal agents had not received any information stating that the target(s) of their assault were in any way violent. In addition, there were a number of civilians/tourists present who were also put in harm's way during this raid at Garryowen, which was and remains a historic site and popular tourist destination, as well as a state-recognized informational center, housing a U.S. post office, a gas station, convenience store, Subway sandwich shop and a retail trading post selling souvenirs.

For eight hours, the BLM agents conducting the 'raid' at Garryowen, continually threatened me with never again seeing my special needs son, stating that I was facing decades in a federal prison. BLM federal law enforcement agents verbally harassed me, accusing me of being a baby killer, a swindler and a con man, and asserting that I was going to be charged with 9 federal felonies.

After a day terrorizing all the civilians they encountered, and for the following four-plus years, they continued to threaten me through the United States Attorney's office, and retained seized property that was unassociated with any crime whatsoever. I was forced to expend hundreds of thousands of dollars and nearly every waking moment, as well as countless sleepless nights, dealing with the legal threats thrown at me, evidently because I needed to be rolled over to advance an agenda that benefitted only the BLM and the federal agents involved.

When the United States Attorney announced that there would be no charges filed against me, I sued the 24 federal agents involved in prosecuting me, and found that I could not legally engage them because of the quasi-immunity that protects federal law enforcement agents and prevents them from being held accountable for any wrongs they may commit. These men and women who had persecuted me in the 2005 raid - and those who came to conduct another raid in 2008 - were beyond my reach and the reach of any non-agency review. They remained free to harass and attack me and others without any personal accountability or responsibility for their actions. The quasi-immunity enjoyed by BLM and Federal Fish and Wildlife law enforcement agents means that they are not accountable to me, the American public, the U.S. Court system, or the U.S. Congress. They are untouchables, protected no matter what they do.

Chris Kortlander, Founding Director  
SITE OF THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

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Following the end of the investigation and the numerous threats of prosecution made against me, I received - anonymously - a 52 page document which stated that the BLM raids on Garryowen, Gibson Guitar, and the Four Corners incident in Blanding, Utah, were all connected to the same agency and at least one federal special agent who were on a mission to enhance their personal status and increase BLM funding from Congress. The actions of the law enforcement agents in the paramilitary raids on Garryowen, the *Operation CERBERUS* Action in Blanding, Utah, and the Gibson Guitar raids served only the political purposes of the BLM.

At Garryowen, federal machine guns were pointed at the head of a museum intern who had been forced to the ground spread eagle -- not for a pat down consistent with the safety of the abusive law enforcement agents, but rather as a show of force to intimidate and threaten this uninvolved young citizen into fearfully accepting the government's 'might makes right' posture.

I was victimized as a criminal although I have no criminal history. I was denied Constitutional protections because these apparently do not attach until charges are filed. The same federal agents who executed search warrants pursued a fruitless investigation that served only to make me appear to be a criminal to family, friends, colleagues, and business associates, in the process destroying my personal reputation, my businesses and business relationships, together with other opportunities that I had spent more than a decade developing.

Despite my obvious efforts to cooperate with the federal agents involved, during the raid I was accused of being a baby killer, and had my private residence (which was NOT on the search warrant) forced open, entered, and searched. Hundreds of artifacts - personal and private - together with tens of thousands of pages of documentation and other assets were seized, all of which were outside the scope of the search warrant used by the BLM.

No items listed on the search warrant - four buttons and a suspender belt buckle - were taken. After more than eight hours of scaring and intimidating me, my employees, and volunteer staff, this arrogant assembly of federal agents departed. My business and philanthropic endeavors were laid to waste and I was left financially destroyed. All that was missing was federal charges, but despite seizing a mountain of so-called evidence, no charges were ever filed.

What had happened to me can only be described as a non-judicial prosecution, or more correctly, an extra-judicial persecution by BLM federal agents. Federal charges were threatened for the next several years, but charges were never filed, and nearly five years after the 'raid' the United States Attorney indicated that the investigation was completed and that NO charges were to be filed against me. Despite that fact, it is unreasonable to say that I had not been abusively prosecuted by the federal agency involved.

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The BLM retained hundreds of artifacts until their so-called investigation had been completed nearly five years later, and they continued to hold dozens more after that time, initially alleging that these artifacts were absolute contraband and unlawful to be possessed even by a museum, and later insisting that the artifacts were derivative contraband based upon the manner in which they had been obtained or retained by the me and the museum with which I am associated. A federal claim for the return of these items was filed and just this winter (2014) all of the items sought were finally returned to the Custer Battlefield Museum in Garryowen, MT.

Seized documents had been previously returned, but thrown about in such a manner that it is impossible to restore the organization that existed at the time the BLM agents carted them away. It is impossible for me to even know if what was returned is in fact ALL of the documentation that was seized. I have been unable to find a number of museum documents I know that I possessed prior to the BLM raid.

It is important to note, once again, that no charges of criminal activity of any sort were ever filed in this matter. That action would have moved the matter into federal court where Constitutional protections against the actions of federal law enforcement agents and the federal agency they support would have arisen. However, without federal court supervision, the “800 pound gorilla” that is the autonomous federal agent, cloaked with the power and authority of the United States government, remains free to use unrestrained, military-level tactics and weaponry and the threat of force to crush citizens – frequently guilty of nothing – and in the process, destroy the businesses and lives of their victims with impunity.

These federal agents do not appear to answer to anyone other than possibly their peers – those also in agency law enforcement. Their methods are secret, their endeavors blacked out when pursued through Freedom of Information requests, and protected by judicial quasi-immunity granted to any federal law enforcement agent from the prying eyes of their victims, the press, and apparently the people’s representatives in Congress. Even though the Supreme Court recognized the right of the citizen to hold the workers of the federal government personally accountable for their actions, the hurdle for a victim to get into court is generally impossible with ill-defined rules and standards, especially regarding federal law enforcement agents.

I remain fearful today – not because I am guilty of any criminal activity – but because the unrestrained power of federal law enforcement agencies to use force and intimidation to strike fear into the hearts and lives of law-abiding citizens remains in place, allowing these reckless agents and agencies to destroy lives and livelihoods and seize personal possessions without reason or accountability to the citizens of these United States or to the letter and spirit of the laws that regulate their activities.

It is time for the United States Congress to reign in this self-serving agency that uses federal paramilitary force to further its own agenda, and believes itself to be beyond reproach or accountability. Thank you for your consideration and concern regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher Kortlander

June 29, 2012

We are writing as you have previously shown an interest in investigating malfeasance within the federal government. We implore you to act on our entreaties and file a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), request with the Department of Interior, Office of the Inspector General (DOI-OIG) for access to their voluminous Reports of Investigation concerning misconduct issues within the ranks of the Special Agents of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) Office of Law Enforcement (OLE). These allegations of misconduct are of a continuation and multigenerational period of time outlining both the corruption and the lack of ethics within the OLE, in part because nepotism and cronyism are so rampant.

In 1998, the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) published a Survey titled: *US. Fish & Wildlife Law Enforcement Survey* ([http://www.peer.org/federal/federal\\_info.php?row\\_id=10](http://www.peer.org/federal/federal_info.php?row_id=10)). The Survey can be best summarized, *The FWS-LE reached a high point under Chief Clark Bavin's leadership - its been on a logarithmic decline ever since.*

On February 13, 2007, the DOI-OIG released a report, which was titled *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Office of Law Enforcement* (<http://www.doioig.gov/report-database>) (PI-EV-FWS-0003-2006). In part the DOT OIG report disclosed the following: *Our review discovered weaknesses in the core areas of leadership and oversight, contributing to a general mistrust of senior management. We found a lack of effective communication between FWS-OLE headquarters and the field, which has created a perception that there is a wall between management and field personnel. Throughout our assessment, concerns were raised about the organization's culture of ethics and integrity. We also found weaknesses in internal affairs policy, and when reviewing internal affairs cases we discovered problems with investigative independence. Decentralized management of disciplinary action has created inconsistencies, resulting in agent frustration. In addition, management has not always carried out disciplinary action in a timely manner.*

Not taking into consideration OLE administrative personal, wildlife inspectors or refuge law enforcement officers, the report disclosed that within a three year period alone, the allegations had been sustained against

seventeen of twenty-eight OLE Special Agents. A rather high statistic considering there are only approximately 200 OLE Special Agents.

In the aforementioned report the DOI-OIG concluded the OLE is a *Leaderless Program in Decline and Prosecutions Drop* ([http://www.peer.org/news/news\\_id.php?row\\_id825](http://www.peer.org/news/news_id.php?row_id825)). In an early test of the new law strengthening the FOIA, PEER sued the DOI OIG to force release of the documents behind its recent investigation of declining law enforcement within the OLE. According to FWS agents who cooperated with the DOI OIG, they submitted statements and records detailing high-level corruption and obstruction of enforcement that were not included, or even alluded to, in the final report.

According to the DOI-OIG the OLE is in deep trouble but the DOI-OIG fails to specify why or what should be done about it, stated PEER staff attorney Adam Draper, who filed the suit. "We are going to put on the record what the Inspector General kept closeted." In a response to PEER's request, the DOI OIG wrote to PEER and stated that it would be "unable to respond to your request within the time limits established by FOIA due to a backlog of requests and other unforeseen circumstances."

After receiving no update or indication as to when the DOI-OIG intended to respond, appealed the delay to the Interior Office of Solicitor, a step required before filing suit. In a letter dated January 4, 2008, the Interior Solicitor's Office indicated that it, too, would not make "a determination on your appeal within the time limits set in FOIA..." "The DOI-OIG is supposed to police legal compliance by other Interior agencies yet routinely flouts laws that apply to it," added Draper, noting that the new FOIA legislation signed by President Bush on New Year's Eve is designed to put more emphasis on agencies meeting time limits for handling record requests and holding officials accountable for 'arbitrary and capricious."

In the April 2009 Semiannual Report to Congress, the DOI-OIG reported an investigation that was initiated after a complaint by an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) in Abingdon, VA. The AUSA reported the former FWS-OLE Special Agent Kelly Holland might have stolen evidence that pertained to a federal/state investigation. Additionally, the AUSA informed the OIG that the agent gave false testimony to his former supervisor, as well as during Grand Jury Testimony.

On February 4, 2009, Holland was convicted of obstructing justice and possession of a stolen firearm. On June 1, 2009, Holland was sentenced to 36 months probation and fined \$5,000.

The D01-01G initiated an investigation upon receipt of a complaint that a U.S. Park Police Sako rifle reported stolen several years ago, had been located by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) at a pawnshop in Georgia. The pawnshop records indicated that Paul Henry, a retired National Park Service Special Agent in Charge (SAC) had pawned the rifle. The DOI-OIG investigation concluded that during Henry's tenure at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, he stole a Sako rifle, a Browning rifle, and fifteen Sig Sauer ammunition magazines. On March 2, 2009, Henry pled guilty to theft and was sentenced to 30 days of home confinement, 2 years of probation, and a fine of \$750.

Who investigates the DOE OIG when they have miserably failed to rein in the decade long run of misconduct by OLE Special Agents? Why does the DOI-01G allow their employee (SAC) Toomey who resides in Greencastle, PA to work out of the National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) (698 Conservation Way, Shepherdstown, WV) when he should be working at headquarters some 85 miles away from Greencastle, PA?

Why did the OIG fail to criminally prosecute the more egregious violations of OLE Deputy Chief Thomas "Butch" Riley when they criminally prosecuted OLE Special Agent Kelly Holland and National Park Service SAC Paul Henry for lesser infractions?

The recent scandal at the General Services Administration pales in the face the tens of millions of dollars that the FWS and the OLE misappropriates year after year. The responsible Special Agents should immediately be terminated or forced to resign. OLE Special Agents are aware lawmakers are merely focusing on travel, conferences and training expenditures. Rather OLE Special Agents are siphoning public funds undetected through nepotism, grade inflation/promotions (to circumvent the current two year pay scale freeze), government take-home vehicles and government moves to a retirement destination of their choosing.

Clearly the OLE requires more rigorous oversight by the DOI-01G. The implicated Special Agents should lose their jobs because their behavior would cost them the security clearances need to work for the OLE.

If Congress were serious about cutting five thousand employees from the roles of the DO! a good place to start would be to eliminate the corrupt employees within the OLE. The OLE is composed of highly inexperienced leaders who have never benefited from developmental roles in a variety of multidisciplinary field assignments or personality assessments. OLE managers lack the vision or strategy to protect critical wildlife resources in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The OLE lacks a comprehensive supervisory and leadership programs to evaluate the personality and ethical defects of the ranks of the OLE Special Agents.

We attribute the OLE failures primarily due to the lack of dedication and capabilities of the Special Agents. The OLE fosters an environment based on exclusion and disengagement, which punishes Special Agents who speak out.

The FWS as an agency has more money than it needs. How else can you explain why the FWS is the only federal agency that has two separate law enforcement divisions with separate and redundant budgets/supervisors? The OLE is comprised of some 225 plain clothes Special Agents (job classification series Grade Series 1811) who are supervised by William C. Woody, Chief OLE. The 2012 budget request for the OLE was \$62,634,000 and 272 FTEs, which is a net program change of -\$1,860,000 and 9 FTEs from the 2010 Enacted/2011 annualized Continuing Resolution. The 270 full-time and 130 dual function uniformed Refuge Law Enforcement Officers (job classification series GL- 180 1.) are supervised by Jim Hall, Chief, Division of Refuge Law Enforcement, had a 2012 budget request of \$37,558,000.

Every federal land management agency (Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, National Forest Service) have Special Agents and uniformed Law Enforcement Officers that are unified under a single command structure and a single law enforcement policy. That is not the case with the FWS law enforcement program(s).

OLE Special Agents and U.S. Fish and Refuge Law Enforcement Officers have two entirely separate command structures, law enforcement policies and strategic plans. Both command structures operate separate from one another and don't complement one another. This results in cost inefficiencies when both command structures require personnel at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, GA or at

Headquarters in Arlington, VA. The differences in a bifurcated law enforcement program results in conflicting enforcement practices being directed at the public and in protection of the resource. The acquisition of different types of firearms, ammunition, defensive equipment and the instillation of different types of emergency police and safety equipment in government assigned vehicles and vessels can have devastating consequences.

William C. Woody has been Chief OLE since March 2011.

Confusing is probably the best word to describe Woody's appointment. The honest and ethical members of the OLE eagerly wanted to embrace him as this new town sheriff hired to clean up an organization that had turned into *Animal House* under his predecessors. However, this is not the case and he is following in the footsteps of his corrupt predecessors - Chief Benito A. Perez, Chief Kevin Adams, Chief Thomas L. Striegler, Deputy Chief Thomas "Butch" Riley, Deputy Chief Gary Mowad and SAC Training & Inspection Monty Halcomb (resigned in 2000 for having pornography material on his government computer).

With the Government Service Administration (GSA) spending scandal and the U.S. Secret Service still fresh on the minds of the taxpayer Woody just doesn't get it. In little over a year he's taken multiple trips (weeks on end) throughout the United States and Hawaii as one extended victory lap/vacation on the government doll in furtherance of gaining subsequent employment in the private sector.

There should be outrage at the overwhelming scope of wrongdoing by the OLE and their culture of excess in violation of government policies. Someone needs to start turning over stones to see all the kinds of things crawling out. Can someone explain why it was necessary for Woody to meet with some fossilized Special Agent retirees in New Orleans, LA on April 4, 2012? Was it his wife's birthday or did he need to place some bets at Harrah's in the French Quarter?

Once again following the script of the corrupt GSA managers at this writing Woody is scheduling a July 2012 trip (with his family??) to the Big Island of Hawaii to attend the Western States Conference of FWS managers from other divisions and for subsequent travel to the U.S. Trust Territories of the South Pacific. What is the OLE nexus to these Divisions and why couldn't a midlevel supervisory OLE Special Agent domiciled in Hawaii



attend instead? Instead of expensing \$10,000 +/-, is the agenda of this conference so time sensitive that Hall, Woody's counterpart couldn't brief Woody at headquarters?

Woody is a seasoned Senior Executive Service member who is expected to display the highest standards and common sense, and prudent financial management, yet does neither.

OLE policy mandates that allegations of misconduct be forwarded to the DOI-OIG for investigation. If you are interested in substantiating these allegations we urge you to examine OLE personnel records, travel records, expense reports, and compel Special Agents to testify.

Previously reported employee misconduct by Wildlife Inspectors (WI) Steven Hamilton (Drug Use), Tracy Reed (Absent Without Leave) and Andrew Steelman (Embezzlement) and OLE Special Agents have either not been investigated or the disciplinary decisions are disparate for similar infractions, thereby affecting moral agency-wide.

Moral is so far tilted to the nadir that OLE personnel hope the OLE is absorbed into any other land management agency (i.e. National Park Service/National Marine Fisheries) but not the Bureau of Land Management, due to Woody's mismanagement issues there. If agencies can be merged into the Department of Homeland Security, why can't it happen to the OLE?

Recently, for the aforementioned reasons, more than four-dozen WI created/joined the AFGE Wildlife Inspector Bargaining Unit, New York Local 2103; (516.640.0169). At this writing, additional bargaining units are being created in throughout the United States.

With the implementation of direct-line authority, the OLE unified its command structure, centralizing most of its administrative functions at the headquarters level. Despite this change in structure the regions continue to operate by the seven Regional SAC known as the *Seven Kingdoms* with autonomy from headquarters oversight.

Although the seven SAC meet quarterly their conferences lack management feedback to the field, are of questionably benefit and drain the agency's budget. On the other hand *the Circle of Seven* escape the summer

heat/winter chills while collecting hotel points and frequent flyer mileage for personal use. The *Circle of Seven* are comprise of the Following SACs:

Region One: Paul Chang - Portland, OR  
Region Two: Nicholas Chavez - Albuquerque, NM  
Region Three: Gregory Jackson - Fort Snelling, MN  
Region Four: Luis Santiago - Atlanta, GA  
Region Five: Salvatore Amato - Hadley, MA Region  
Six: Steven Oberholtzer - Denver, CO Region Seven:  
Stan Pruszenski - Anchorage, AK

The OLE Directory can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/offices/directory/>

The *Circle of Seven* in conjunction with the Chief, Deputy Chief, and the Division Chief, are the entities that are responsible for establishing written law enforcement policy and for recruiting new Special Agents.

The *Circle of Seven* and virtually all the current Special Agents and first line supervisory Resident Agents in Charge (RAC) were hired by either former Striegler, Adams, Perez, Riley, Mowad or Halcomb. These managers displayed their own character flaws front and center to the OLE, thereby leaving an indelible mark on the moral compass of the OLE Special Agents who have blindly followed in their predecessors' footsteps; further promoting delinquency, at the expense of the public and the resource.

Records will disclose that the *Circle of Seven* promoted themselves and their cronies despite their apparent lack of credentials and lack of ethics. The *Circle of Seven* demands their payments in a retirement that is a *King's Ransom*. Their average annual salary is \$150,000 plus and when you add the benefits of medical, retirement, moving payments and car allowance it exceeds \$200,000 per year. Many are merely high school graduates with a General Education Development Certificate (GED). They are greedy chiselers who game the system and walk away with a *Kings Ransom* of a retirement.

The *Circle of Seven* lacks commitment in the face of ordinary hardships and duties. They contrive domestic and international government travel (using Official United Sates Passports) to go on personal vacations, safaris, or hunting trips with friends/family, using government cell phones, vehicles, planes and credit cards.

The *Circle of Seven* and the seven Assistant Special Agents in Charge (ASAC) form the inner sanctum. They are followed by self-anointed Resident Agents in Charge (RAC). The income of these highly paid managers is greater than 95% of the governors, federal judges and even three star generals. Many merely have a GED and an even higher percentage of Special Agents have never conducted a felony investigation, testified before a federal grand jury or even made an arrest.

The *Circle of Seven's* credibility is like a carton of sour milk: once you take your first sip, you don't have to drink the rest to know its all gone bad.

The *Circle of Seven* adheres to the *Ten Commandments*, more specifically the Eleventh Commandment, 'Don't Get Caught' or "We Don't Pay Nanny Taxes". The *Circle of Seven* are incapable of making a fortune in the private sector. They loathe to feed their families from money made as a bureaucrat. Rather they compromise their ethics and use their positions to inflate their grades, assign themselves government vehicles to commute to work, travel and move at government expense whenever and wherever they want.

Since all OLE Special Agents are recognized for their prowess in the art of obfuscation and Omertã, we assert the below listed allegations are merely the tip of the iceberg. It is anticipated that the compelled testimony of the below listed OLE Special Agents and others unnamed employees, coupled with the examination of OLE records (i.e. rosters, pay records and move/travel records) would disclose addition widespread abuses within the OLE.

Contrary to current arguments by the *Circle of Seven*, the egregious misconduct outlined in the prior PEER and the DOI-OIG reports, these former episodes aren't an aberration. If lawmakers would take a deeper look at the OLE records and interview OLE employees the effort would conclude that the OLE has a systematic problems with integrity, misconduct issues due to a growing attitude amongst ambitious OLE managers that they are but elite and due entitlement. The root cause of misconduct is based upon nepotism and hiring and promoting individuals who are inept, dishonest and corrupt.

## **The Good Old Boy Network - Who Will Break the Cycle of Nepotism**

The gneiss of the problem within the OLE lies within the singular act of *nepotism and the Good Old Boy Network (Friends and Family Discount)*. Such patronage and favoritism within the OLE is pervasive and spans the breath of decades and generations. If one is so fortunate to fall into one of the two aforementioned categories it is like having a *Five or Ten Point Veterans Preference*, throughout ones career in the OLE.

What's the unemployment rate for friends and relative of OLE Special Agents? Zero despite having a GED, questionable work ethics or character issues, there is always a six figure job awaiting.

The OLE attracts a perfunctory workforce from world-class high schools, through cronyism and nepotism. Nepotism and cronyism provides an atmosphere of exclusion and disengagement amongst the workforce. Moreover, Special Agents within the clique are bestowed preferential treatment throughout ones career within the OLE with respect to: monetary awards, promotions, transfers to choice geographic duty stations and domestic/international travel/training assignments, at the expense of the outsiders. Those within the *Good Old Boy Network* are emboldened and act in a manner of entitlement and pity those who question their authority.

The *Circle of Seven* also hires their relatives and friends as WI and Special Agents through the *Service's* college internship program known as the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP), which is administered through USA-JOBS. The *Circle of Seven* are gaming the system by preselecting their relatives and friends by alerting them to the potential vacancies in advance and withholding said information from the general public and the Veterans Administration.

The *Circle of Seven* further rig the system by posting the announcements for limited time duration and for undesirable duty stations in urban areas such as Detroit, MI, when in fact the applicant (relatives and friends) will be immediately transferred to a more desirable duty station such as Missoula, MT once the applicant completes their training.

The union took action against Amato (Hadley, MA - 413.253.8459) for creating two new interns in Region 5, who once complete their internship

were "appointed non-competitively" to WI for a period of time, until which time they will be promoted to become Special Agents.

As an aside an incumbent WI in Region 5, who wished to transfer to Boston had applied for one of the new WI intern positions but did not get the position and then later applied as an evidence custodian and again did not get the position. Apparently the incumbent WI learned the applicants for the two newly created WI intern positions were friends of Amato, who was the only person who interviewed the applicants. Amato selected his two applicant friends for WI intern positions, which were never posted on USA- JOBS and as far as anyone has been able to determine, nor never posted publicly anywhere.

When the WI learned of the two newly created WI positions a second incumbent WI asked RAC David Sykes (Chelsea, MA- 617.889.6616) if Sykes could post the position on their college alumni website. However, Sykes indicated he and Amato already knew what college the applications were coming from. These two interns will become career federal employees and ultimately promoted to Special Agents and thereby bypassing the formal competitive vetting process for employment with the federal government.

If you as an OLE Special Agent have been hired either through the path of nepotism or the *Good Old Boy Network* you are supposed to pay the gift forward to the next generation.

The following are but a few of the more blatant examples of nepotism within the OLE. It is difficult to quantify the full extent of nepotism because numerous second and third generation OLE employees have different last names, as they are using their married name, maiden names or are nieces, nephews, cousins, friends etc. At a minimum the DOI-OIG should be a party to the selection process of all future OLE applicants and the DOI-OIG needs to establish the relationship of the applicant to the current OLE staff.

Carol Adams (retired - FWS National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) (Shepherdstown, WV): Wife of retired OLE Chief Kevin Adams.

Special Agent Richard Branzell (Missoula, MT - 406.329.3900): Son of retired OLE Resident Agent in Charge Richard Branzell Sr. (Reno, NV).

Special Agent Christopher Brong (retired): Husband of retired BLM State Director Elaine Marquis-Brong (Oregon and Washington). Sometime in 1994 Brong then a SAC for the BLM was forced out of the agency for misconduct issues. However because his wife was the BLM Associate State Director for California, the OLE was forced to hire Christopher Brong in Sacramento. CA.

In 2001, when Brong's wife was promoted Director, National Landscape Conservation System, Bureau of Land Management in Washington, DC, the OLE created a brand new duty station for Brong to work at in Annapolis, MD.

Once again in 2004, when Elaine Marquis-Brong was promoted to become the BLM State Director in Portland, OR for the states of Oregon and Washington, the OLE created a position for Brong in Willsonville. OR. As this was to become the couple's retirement home, they purchased a home in Washougal, WA in order to avoid paying Oregon Income tax, upon retiring.

No matter that Washougal, WA was some forty-five mile from the Willsonville RAC Office, Brong was assigned a government take home vehicle and he commuted on government time. As a final good will gesture a short time later in 2005, Chang promoted Brong as the *GS-13* RAC Willsonville, OR in order to increase Brong's retirement annuity when he retired in April 2006.

Special Agent Matthew Bryant (Edmond, OK —405.715.0617): Son of Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Manager Mike Bryant (252.473.1131). As a married refuge officer Matthew Brant used government vehicles/facilities to conduct an affair with an under aged high school girl. On the occasions Special Agent Bryant travels on official government business he routinely goes tomcatting about to have an extramarital fling. He has also been a subject of an OIG investigation regarding a firearm.

Special Agent Elizabeth Darling (Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Commerce City, CO - 303.287.2110) Relative of Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling, the namesake of the Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

RAC Erin Dean (Torrance, CA - 310.328.1516): Niece of a former FWS Director. If you have any doubt that Dean is working a half dozen

pay grades over her head, just ask her staff. Dean who is being protected by Chang will never be forced transferred out of the Torrance, CA office because the OLE is accommodating her, as husband is a Supervisor Special Agent with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Los Angeles, CA.

The logical candidate to be considered for the RAC of the Torrance Office would be Special Agent Edward Newcomer, Jr., a levelheaded gregarious team leader. But Chang threw Newcomer's application in the circular file because Newcomer has a law degree.

Similarly SAC Mark Webb tossed Newcomer's application out the window when he applied to become the RAC for the Branch of Special Operations because Webb is threatened someone more intelligent than he is. Instead Webb selected Leo Suazo TI because he has a GED diploma.

RAC George Domenici (retired - Casper, WY): Nephew of Senator Pete Domenici.

Special Agent James Dowd (Chelsea, MA - 617.889-6616): Son of retired OLE RAC Christopher Dowd (Chelsea, MA).

Special Agent Kenneth Endress (Annapolis, MD - 410.573.4514): Son of FWS retired OLE RAC Richard Endress (Lilburn, GA).

Special Agent Jesica Espinoza (Torrance, CA - 310.328.1516): Daughter of Doctor Edgard Espinoza, Deputy Director National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory (541.482.4191). Jesica Espinoza initially worked at the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory and subsequently as an Investigative Case Specialist at Headquarters.

Senior Special Agent Mary French (Frederick, VA - 540.898.1755) and Refuge Manger Andrew French: Daughter and Son of former Region Five Regional Director Jerry French.

RAC Richard Grosz (Bismarck, ND - 701854.34.8 1): Son of retired SAC Terry Grosz (Evergreen, CO). As a Good Old Boy member, Woody and his predecessors have violated OPM policy for allowing Grosz who is deaf in one ear from occupying a law enforcement position because of the medical implications of being deaf in one ear. As a member of the Good

Old Boy network he can continue to work and be eligible for a full law enforcement retirement annuity when he turns fifty in October 2016.

WI Steven Hamilton (resigned - Miami, FL): Son of former FWS Director Samuel D. Hamilton (DOD: February 10, 2010).

SAC Gregory Jackson (Fort Snelling, MN - 612.713.5320) Jackson's father was a retired supervisory United States Customs Inspector at International Falls, MN. Greg Jackson's father was initially able to get him a position as an inspector with the United States Customs Service and subsequently getting him hired as a Special Agent with the OLE in 1995. Jackson's brother is currently the chief inspector for the United States Customs Service at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.

Special Agent Sean Mann (Sacramento, CA - 916.414.6664): Son of former RAC Commodore Mann.

Special Agent Victoria Owens (Delaware, OH - 740.368.0137): Daughter of Special Agent Larry Owens.

Circee Pieters Branch Chief, Planning and Analysis (4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA; 703.358.1949). Pieters was successful in having two of her daughters hired by the OLE. Although Pieters doesn't have a college degree she achieved her current GS- 14 job through an ongoing extramarital affair she had with Striegler.

Refuge Law Enforcement Officer Frank Sims 11 is currently employed at the Pocosin Lakes NWR (252.796.3004). He is line to be hired as a Special Agent by the OLE, when the next class is hired in 2013. Sim's father Frank Simms retired from the OLE in 1997.

WI Andre Steelman (Amherst, NY - 716.691.3635): Son of retired Supervisory WI Barbra Steelman.

RAC Leo Suazo II (Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Commerce City, CO - 303.287.2110), who has a high school GED, received a *Friends and Family Discount* because he was SAC Grosz hunting camp cook.

Chief William C. Woody is the son of Jack B. Woody, the former FWS Chief of Endangered Species/National Sea Turtle Coordinator (Region



Two). Jack B. Woody was a highly respected and well-connected manager on both a regional and national level. William C. Woody on the other hand was on a rather unspectacular law enforcement career path as a Utah sheriff's deputy, the Phoenix Police Department and the Utah Highway Patrol. Through his fathers professional connections William C. Woody initially gained entry to Utah Department of Natural Resources and later with his father's connections to the Bureau of Land Management, Office of Law Enforcement and Security

At the Utah Department of Natural Resources Woody supervised the Natural Resources law enforcement unit, which at the time included his close friends. Conservation Officer Curtis Graves and Legislative Coordinator Steven R. Stoinski. Both Graves and Stoinski would later become Special Agents with the OLE.

On July 7-8,2009, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) held a symposium known as *The Government-wide Veteran's Recruitment and Employment Strategic Plan for FY2010-FY2012*, at of all places at the FWS NCTC.

The OPM stated that this was America's first strategic plan to increase the hiring of Veterans throughout the Federal civil service. The OPM explained the initiative was a major component of President Obama's Veterans Employment Initiative. The OPM reiterated it's not enough simply to say, "We'll add five or ten points to your score, thank you for applying. We must aggressively dismantle barriers to entry and success for Veterans and transitioning service members pursuing careers in the Federal civil service."

When it comes to the hiring new Special Agents the *Circle of Seven* just don't get it. They take the hard-line against hiring five and ten point veterans in order to discourage them, which would prevent their friends and family from being hired. During the interview process veterans generally turn down an offer for employment after being told that they will be stationed in large/expensive metropolitan cities, such as; Chicago, IL, Dallas, TX, Miami, FL, Torrance, CA or Valley Stream, NY. Rather a nepotism applicant is offered a duty station of his/hers choosing.

## **Propaganda Investigations that Woody initiated as the Chief of the BLM**

Woody was appointed the Chief of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement on March 7, 2011.

Woody had been promoting himself to Under Secretaries of the Department of Interior as Perez' replacement as Perez approached mandatory retirement age of 57 in 2009 (Somehow Perez merely a high school graduate didn't have his financial house in order and was allowed to work until 2010, at age 59).

Clearly the FWS-OLE Chiefs position is of a higher profile than that of BLM-OLE Chief. Woody views himself as a world traveler and bon vivant, yet he lacks the dynastic wealth to do so on his own. The scope of the FWS-OLE mission is international in scope. It has nexus to Interpol in Lyon, France, the State Department's International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Gaborone, Botswana and the annual CITES conference.

Special Agents are stationed overseas in Bangkok Thailand and the OLE overseas Endangered Species from Maine to halfway around the world to the Federated States of Micronesia. Within six weeks of being appointed as the Chief, in May 2001 Woody went on a to boondoggle to Hawaii following in the footsteps of his father, looking for marine turtles. Woody's bags are always packed. Traveling international<sup>y</sup> in business class days on end eats up precious operational OLE funds.

Woody comes off as self-promoting and disingenuous, rather than making sure that American taxpayers tax dollars are invested wisely. Woody's actions reinforce negative stereotypes many Americans hold of federal employees as overpaid, underworked spendthrifts and poor stewards of taxpayer dollars. Woody intends to hire his BLM cronies who have communications/administration degrees as OLE vacancies occur.

Woody enjoys being in the limelight. He's the Phineas Taylor Barnum of the Department of Interior, generating press releases and slick glossy publications chronicling the enforcement operations of the BLM and the OLE. Rather, Woody's personal aims through the aforementioned efforts is power and to eventually put money in his pocket once the new presidential administration comes into power and he is forced to work in the

private sector, by currently using precious OLE resources to wrongly pursue high profile targets.

In order to understand Woody's lack of law enforcement acumen and to ascertain the type of OLE Chief will be, one merely needs to look at his track record as the Chief Bureau of Land Management/OLE. Woody always follows the rubric of going to the press until the guilty are convicted in court.

Rather, Woody should be counseling his OLE Special Agents to obey the law. Why it is appropriate for many OLE Special Agents to not be paying nanny taxes for the individuals who are cleaning their houses, their yards or overseeing they children?

Woody is clearly aware from the aforementioned 2007 DOI-OIG report that prosecutions within the OLE have taken a precipitous decline so Woody has given his troops marching orders to be overly aggressive, assertive and to seek the limelight.

Woody's actions in three below enumerated investigations (*Investigation of Christopher Kortlander dba the Custer Battlefield Museum, Inc.. Operation Ceberus Action* and the investigation of the *Henry Juskiewicz dba Gibson Guitar Company*) has drawn the ire of United States Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) and countless other politicians and the public alike. Woody has overly zealously attempted to enforce the Lacey Act by enforcing the *letter of the law* as apposed to the *sprit of the law*. Woody actions in the aforementioned law enforcement investigations reflects a certain disregard for the established rules of conservation law enforcement.

In retaliation, Senator Paul introduce the FOCUS Act (SB-2062) which if enacted would weaken the Lacey Act, one of the oldest and most successful conservation laws in the country. The FOCUS Act, (Fear from Over Criminalization & Unjust Seizures) proposes three significant changes to the Lacey Act, the removal of criminal provisions for the foreign commerce clause as well as the authority to carry firearms and execute search & arrests warrants.

On Monday March 12, 2012, RAC Aloise (The allegations in a DOI-OIG investigation of Aloise were sustained). RAC David H. Hubbard (San Antonio, TX - 210.681.8419) and other Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association members of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers

Association (FLEOA) met in Washington DC with United States Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD) and majority and minority staffers from the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee's subcommittee on Fish, Wildlife & Water to brief them on the negative impacts of the FOCUS Act.

Did Woody allow Aloise and Hubbard to attend the meeting at on government time and at government expense in violation of OLE policy? Or did FLEOA pay for Aloise's and Hubbard's travel expenses and they failed to report said gifts in violation of 5 USC § 7342? The annual on yearly *Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report* (Form 450). The report requires the reporting of, 1. "Travel-related cash reimbursements received from one source during the reporting period totaling more than \$285; 2. Any other gifts totaling more than \$285 from any one source. A "gift" is defined as anything of value, unless you give something of equal or greater value to the donor. This includes tangible items and in-kind transportation, food, lodging, and entertainment."

Hubbard was hired by the OLE in 2000. He is currently the President of the OLE Federal Wildlife Officers Association (FWOA). On December 17, 2011, the Wall Street Journal published an article that was critical of the 2008 OLE investigation of Morgan Mok, Miami, FL (and other OLE investigations)(<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203518404577094861497383678.html>). Hubbard was the case agent and the affiant for the search warrant.

Hubbard is an aggressive, public seeking agent. Hubbard was also the affiant in the Gibson Guitar investigation.

In June 2011 Hubbard went to State Department's International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Gaborone, Botswana. Did Hubbard report the gifts he received on his annual on yearly *Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report* (Form 450).

**Investigation of Christopher Kortlander dba the Custer Battlefield Museum, Inc.:** Brian Cornell began his federal law enforcement career as a patrol Park Ranger with the National Park Service at Lake Mead National Recreation Area. In 1993 Cornell transferred to the Bureau of Land Management in Las Vegas where he served as a law enforcement ranger working at the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area.

In 2000, Woody selected Cornell as a Special Agent with the Bureau of Land Management in Billings, MT. Following the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, Cornell was detailed for six months as a Federal Air Marshal and was assigned to Seattle, WA.

Despite not having any criminal investigative experience, let alone an understanding of the esoteric nuances of the Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA), nor an expertise in managing confidential informant(s), in 2003, Woody made Cornell the case agent in a investigation involving Christopher Kortlander (Garryowen, MT) who was alleged to be illegally trafficking in artifacts.

In 2005, Cornell obtained a search warrant after a year plus investigation (involving multiple undercover buys) that indicated Kortlander might be selling property under false claims of historic value. Twenty-four armed federal agents (armed with automatic weapons) executed a raid of Kortlander's home and business. Several items were seized. No criminal charges were filed against Kortlander and no arrests were made.

Kortlander is waging his own battle with authorities to reclaim a trove of war bonnets, medicine bags and other items seized during government raids on his privately operated Custer museum.

The raids came during a five-year investigation into Kortlander's alleged dealings in fraudulent artifacts and eagle feathers in violation of federal law. No charges were ever filed. The government formerly dropped its investigation in 2009, and most of the items seized during the raids including 7th Cavalry memorabilia, other American Indian artifacts and thousands of pages of documents - have since been returned.

Yet the dispute between Kortlander and the government rages on. Sealed court filings obtained by The Associated Press show the government still holds 22 items, partly on the word of a convicted felon who claimed Kortlander acquired them illegally. Many contain eagle or migratory bird feathers, which government attorneys said in court documents renders the items "contraband" under the Bald Eagle Protection Act and Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

U.S. District Judge Richard Cebull, who is overseeing the case, has cast doubt on the credibility of the government's witnesses, but also said

Kortlander must be cross-examined to prove the war bonnets and other items were lawfully acquired.

Kortlander, argues the government's efforts to hold onto the seized items stem from a stubborn refusal to admit the raids against him were based on false assumptions and should never have occurred. Since the raids, Kortlander has waged an aggressive legal counter-attack, including motions for the return of the remaining items seized during the raids in 2005 and 2008.

Several related cases already resolved yielded mixed results. Following an earlier lawsuit by Kortlander, federal courts ordered the government to release thousands of pages of materials related to the investigation. That included a decision from the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals that Kortlander was not restricted in his use of the investigative materials, overturning an earlier ruling from Judge Cebull.

Cebull struck down another lawsuit in which Kortlander claimed government law enforcement agents maliciously pursued him in order to advance their own careers.

In dismissing the claim, Cebull said the government had "rock-solid" probable cause to seek a search warrant in the 2008 raid. But the affidavit from Cornell for the 2008 search of the Custer Battlefield Museum reveals that the government's case relied in part on statements from a Montana appraiser, James Brubaker, who said he sold eagle parts and feathers to Kortlander.

Brubaker has since served a federal prison sentence for possession and interstate transportation of stolen property. Authorities said he travelled the country stealing rare and valuable books and maps from public libraries and then selling them on eBay.

Kortlander further learned that Cornell, the affiant on the affidavit for the search warrant had been previously reprimanded by the Department of Interior. Inspector General for Program Integrity on May 26, 2005, regarding a matter wherein Cornell was an affiant for a 2003 search warrant of Dr. Dan Boechler. The inspector General wrote in part, *It is my belief that Agent Cornell 's testimony was material false.*

Kortlander contends he never fraudulently or illegally sold battlefield or Indian artifacts. The feathered artifacts classified by the government as contraband include items donated or loaned to the museum and personal family heirlooms, he said.

A former associate who said he was one of the government's informants in the case disputed Kortlander's claim to innocence. The informant, Jason Pitsch, has his own credibility issues: He is currently detained in a Yellowstone County, Mont., jail in on federal child pornography charges.

Kortlander claims that the investigation and subsequent raids and forfeitures were motivated by Kortlander's dating Cathy Lingard, the ex-wife of Lee Lingard, a BLM undercover Special Agent and a former Navy Seal. Feeling threatened by her ex-husband, she obtained a restraining order against Lee Lingard. Lee Lingard is currently employed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Lee Lingard was later transferred off the investigation after Kortlander complained of harassment to the BLM Office of Inspector General.

On September 14, 2011, Kortlander sued the government for \$188,000,000. The defendant(s) are the United States of America, the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Land Management that was the lead agency in all matters related to the claim. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service worked with the Bureau of Land Management and the extent of its role is uncertain to the plaintiffs, however the involvement of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will be determined in the course of discovery.

In August 2008, Woody rewarded Cornell's bad behavior by promoting him to the position of Special Agent in Charge, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. A short time later Cornell left the agency and took a demotion to begin working on June 16, 2009 as a Special Agent for Reclamation's Great Plains Region.

**Operation Ceberus Action:** Woody initially hired Special Agent Dan Love sometime in 2005. Even though Love was an inexperienced field agent Woody hand picked and assigned Love as the lead case agent on the joint undercover investigation (code-named *Ceberus Action*) conducted by

the Bureau of Land Management and the FBI. Even though Larry Shackelford was the Special Agent in Charge for the State of Utah (Utah State Office), Woody supervised Dove from Washington D.C.

Love is an aggressive agent, seeking to gain a conviction. The need for a conviction became greater as the costly investigation progressed. The undercover expenditures alone would require results. Thus, the investigation pursuing any infraction that would result in a conviction was pursued.

Using Ted Gardiner as a confidential source, in 2007 and 2008, the Bureau of Land Management and the FBI purchased over 250 artifacts totaling more than \$335,000. Gardiner was a well-connected dealer who permitted the installation of various video and audio recorders in his place of business. Recordings provided information on possible illegal sales involving items that included Anasazi pottery and other artifacts associated with Native American Indians (allegedly in violation of ARPA).

On June 10, 2009, the case became public when 24 indictments were unsealed. Woody was present when the indictments were announced in Salt Lake City by Secretary Salazar; Assistant Secretary Echo Hawk; Deputy Attorney General David W. Ogden of the U.S. Department of Justice; Brett L. Tolman, U.S Attorney in Utah; and Timothy J. Fuhrman, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's Salt Lake City Field Office.

Woody failed to tell the assembled officials and the press that he was aware that Shackelford was having an affair with Gardiner's girlfriend.

Woody further neglected to tell the press that unlike Special Agent Rudy Mauldin's 1980's ARPA investigation involving Earl Shumway, Mauldin caught the pothunters in the act of grave robbing. AUSA Wayne Dance prosecuted Shumway using direct evidence which actually tied Shumway to the grave digging of archeological artifacts on federally managed lands.

Rather, Love's investigation focused merely on the braggadocios of the defendants and the sale of artifacts whose archeological provenance could not be established. Woody also failed to disclose that the Bureau of Land Management was aware of Gardiner's history of mental issues, substance abuse problems and emotional issues arising from a recent divorce and newly failed relationship with another woman.



In 2009 Woody, ever the showman, scam artist and entertainer named Love BLM *Special Agent of the Year*, before even one individual was convicted. Woody subsequently promoted Love to the position of Assistant Special Agent in Charge for the Utah State Office

([www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/.../blm/wo/Law.. /LawEnYER09Web.pdf](http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/.../blm/wo/Law.. /LawEnYER09Web.pdf))

The costly 5-year artifacts case netted no prison time and three suicides. Defendant Dr. James Redd (Blanding, UT - age 60) killed himself on June 11, 2009. A week later, Steven L. Shrader (Santa Fe, NM - age 56) committed suicide. Gardiner the informant (Holladay, UT - age 52) committed suicide on March 2, 2010.

Although Utah Senators Orrin Hatch and Bob Bennett have asked U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to investigate the matter it appears that their pleas went for naught.

**FWS-OLE Investigation of the Gibson Guitar Company: Woody** is carrying over the same overzealous management style from the BLM to the OLE. Under Woody's approach, BLM and OLE Special Agents have labored to justify their next promotion and the next and the next. Woody has energized his employees to pursue high profile vandals with more confidence and with the expectations that said employees are expected to produce results. Although Woody is hoping to garner favorable publicity by initiating high profile investigations by any means; whether through overzealousness or by using unethical employees who have integrity issues or employees who are carrying out sexual relationships with informants or other individuals on the periphery of an investigation - history has shown that Woody has failed miserably.

On August 24, 2012, executed four federal search warrants at the business offices of Gibson Guitar in Memphis, TN and Nashville, TN, where Henry Juskiewicz is the Chief Executive.

OLE policy requires Special Agents to evaluate the threat level of premises to be search and only use the appropriate amount of force to safely secure the premises, the individuals present and to seize the items enumerated in the search warrant. In the instant investigation the premises of the Gibson Guitar Company consists of factory floor workers.

In a spectacular show of force, Woody directed case agents John Rayfield, Tim Santel and Hubbard to have the Special Agents who executed the search warrants to brandish high powered long guns, wear bullet proof vests and to intimidate and coerce the workforce in order elicit statements in prosecuting Henry Juskiewicz and the Gibson Guitar Company.

The seizure netted computers, hard drives, company records, and thousands of guitar fingerboards. The raid has caused economic loss to Gibson, created a political firestorm, and has ignited a furious debate around a seminal environmental protection statute, the Lacey Act. Though the Lacey Act was originally designed to combat illegal trafficking in animals, its scope was expanded in 2008 to combat the illegal harvesting of timber, which has contributed to massive deforestation of tropical hardwood forests. The Gibson Guitar Company supported these changes. As a user of tropical woods the Gibson Guitar Company said it just makes economic sense to buy our materials from sustainable forests, and it makes moral sense to do so in a way that ensures the survival of these resources.

Woody initiated this investigation because neither the Secretary of Interior nor Congress failed to sanction him when as the BLM Chief he used the same tactics to frivolously squander tax payer monies and withheld exculpatory information from court/defendants in *Operation Christopher Kortlander dba the Custer Battlefield Museum, Inc. and Operation Ceberus Action*. Woody's malice, his methods, his star-chamber practices and his decision to punish first and adjudicate later all are at odds with law enforcements ideals of fairness and fair play.

You don't send armed agents with their guns drawn into their corporate headquarters. That is an abuse of power, and that why Congress, the media and the public are upset and demanding answers from the OLE.

Sometime in 2009/20 10 Woody used government funds so Keith Aller who at the time was the Deputy Chief of BLM Law Enforcement in Washington, could be move back to Portland, OR for retirement purposes. Aller worked the remaining year of his career in Portland, OR as the SAC for the Oregon State Office, so he didn't have to pay the government for his move expenses.

Woody is increasingly concentrating OLE Special Agents into the higher pay grades of the Criminal Investigative GS-1811 series, mirroring

other federal law enforcement agencies (DEA/FBI/ICE) without making his employees take on greater duties and responsibilities. Upon Woody's arrival he is in the process of upgrading all GS-12 Special Agents to the GS-13 salary level and all GS-13 RACs to the GS-14 salary level. The percentage of employees in grades 13 to 15 - the highest three grades before reaching the executive ranks, increased some 500%. These inflated grades and the higher salaries that come with them, unnecessarily cost the cash strapped government/OLE at a time when it can least afford waste.

**Genesis of Misconduct - SAC David L. McMullen, ASAC/SAC/Deputy Chief Thomas "Butch" Riles, et al.**

Riley retired from the OLE in March 2004. His penultimate assignment was in the capacity of the Deputy Chief (Arlington, VA). As the second in line authority for the OLE. Riley orchestrated for his government expensed move to Atlanta, GA, so he could finish out his career and retire in Atlanta, GA as the SAC for Region Four.

Riley was best known for being and a backup linebacker who rarely played for the 1969 Baltimore Colts and as a big game/waterfowl hunter. By the early eighties Riley had ingratiated himself as the OLE point man for the Safari Club International Foundation.

In the early nineties OLE Special Agent Carroll E. Cox was stationed in Honolulu, HI working under McMullen and Riley. Cox ultimately resigned in 1995, stemming from allegations that he had accepted bribes, and for further forwarding allegations to the DOI-OIG concerning corruption within the Hawaii offices of OLE. On January 28, 1993 Cox initiated contact with the Inspector General's Interior Department Special Agent Gordon Peters, and on November 28, 1993, he wrote to Assistant Special Counsel Ralph Eddy. Cox alleged that FWS Field Supervisor Robert P. Smith, Ecological Service Division, and John Ford, Real Estate Division had acted unlawful in their business dealings with the *Bishop Estate* and with regards to the acquisition of a FWS Wildlife Refuge in Guam (<http://www.animalpeoplenews.org/97/1/1.97.swf>).

Cox alleged that both Smith and Ford abused travel privileges and that Ford "had authorized the payment of a sum in excess of \$89,000 to a female companion, by breaking the sum down into multiple payments to circumvent purchasing or contracting rules." The female companion, Cox said, lived in

California. Marvin Plenert, he continued, the Regional Director for Region One of the FWS, learned of Ford's illegal activities and had Ford resign from his position in Hawaii. When Ford returned to the mainland, Plenert reinstated him, in an office near his (Ford's) home in California.

Cox further advised that Smith was a hunting buddy of Reilly; both, Cox averred were Tennesseans who were also affiliated with the Nature Conservancy (TNC). Cox mused aloud whether Reilly and Smith owed their positions to the recommendations of vice president Gore during his years, 1976-1984, as Tennessee member of the House of Representatives, and 1984-1992 as U.S. Senator. TNC Palau representative Chuck Cook is yet another Tennessean, according to Cox, who further alleges that Cook with the cooperation of Smith and Reilly helped to cover up wildlife parts trafficking through Palau.

The problem, Cox said, was that in 1991 he uncovered "millions of dollars worth of turtle shells and dugong parts going through Palau to Japan." just as TNC initiated a five-year program to develop a conservation ethic in Palau by working with native fishers. With a human population of just 16,000, Palau is perhaps as much small town as nation. To win the fishermen's trust, Cox alleged, TNC ignored both the wildlife trafficking and aggressive poaching of endangered saltwater crocodiles, apparently believing it could be stopped more effectively through their program, which stresses sustainable use, rather than through law enforcement. "I was told, 'You will not go back,'" Cox stated.

In the November 1993 letter, Cox also accused his immediate supervisor, RAC Ernie Mayer, of improperly using a government vehicle. Mayer, in turn accused Cox of harassing him. On August 24, 1994, Joseph G. White of Kaneohe, Hawaii, complained to FWS regional director Mike Spear that Mayer had improperly harassed his wife, an FWS employee, apparently after an altercation over a parking space. The charge was investigated by OLE Chief John Doggett (Tennessean), and assisted according to Cox and, by Special Agent Steve Middleton.

OLE Evidence Custodian Michael M. Hart (at the time age 51) a twenty-year FWS staffer was a key witness against Mayer in both the Cox case and the White case. Cox further asserted that Hart too was subjected to intense harassment. On December 8, 1994, just before Hart was to testify for Cox at a deposition hearing, cleaning personnel at the Prince Kuhio

Federal Building in Honolulu found his body, shot through the chest with a gun Cox had confiscated in a prior criminal case.

Hart's apparent motive for suicide was a November 29th letter from McMullen, as follows: *This is a notice of proposed adverse action issued in accordance with Part 752 of the Office of Personnel Management regulations, it opened. "In order to promote the efficiency of the Federal service, it is proposed to remove you from the USFWS or otherwise discipline you, at any time after 30 full calendar days from the date you receive this notice. This proposed adverse action is based on the fact that you knowingly provided false and misleading information to Service investigators who were conducting an official inquiry into an allegation of wrongdoing on the part of your supervisor, Ernie Mayer.*

As for Mayer, McMullen failed to reprimand him for having an affair as a married man with a woman (who is now his second wife) on government time and with a government vehicle. McMullen and Doggett subsequently made arrangements to transfer Mayer to headquarters where he was promoted as the SAC for the Branch of Special Operations (GS-14).

McMullen's decision was consistent with a second contemporaneous misconduct matter with ASAC William Zimmerman (Region 3: Retired 2001), who was married and having an affair with an OLE employee named Gay (Zimmerman's current second wife). With Riley's promotion and transfer to headquarters, McMullen made arrangements to transfer Zimmerman to Region One as the ASAC. A short time later McMullen created a position for Gay in Region One and subsequently moved her to Portland, OR at the government's expense

For some twenty years, Riley would attend the annual Safari Club International Foundation convention (<http://www.jesseshunting.com/forums/showthread.php/521> 54-SCI-BoardHires-New-Executive-Director). Unbeknownst to the OLE, Riley's motive in all of this was to upon retirement secure employment with the Safari Club International Foundation. The Safari Club International Foundation hired Riley on January 29, 2004 in the capacity of Chief Executive Director.

For this the OLE paid a *King Ransom*, for Riley was a mole for the Safari Club International Foundation, an organization who members were vigorously investigated and convicted (felonies) by the through

investigations of OLE Special Agents. Some of the ways Riley irrevocably harmed the OLE were:

Sometime in the early nineties Riley made arrangements to have his son Jason Riley placed in FWS Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) ([www.fws.gov/pacific/aba/dcr/docs/SCEP%20Brochure%2099.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/pacific/aba/dcr/docs/SCEP%20Brochure%2099.pdf)). SCEP students are eligible for non-competitive conversion to a career or career conditional appointment within 120 days of degree conferment and satisfactory completion of SCEP program requirements.

Special Agent Jason Riley was originally hired by the OLE as a Wildlife Inspector. As a friends and family member, Riley was selected by the SAC selection committee to become a Special Agent. Riley was initially stationed in Albuquerque, NM. Unlike his Special Agents classmates who weren't friends and family members of the OLE, they were banished to the inner cities of Detroit, Houston, Miami and New York.

But for nepotism, in 2011 Butch Riley's buddy, Gale selected Jason Riley to be a Senior Special Agent in Tallahassee, FL (GS-13). Unfortunately, the OLE is stuck with him until 2030, when he turns fifty-seven.

Torn Riley is a close friend and hunting buddy of Lt. Col. Charlie Clark (retired 2005) of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Baton Rouge, LA). Riley would routinely go hunting with Clark and his son Steven Clark in the vicinity of the Clark's home of Abita Springs, LA.

Although Steven Clark wasn't the sharpest tool in the shed, in 2001 Riley hired Clark as an OLE Special Agent. This arrangement more than solidified Riley's relationship with the senior Clark and Riley would routinely travel on government expense from Georgia to Louisiana at a whim to go hunting.

In December 2001 while attending the Special Agent Basic School at the Federal Law Enforcement Academy (Brunswick, GA), Special Agent Stephen Clark and Special Agent Rory Stark (Stark graduated college with a law degree) were caught cheating on OLE examination. Despite overwhelming physical evidence (matching answers on the test) and the testimony of the proctors, Riley and Adams chose to ignore the evidence and the two candidates were allowed to graduate.

Just like Jason Riley, Clark and Stark received the friends and family members discount rate, with Clark being initially stationed in Slidell in his home state of Louisiana, while Stark returned home to Anchorage, AK, where he remains.

Clark is currently stationed in Lacombe, LA (985.882.3756). Further as a friend and family member and at the expense of other less connected OLE Special Agents, Tom Riley and later Gale spent six figures to train Clark to be a Special Agent Pilot.

In September 2002, Tom Riley traveled to Russia to participate on a Safari Club International Foundation financed bear-hunting trip with billionaire Dan Duncan and several other Safari Club International Foundation members. Riley violated federal law as he didn't claim this *income on his annual on yearly Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (Form 450)*.

Unbeknownst to the OLE, in May 2003 Riley also provided a copy of an official OLE investigative file to Rick Parsons, the Director of Governmental Affairs for the Safari Club International Foundation. Riley also provided the organization with documents and information, which conferred *Designated Port* status to the city of Houston, TX (January 5, 2005), which eventually enabled the clubs wealthy members who resided in Houston the ability import foreign wildlife trophy shipments directly in to the city. The DOI-OIG subsequently investigated Adams and David Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Fish, Wildlife and Parks ([hemustangproject.files.wordpress.com/.../investigative-report-on-davidsmith](http://hemustangproject.files.wordpress.com/.../investigative-report-on-davidsmith)).

Also as the OLE point man with the organization, Riley became good friends with Matthew J. Hogan the lead lobbyist Safari Club International Foundation. At age thirty-eight, Hogan initially joined the Fish and Wildlife Service as a Deputy Director in July 2002. In February 12, 2010, Hogan named Assistant Regional Director for Migratory Birds and State Program of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mountain-Prairie Region.

Conspicuously absent from Hogan's official U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's biography is his previous lobbyist activities for Safari Club International Foundation.

On September 30, 2006, Riley announced his retirement effective September 30th. Riley retired to Ocean Reef Yacht Club (<http://www.oceanreef.com>) in Key Largo, FL, one of the wealthiest gated communities in the United States. Even considering Riley's generous federal annuity, he most likely received many additional inducements during his tenure with the OLE, from his well-heeled friends from the Safari Club International Foundation.

A March 13, 2007 OIG report titled, *United States Fish and Wildlife Service office of Law Enforcement* reported the following (Report Number PI-EV-FWS-0003-2006), as follows:

*In centralizing its inventory process in 2003, we were told that the FWS-OLE Training and Inspection Branch (Pruszenski and Gale) found that their firearms inventory was completely unreliable and identified 71 firearms that were either missing, lacked supporting documentation, or were otherwise not accounted for. Since then, the FWS-OLE Training and Inspection Branch, in collaboration with CFM, has attributed 67 of the potentially 71 missing firearms identified in 2003 to paperwork errors. According to a CFM employee, the firearms inventory has improved 110 percent in the past year and that he would give it a B<sup>+</sup> grade.*

*Despite this improvement to the firearms inventory, senior management failed to adequately follow up on the four remaining missing firearms. We discovered that two of the four missing firearms had been assigned to a former Regional SAC (Riley) who left the agency in 2004. We were told there was an additional firearm attributed to this same former SAC that had originally been purchased in 1998 but had never been entered into the Service's inventory systems.*

*As early as February 2004, at least two of the three firearms attributed to the former SAC (Riley) were reported (by former Special Agent Rick Giovengo - terminated June 2009) (Giovengo is currently employed by Lockheed @ 843-740-6627 [Rick. D. Giovengo@uscg.mil](mailto:Rick.D.Giovengo@uscg.mil)) to the FWS-OLE Chief (Adams), Deputy chief (Perez), and the Training and Inspections Branch SAC (Pruszenski and Gale). However, no investigation or other effort to recover the firearms was ever conducted by FWS-OLE. When asked why she (Pieters) did not act on this issue, one senior manager stated that property management was one of her many job responsibilities. This was representative of management's lack of urgency to recover the*



*firearms. An<sup>y</sup> missing firearm poses a potential risk to public safety and creates a liability<sup>y</sup> jbr FWS-OLE.*

*In November 2006, after learning of the three missing firearms attributed to the former SAC (Riley), the OIG initiated an investigation. OIG investigators visited the former SAC (Riley) to inquire about the firearms. We were later told by an FWS-OLE official that within an hour of the OIG investigators visit, the former SAC (Riley) contacted FWS-OLE to make arrangements to return the firearms. The fact that these weapons were out of FWS-OLE custody, with senior management knowledge, for nearly 3 years is unacceptable.*

On July 18, 2007, Duncan voluntarily appeared before a grand jury in Houston. Although Duncan was not indicted, his guide who led Duncan and others on the September 2002 hunting trip in Russia were indicted by a federal grand jury in Houston on for importing antlers and horns he allegedly knew were obtained illegally, in violation of the Lacey Act, a law which makes it illegal to import wildlife that was obtained in violation of any other country's laws. The guide was Robert Kern, head of Berryville, VA, based outfitter, *The Hunting Consortium* (<http://huntingconsortium.com>) organized the September 2002 hunting trip to Siberia.

Duncan and at least four others hunted and killed moose and sheep while flying in a helicopter. Although Riley was the only hunter who did not shoot while hovering, he failed to report the violations to either the Russian or OLE authorities. Hunting from an aircraft is illegal in Russia and the United States. Duncan was considered the wealthiest man in Houston and ranks 85th on Forbes' worldwide list of billionaires, with an estimated net worth of \$8.2 billion.

The 2002 trip was also well known in the world of big-game hunters. Mike Simpson, a Conroe, TX taxidermist who went on the trip with his son, Travis Simpson (videographer), wrote an article about it in the January/February 2003 issue of *Safari*, a magazine published by the Safari Club International Foundation. Pictures from the hunt were also published in *Orvis*, a quarterly magazine for sheep hunters.

The trip also stood out because of the caliber of the hunters. Riley was on the trip, as well as Mexican businessman Hubert Thummler.

Thunimler is a retired Mexican businessman who started hunting in Africa at the end of the *Go/den Age*. In June 2008 a jury found the Simpsons and Thumniler not guilty.

Just like Riley the current poor moral in OLE Region Seven (Alaska) and the distrust of the OLE among the *Indigenous Peoples of Alaska* can be traced back to Mark Webb when he was the RAC/Pilot (GS-13) in Fairbanks, AK. Webb is a narrow-minded Mark Fuhrman-like racist who persecuted the *Indigenous Peoples of Alaska*.

Webb routinely made vitriolic and malevolent allegations against the *Indigenous Peoples of Alaska* to the media and the press, with nary a shred of testimonial or physical evidence. Webb was so vilified that Regional Director David Allen was ultimately forced to demote Webb to a GS-12 Special Agent in order to save his job. In an effort to save face with the OLE, Allen's made a management decision to create and transfer Webb at government expense to a new duty station in Lincoln, NE, Webb's home state. The message that the OLE received was that bigotry was acceptable and the worst possible outcome in a disciplinary proceeding was not termination, but a government expense paid move back to your home state, which is the objective of the majority of the OLE Special Agents anyway.

During the aforementioned time period, Webb corrupted several Special Agents who were stationed in Alaska, including his subordinate, Special Agent Charles William "Corky" Roberts who eventually replace Webb as the RAC/Pilot in Fairbanks. As Roberts' supervisor, Webb showed Roberts and the others in Alaska how it was all right for them to misuse government vehicles and aircraft to transport family members on recreational hunting/fishing trips throughout Alaska. Webb also conditioned Roberts into believing the *indigenous Peoples of Alaska* were inferior and they should be humiliated and persecuted. Webb also taught Roberts and others to use racial slurs and epithets such as *Pie*, when referring to Native Alaskans.

Once Webb was transferred to Nebraska, his best bud Mowad allowed him to maintain his government pilots license even though he crashed and wrecked three planes in Alaska. Moreover, after the transfer took place Mowad would periodically allow Webb travel back to Alaska to train other less experienced pilots stationed in Alaska including, Roberts, Stan Pruszenski, Special Agent Steve Stoinski and Special Agent Michael Wade.

In interacting with the aforementioned Special Agents, Webb further hardened his co-workers against the *Indigenous Peoples of Alaska* through intolerance and incendiary comments, which was akin to spraying gas on a fire. History would repeat itself in 2003, when Stoinski provided derogatory information to DOI-OIG that he along with Pruszenski, Roberts, Wade and other OLE employees in Region Seven, were misusing government vehicles and aircraft to transport family members on recreational hunting/fishing trips throughout Alaska.

Although the DOI-OIG investigation disclosed the aforementioned offending individuals also used racial slurs and epithets such as *Pie*, when referring to *Indigenous Peoples of Alaska*, the disciplinary results were similar to that of Webb. Roberts was to demote to a GS-12 Special Agent and management made a decision to create and transfer Roberts at government expense to a new duty station in Richland, WA (509.546.8344), Robert's home state. Chang recently promoted Roberts to a GS-13.

### **Special Agents Roberts and Stoinski**

**In** the late nineties at the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Woody hired Stoinski as a game warden and his wife Linda S. Stoinski as the Division's Legislative Coordinator. While employed in Utah the couple learned from Woody and his cronies the nuances of misusing state vehicles for personal purposes.

When Stoinski was initially hired by the OLE and stationed in Grand Junction, CO. he and his wife used an OLE vehicle to go deer hunting trip. They would have gotten away with their misdeed except for getting in a vehicular accident. Stoinski merely was given a slap on the wrist and within a short period of time he was promoted and off to Fairbanks, AK, courtesy of an all expense paid move by the OLE. Upon arriving in Alaska he was selected over more qualified candidates and trained at government expense to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars to be a Special Agent Pilot.

While in Fairbanks, Stoinski worked for Roberts who by this time had expanded upon Webb's scheme to misuse government aircraft, boats and vehicles. Pruszenski and Roberts had gotten more creative by fabricating a written log and corresponding documents wherein friends and family members were allowed to accompany OLE Special Agents in government aircraft, boats and vehicles, under the guise that they acted as an *Observer*.

The entire Alaska Region of OLE Special Agents were in on the sham, going on one personal hunting/fishing trip after another throughout the wilderness of Alaska, logging hundreds and hundreds of hours of aviation/boat time. The façade would have lasted for decades but for the fact that the Region was spending so much money on fuel and equipment maintenance costs that the Region had to cut back on Stoinski's flight training.

In a fit of rage in 2003, Stoinski filed a complaint with the DOI OIG, not smart enough to realize he was implicating himself at the same time. Stoinski has been ostracized by the OLE ever since. Although Stoinski has tried mightily to transfer to as Special Agent to other federal law enforcement agencies since then, he hasn't been successful because of his Giglio issues in the Alaska investigation as well as the prior administrative investigation in Colorado wherein it was determined he wrecked/misused a government vehicle outside the scope of his employment.

In 2010 with the knowledge of the aforementioned, while Woody was the Chief of the BLM he preselected (absent a vacancy announcement) his understudy Stoinski to become the BLM SAC in Billings, MT. Woody misappropriated government funds for Stoinski to make at least two trips of long duration while on per diem, to Billings, MT to see if the promotion was suitable. Stoinski would have remained in the position but for the fact that his home in Green Bay, WI was so far underwater that he couldn't sell unless he filed for bankruptcy.

### **Special Agent Misconduct**

Why are Special Agents (Grade Series 1811) in other agencies terminated and OLE Special Agents are allowed to continue to work and even promoted? They calculate the risk of being caught. They live on the margins. Why doesn't Woody stop the OLE Special Agents from using government assets as monopoly money, as their own personal piggy bank in furtherance of their personal lifestyles?

It is our understanding in all criminal/civil cases the government is under a constitutional obligation to disclose upon a defendant's request material evidence to establish the credibility of government witnesses (i.e.: exculpatory evidence, misconduct issues, credibility issues or lack of candor issues), *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83(1963); including evidence which

may be used to impeach a government witnesses *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 105, 154 (1972) ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giglio\\_v.\\_United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giglio_v._United_States)).

Moreover, with respect to potential impeachment information, the government is also obligated upon a defendant's request to examine the personnel files of government employees it intends to call as witnesses in a criminal trial in order to determine if any portions of the files ought to be made available to the defense for impeachment purposes, once the defense has made a demand for their production [*United States v. Henthorn*; 931 F.2d 29 (9th Cir. 1991 )].

The Circle of Seven administers discipline with a slap on the wrist. One would surmise OLE Special Agents continue to be affiants on affidavits for search/arrest warrants and even testify under oath in court and before Congress, to include the House Natural Resources Committee.

Why does are OLE allow Special Agents who have Giglio/Henthorn issues in their to remain on the payroll of the OLE?

Sometime in the early 1990s while married, SAC Adam O'Hara started having an affair with Patricia Rogers who was a secretary. When the affair turned sour, Rogers filed a grievance and was awarded a position as a Special Agent. If you have any doubt that Rogers is working a half dozen pay grades over her head, just ask her staff.

Scully who prefers the fair sex, was also the subject of a civil litigation for harassing a woman while she was stationed in Atlanta for the OLE as a WI.

In 2007 Assistant Special Agent in Charge Juliana Scully (Region2) became the Chief, Division of Law Enforcement. While stationed at headquarters Scully was investigated (2009) by the DOI-OIG who determined that Scully had lied in an official administrative investigation. Mowad who at the time was Scully's immediate supervisor didn't terminate Scully.

Why did Woody recently create a GS- 15 special project position for Scully? Because as a member of the *Good Old Boy* network she can

continue to work and be eligible for a full law enforcement retirement annuity when she turns fifty in October 2013. Moreover, Woody and his predecessors have violated OPM policy because Scully who is a *Type One Diabetic* and all *Type One Diabetics* for that matter are prohibited from occupying law enforcement positions because of the medical implications of being a *Type One Diabetic*.

Chang has been the subject of several administrative investigations regarding harassment of an OLE employee(s). Whether in marriage or as a divorcee, Chang preys upon young college age women who are attempting to enter the OLE workforce.

Sometime in 2004 while married, Chang started having an affair with Ali Martyn, which would eventually result in him hiring her as a Wildlife Inspector in San Francisco, CA. Martyn had no prior wildlife experience. Chang would periodically fly from Portland, OR on government expense to rekindle the fling.

In 2006, when Martyn became interested in dating Wildlife Inspector Joe Ventura (Torrance, CA), she was able to persuade Chang to move her at government expense to Southern California. Martyn and Ventura eventually married.

Chang really knows how to tap the government piggy bank. Every year he sees fit to conduct a trip within his region as a perk for his RACs and in part because he can't afford a vacation because of his high alimony payments. In 2010 RAC Dean and Crum (Sacramento, CA) organized a confab at the beautifully appointed Portola Hotel and Spa at Monterey Bay ([www.portolahotel.com](http://www.portolahotel.com)), for themselves and at least four others, from June 21st to June 25th. Crum must have really enjoyed himself because he collected per diem through at least June 26th.

According to Rogers, Espinosa who was enrolled in the SCEP program in 2008, was Chang's most recent sexual quarry.

Chang was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii, Hawaii. An examination of his official government travel reimbursements will substantiate he fabricates government travel at will to travel his home state of Hawaii and the Pacific commonwealth territories.

Sometime in 2005/2006 Amato went on a bender/skirt chasing in a bar adjacent to the OLE headquarters. After waiting for a period of time to sober up, Amato attempted to drive home in his personal vehicle, but only got as far as the entrance of the underground parking garage because he crashed his personal vehicle into the metal security gate, breaking it. Rather than spending overnight in a hotel or using a rental car to commute for several days (at the time Amato lived some 60 miles away in Sykesville, MD) until repairs could be made to his vehicle, he chose to use a government vehicle in violation of policy. Moreover, the security to the OLE building was compromised for several days until the security gate could be repaired.

Sometime in the winter of 2012, Amato (Region 5) was placed on administrative paid leave for illegally hiring a woman as his executive secretary, with whom he was accused of having a consensual on-duty sexual relationship.

Amato has routinely rewarded preferential treatment to his friends. In 2004 he promoted Special Agent Andre Cortez (GS-12) to become the RAC (GS-13) for a new Special Operations Office in Richmond, VA 804.771.2883) with the knowledge Cortez had suffered a *nervous breakdown*. Amato has an allegiance for Cortez because they were co-workers with the California Department of Fish and Game.

The only reason why the Special Operations Office was being set up in Richmond, VA was for the fact that Cortez was living in Richmond, VA. In establishing a new Special Operations Office, Cortez spent lavishly to the tune of several hundreds of thousands of dollars in decorating and leasing the facility.

Within a short period of time Cortez realized he was over his head so he resigned from being a supervisor, yet Amato allowed Cortez to keep his pay/GS-13 grade. Although it much longer before the Special Operations presence was terminated in Richmond, VA because of a lack of a geographic/investigative viability, Amato created yet another position for Cortez, so Cortez could eventually retire in Richmond, VA.

Special Agent David Sykes had previously been forced to resign from The United States Secret Service (LISSS) when they discovered he had committed perjury in a criminal trial, prior to him being employed by the

USSS. Despite this the *Circle of Seven* hired Sykes and in 2010 Amato promoted Sykes to the position of RAC, Chelsea, MA (GS-13).

When Amato was the SAC of the Branch of Special Operations, he would routinely fabricated government travel. On one occasion he arranged to travel to Colorado under the guise of a meeting, when in fact it was a ruse to go Elk hunting with his subordinates RAC George Morrison, RAC Leo Suazo, Special Agent Curtis Graves (Littleton, CO - 720.981.2777), and other unknown Special Agents. The Colorado Division of Wildlife maintains records of hunting licenses issued to both resident and non-resident applicants.

The term law enforcement officer (primary position) in the retirement statutes concerns "the duties of whose positions are primarily the investigation, apprehension, or detention of persons suspected or convicted of offenses against the criminal laws of the United States...", per 5 U.S.C. §8331(20) and 5 U.S.C. §8401(17). All OLE Special Agents are eligible for an enhanced law enforcement retirement annuity.

The statutory definition of law enforcement officer also includes an employee who moves directly to a supervisory/administrative law enforcement officer position (secondary position) from a frontline or 'primary position' law enforcement officer position (i.e., a position the primary duties of which are "investigation, apprehension, or detention of persons suspected or convicted of offenses against the criminal laws of the United States..."), per definitions of primary and secondary positions at 5 CFR 831.902 and 5 CFR 842.802.

However all FERS employees need three years in a primary position to retain their eligibility for an enhanced law enforcement retirement annuity if they transfer to a secondary position.

In Amato's case, he was initially hired by the OLE in 1998 as a Special Agent (primary position) and stationed in Baltimore, MD. Within twenty months he was promoted to the Resident Agent in Charge (secondary position) for Baltimore, MD and has continuously worked in a secondary position. Like Amato's predecessors, Woody continues protect Amato so Amato will ultimately illegally collect an enhanced law enforcement retirement annuity.



Amato is but one of the Special Agents who has accepted gifts (food, lodging, travel, etc.) from foreign governmental agencies in relation international travel, who has failed to report said gifts in violation of 5 USC § 7342. Amato who routinely travels overseas (Kenya and later Doha, Qatar in 2009/20 10) is but one of many Special Agent who are in noncompliance.

Sometime in 2012, Woody finally placed Amato on administrative leave, but the question remains will Amato be given a slap on the wrist or will he be terminated.

On or about September 30, 2008 was SA Steven Tuttle last day working for the OLE. As a retirement gift Pruszenski flew Tuttle from Anchorage, AK and Ketchikan, AK and back to attend his retirement party.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) draws on collaboration and cooperation of the ten ASEAN member nations to fight cross-border wildlife trafficking in Southeast Asia. The ASEAN-WEN participants include environmental, law enforcement, and customs agencies in Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand and the OLE.

Several OLE Special Agents have been detailed as liaison officers to ASEAN-WEN in Bangkok, Thailand for six months to one year periods of time since 2008. These officers have been involved in training development, investigative consultation and assistance, intelligence liaison, and the presentation of both on-the-job and formal training programs.

Special Agent Obe Lowry (Anchorage, AK - 907.271.2828) was one of the individuals who were detailed to ASEAN-WEN. While on detail overseas Lowry went rouge in compromising the OLE standing in ASEAN-WEN by going on drinking binges and frequenting the company of prostitutes.

Although the OLE had to recall Lowry for jeopardizing the OLE relationship with ASEAN-WEN prior to his completing his assignment, his supervisors (Pruszenski et al.) failed to discipline him. Although Lowry's behavior and the misconduct of his colleagues is acceptable to OLE

management, clearly this behavior is not in keeping with the professional standards expected of other members of the law enforcement fraternity.

They OLE expend government funds to buy expensive cameras, blackberry telephones, GPS devices, hunting equipment and ammunition. There is a total lack of inventory control and many items are merely used or for ones personal use. Many Special Agents don't do any migratory bird fieldwork, yet they too continue to buy hunting equipment, for personal use. Conversely there should be strong internal controls over property to address risks associated with the waste, loss, and unauthorized use of assets.

It would be interesting to see how much hunting/fishing equipment the OLE purchases for Amato's Jackson's hunting/fishing excursions, as these activities aren't part of their official job description.

Sometime in 2008/2009 Special Agent/Pilot Michael Wade (Nome. AK - 907.443.2479) used his position to secure a permit to hunt muskoxen on a FWS refuge (possible Selawik National Wildlife Refuge). It is further alleged that Wade received preferential treatment because he participated in the hunt with a Refuge Officer/Pilot who is an Alaskan Native. Government aircraft may have been involved as well.

Reminiscent of the *Tail Hook Drinking Scandal* Cristina Thornhlom-Kish the Supervisory Intelligence Analyst at the OLE Headquarters organizes the drunken swim across the Potomac River, sans swimsuits, whenever the Special Agents have their *In-Service Law Enforcement Refresher Training* at the NCTC. Does anyone ask why the NCTC even serves alcohol to OLE Special Agents who are battling alcoholism, at a discount no less? Special Agent Tom Ricardi, (Hartford, CT, Phone: 860-871-8348) and Special Agent Eric Holmes (East Orland, ME, Phone: 207-469-6842) are on the top of the list. Holmes is also notoriously hard on government equipment; when he is not sinking a government boat or wrecking a government vehicle, he is merely destroying or losing other types of government equipment that are assigned to him.

During the summer of 2011 Nick Chavez was subject of DOI-OIG Investigation, yet he remains a SAC. Chavez, who is aware that Bryant is a skirt chaser, has failed to council Bryant about the inappropriateness and implications of this behavior as a married man.

Special Agent Al Colby (Burlingame, CA - 650.876.9078) was hired by the OLE sometime around 2006, after resigning from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement under questionable circumstances. Colby considers himself as an amateur herpetologist who collects and possesses various endemic and exotic species of reptiles, including poisonous reptiles.

Colby resides in Castro Valley California (Alameda County), wherein the county prohibits the private possession of exotic animals or poisonous reptiles in neighborhoods within city limits. Colby is a close friend of several notorious and felonious reptile smugglers who have been investigated and summarily convicted by the OLE. On occasion when these individuals travel, Colby will oversee their collections and occasionally receive reptiles as compensation for services rendered. Among some of Colby's closest herpers are Bruce Feidhammer, Randy Graham, David Rittenhouse, Robert J. Stene and Karl Switeck. Chang and ASAC Crumb are aware of the aforementioned, acting under the belief that what Colby does on his own time is his business.

Is SAC Luis Santiago (Atlanta, GA - 404.679.7057) still using an emergency blue light in both his personal and government vehicle to unlawfully access High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes during the commuting hours? Clearly this was his modus operandi when he was stationed at the OLE Headquarters and unlawfully commuted on Interstate 66 in the HOV lane(s). He answers to the moniker *Blue Light*.

On May 22, 2012, Suazo was involved in a shooting incident. The incident occurred when Suazo confronted suspects involved in an ongoing burglary. The suspects attempted to run Suazo over with their vehicle, and SA Suazo responded by firing into that vehicle. The suspects were not shot and were arrested by local police a short time later.

Reminiscent of the *George Zimmerman Investigation*, the DOI-OIG is currently investigating the matter to ascertain why Suazo was pursuing burglary suspects.

### **Misuse of Government Vehicles**

Woody has allowed every OLE Special Agent (including all supervisory Special Agents) with the exception of the half a dozen Special Agents who are assigned to headquarters the use of a government vehicle to

commute from their residence to their official duty station. The OLE fleet surpasses two hundred fifty vehicles, the majority which are fuel inefficient gas guzzling <sup>3/4</sup> ton SUVs.

The Special Agents have created *policies* to protect themselves. *These policies* have allowed them to use their vehicles to run personal errands to and from work; they allow themselves to live and commute with said vehicle, in some instances in excess of forty miles; they are reimbursed for highway road tolls: and even more egregiously they receive LEAP while commuting. A small and limited sample include:

Since 1998, RAC George Morrison has resided in Pine, CO where he has been commuting some 45 miles to his office in Littleton, CO

RAC Suazo II resides in Bailey, CO some 55 miles from his office in Commerce City, CO. Suaz&s job performance is further impacted because he must first drive his wife Jannel Suazo who is a FWS employee, in his government assigned vehicle to and from her office in Denver, CO.

Prior Government Service Administration studies have substantiated that 90% of the mileage accrued on an OLE vehicle is mileage which is amassed when driving between one residence and ones official duty station. Moreover, OLE Special Agents have the smallest caseloads of any GS- 1811 criminal investigator. At a minimum, the DOI-OIG should install GPS tracking device on each and every OLE vehicle.

Despite the perk of being assigned a government vehicle, many OLE Special Agents have been convicted of *Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol* (Resident Agent in Charge Thomas Karabanoff— Edmond, OK - 405.715.0617), while others of have misused government vehicles (RAC Andrew Aloise and Special agent Kenny Kessler; Topeka, KS - 785.232.5 149) and even totaled them (Steven Stoinski - Green Bay, WI - 920.866.1750) when they have chosen to use them on personal junkets.

Being a model employee the following is an article. which Karabanoff wrote about Leadership Etiquette and Common Sense in 2011:

[\(http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi\\_m2194/is\\_3\\_80/ai\\_n57237498/\)](http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m2194/is_3_80/ai_n57237498/)

Despite Aloise's actions, SAC Gale (Region Four - Atlanta. GA-404.679.70-57) chose to promote Alosie (GS-14) and transfer him from North Carolina to Groveland, Florida (352.429.1037) to be closer to his family in Florida.

### **Grade Inflation**

OLE Special Agents are among the highest-paid federal employees. Their salaries (\$ 150,000+) and pensions are far superior to attorneys, astronauts, congressmen, engineer's governor's veterinarians or just about any other professional occupation. Many merely have a GED and they all are allowed to retire at a time of their choosing anytime between 50 and 57 years of age.

Woody has followed in the footsteps of his predecessors and allowed the OLE to be run as an inefficient operation by corrupt bureaucrats who live on bloated paychecks. OLE Special Agents upon retirement leave office rich capitalizing on their positions.

When the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Congress were proposing agencies to cut their budgets, Woody and the Circle of Seven were giving all the Special Agents pay raises, by raising raise the journeymen pay grade from a GS-12 to a GS-13 and all RAC positions from a GS-13 to a GS-14. Woody effectively circumvented Congresses' two-year pay-freeze measure.

Nor did Woody miss a beat of misusing public funds when in 2011, he created a new regional office in Sacramento, California (Region Eight), thereby appointing Jill Birchell the SAC (GS-15 - 916.414.6660) and Daniel Crumb the ASAC (GS- 14) and a countless number administrative positions. *Now the Circle of Seven is referred to as the Circle of Eight.*

In yet another example of circumventing Congresses' two-year pay-freeze measure, Woody created a SAC (GS-14) position for the newly created Digital Evidence Recovery and Technical Support Branch. Woody being enamored by USSS selected former USSS Special Agent Edward J. Lewis as the SAC, who at the time was stationed at the OLE headquarters as a GS- 13 desk officer.

Although Woody lists this position as being located at the OLE headquarters, Woody who is smitten by Lewis. allowed Lewis to move back to his home state of Florida at government expense. In reality Lewis works at 701 San Marco Blvd., Suite 7 West, Jacksonville, FL. Moreover, does Lewis even have the educational/technical background in computer forensic science or is he just part of the *Good Old Boy Network*?

Not to be overlooked in creating Lewis' SAC position, how does Woody justify this duplicate personal action when. George Volentir has been the OLE Branch Chief for LE Data (Computer) Systems, for at least two decades? Unlike Lewis, Volentir does have a forensic background in computer sciences. Michael Macleod a Computer Specialist works in the same offices as Volentir. Although, Volentir's and Macleod positions are listed as being located at OLE Headquarters, their positions are in fact physically located in Denver, CO (303.275-2400).

In yet another example, Woody has the SAC Internal Affairs position listed as being located at headquarters. SAC Toomey who resides in Greencastle. PA used to use his personal vehicle to commute some 85 miles away to the OLE headquarters. in order to accommodate Toomey, Woody has allowed Toomey to work out of the NCTC (698 Conservation Way Shepherdstown, WV 25443), which is now only some 35 miles away from Toomey's residence. Said accommodation merely helps Toomey and is a deterrent to the *Mission of the OLE*.

Which begs the question, does anyone even work at the OLE Headquarters (4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia, USA 22203 - 703.358.1949)? Why then is Woody paying rent on so many vacant offices on the third floor?

### **Law Enforcement Availabilit<sup>y</sup> Pa (LEAP)**

All OLE Special Agents are *required to be available to work* ten or more hours a week (520 + hours a year) beyond the Monday to Friday workweek (0800hrs to 1700hrs) in order to receive a pay enhancement of twenty five percent over their base pay. For example, an OLE Special Agent, whose yearly base salary is \$100,000, receives an annual salary of \$125.000. Moreover, this twenty five percent enhancement is added to ones retirement annuity.

To be perfectly clear, the operative words used to receive this enhanced pay are - *required to be available to work*. In actuality OLE Special Agents rarely work any additional hours at all, yet they still receive a twenty five percent pay enhancement each year they are employed, through retirement. In reality OLE Special Agents just need to be in telephone contact with their supervisor to be called back to work. Rather, OLE Special Agents rarely actual work, they merely receive enhancement pay for conducting personal matters - or commuting up to four hours a day in a government vehicle between their residence and their official duty station.

The rub in all of this is, with few exceptions, OLE Special Agents were and continue to be AWOL when it comes to criminally investigating the worst environmental disaster in United States history, the April 20, 2010 explosion of British Petroleum's *Deepwater Horizon*.

**OLE Rewardin<sup>2</sup> Bad Behavior - S<sup>p</sup>ecial Agents Can Live  
An<sup>y</sup>where TheN Want - Annuit' Enhancement - Move at  
Government Expense to the Retirement Destination of Your Choosing**

In December 2005. the OLE completed an exhaustive two-year study *to implement a Strategic Plan and Workforce Planning Process for the period 2006-2010 for Protecting Our Wildlife Resources (OLE Strategic Plan)* (<http://www.fws.gov/le/AbOLItLE/OLEStrategicPlanDec2005.pdf>). In implementing the plan the study also determined the duty stations were Special Agents would be geographically stationed to implement said plan. Thousands of man-hours and several million of dollars were expended to fly/lodge the *Circle of Eight*'s cronies about the North America continent and Trust Territories. Even though specific duty stations were chosen the *Circle of Eight* chose to ignore these decisions whenever it was in the best interest of their cronies to be located elsewhere.

Just like the Bell California elected officials, Woody and many of the *Circle of Eight* should be terminated or prosecuted for misappropriating millions of dollars. Woody and the *Circle of Eight* have a character flaw. As managers they are driven by materialism and in the process they have lost their ability to self govern themselves.

If at the end of your career you have been a loyal crony of Woody's or the *Circle of Eight* you will rewarded for your allegiance and promoted in

order to enhance ones high-three years of employment. In other instances cronies are moved at government expense to a geographic locality where they intend to retire. In the later example if the crony works one year in his last duty station, he/she doesn't have to reimburse the government for said moving expenses.

Woody and the *Circle of Eight* don't recognize that in today's economic climate and with the financial hardships so many families are suffering the aforementioned blatant compensation decisions are not only unacceptable, but also illegal.

Woody and the *Circle of Eight* believe they can treat public funds like Monopoly money. Even as the public deals with double-digit unemployment and inflation eating into their paychecks, Woody and the *Circle of Eight* creatively finds a way to boost the salary and pension of the members of the *Good Old Boy Network*.

Between 2002 and 2011, Gale and Chavez connived to transfer Special Agent Mark Johnson back and forth between Grenada, MS and Texas in order for Johnson to find a comfortable place to retire. Johnson Ultimately decided to retire in Texas in December 2011.

In 2005, Special Agent Craig Tabor was the RAC for the OLE in Boise, ID, when his wife discovered he was having an affair. Tabor then became involved with another woman who was from Michigan and the OLE created a field position for him and moved him at government expense to Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Tabor eventually married the woman. When she wanted to move to Illinois, labor' good friend Jackson moved them to Rosemont, IL in 2008 at government expense, where labor eventually became the RAC.

Jackson was the Division Chief for the OLE in Arlington, VA in 2005/2006, when he selected Special Agent Merrell Tidwell to become a Senior Special Agent/Desk Officer at the OLE Headquarters. Tidwell and Jackson became fast friends. Even though Tidwell exhibited an abrasive and assertive attitude amongst his coworkers and the public, Jackson overlooked



these traits and gave Tidwell favorable evaluations, because of their friendship.

In-<sup>1</sup>006/2007, Jackson became the SAC for Region Three. In 2007, Jackson selected Tidwell to become the RAC for Ann Arbor, MI. In this capacity, Tidwell oversaw a staff of Special Agents, WI and an administrative staff that worked in Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

This was Tidwell's first experience as a supervisor and he was an abysmal failure. You need two hands to count the number of employee grievances filed against Tidwell. Woody's response was to transfer Tidwell at government expense to Denver, CO. where he will become the RAC there, and Region Six's problem!

Chang is notorious for arbitrarily changing a RAC Office from state to state or city to city to promote/enhance the transition of his friends into retirement. Such was the case in 2006 when Chang randomly promoted his friend Special Agent Edward Dominguez (GS-12) to be the RAC (GS-13) in Las Vegas, NV, when there was no prior history of a Resident Agent in Charge office being located in Las Vegas, NV. The RAC office had previously located in Boise, ID. Such action significantly enhanced Dominguez' retirement, when he retired in November 2009.

In 2006, Arnato selected his buddy Special Agent John Neal (GS-13 Salt Lake City, UT) to be the RAC, Valley Steam New York. Neal retired in 2008 with a grade of GS- 14. Amato allowed Neal to telecommute back and forth between Salt Lake City, UT (Neal's principal residence where his family resided) and Long Island where Neal maintained an apartment. Said move from a low geographic pay locality to a high geographic pay locality increased Neal's retirement by 20% +/-.

During Neal's tenure in New York, Amato had been made aware that Special Agents and the WI were at odds with one another, yet Amato did nothing. WI Andrew Steelman took advantage of this discord within the office and he began to embezzle wildlife inspection fees.

In 2007, Amato and Pruzenski moved RAC Kim W. Speckman at government expense from Baltimore, MD to Fairbanks, AK. She retired December 2008.

In 2007, Chavez and Perez moved Senior Special Agent Marty Hernandez a GED graduate at government expense from Arlington, VA to Houston, TX. He retired January 1, 2012.

In 2008 Amato and Gale connived to transfer Special Agent Tim Ballard from Richmond, VA at government expense to his home state of Arkansas, where he retired in October 2009.

As a married man, Amato has a reputation within the OLE for having a wandering eye. Amato was particularly smitten by Special Agent Ellen Kiley, who formerly worked for him in Chelsea, MA until sometime in 2009.

Through this relationship Kiley confided she had family obligations in Nebraska that necessitated her being transferred there at government expense. Amato and Oherholtzer then schemed to create an entirely new duty station in Beatrice, NE, a town with a population of 12,000 and a locality with absolutely no nexus with the *Mission of the OLE*. Again the *OLE Strategic Plan for the period 2006-2010* specifies that the two Nebraska OLE Special Agents who were already stationed in Nebraska, will be collocated with the FWS Ecological Services in Grand Island, NE.

Once the transfer was effectuated it became apparent that Kiley was having a long distance relationship from Massachusetts with Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Officer Jeff K. Goeckler. The couple would eventually married and settled in Washington, KS an even smaller town of 1,200, which is some fifty miles from Beatrice, NE.

In 2009, Amato selected his hunting buddy William Anderson (GS-1 I Harrisburg, PA) to be Neil's replacement as the RAC, Valley Steam New York (516.825.3950x231). Anderson will retire in 2012 with a grade of GS-14. Amato allows Anderson to occasionally use a government vehicle to commute back and forth between Harrisburg, PA (Anderson's principal residence where his family resides) and Long Island where Anderson maintains an apartment.

Anderson is out of shape, overweight jovial sort of guy who is better suited as a Santa Claus, once his hair turns grey and he grows a beard. He has had a non-distinguished career (non supervisory/never made a arrest or

testified before a Grand Jury) and he was hired by an earlier regime of Special Agents because he allowed them to hunt on his property in upstate New York. Since these hunting forays are continuing under the present regime, the OLE invested ten of thousands of dollars to make 55-year-old Anderson a supervisor. Said promotion and move from a low geographic pay locality to a high geographic pay locality will enhance Anderson's retirement by 33% +/-.

Senior Special Agent Andrey Guidera (Valley Stream, NY - 516.825.3950) has led a charmed life as yet another close crony of Arnato's. Guidera's first occupation is that of a semiprofessional mountain biker. Although he has only worked for the OLE for some ten years, the *Circle of Eight* and in particular Amato and Oberholtzer have moved Guidera at government expense some six times (Hope Valley, RI, Amherst, MA, Mount Prospect, IL, Grand Junction, CO and Valley Stream, NY) to allow Guidera to pursue his mountain bike career (<http://www.usacycling.org/sitesearch.php>).

To a lesser extent Chang and Gale allow Special Agent John Elofson to move back and forth between California and Florida (Ft. Meyers, FL - 239 561-8144).

Robert Prieksat has been an OLE Special Agent since 1998 and the RAC (GS-13) in Pierre, SD, for the States of Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota since the mid 1990s. Throughout his career Prieksat has been a conceited, ill-mannered officious individual who was bad mannered and offensive to the public.

More to the point in 2004, South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds' office sat down with Mowad, and voiced concerns about Prieksat's behavior in the field. Mowad asked for a chance to coach Prieksat on how to deal with hunters. But after three more years of complaints about Prieksat's abrasive and aggressive behavior dealing with hunters, the Governor's office is stepped in again ([http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/news/local/top-stories/article\\_acb6d4b76060-558\\_a-93\\_0\\_f-3\\_0\\_f8\\_8e2\\_72770.html](http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/news/local/top-stories/article_acb6d4b76060-558_a-93_0_f-3_0_f8_8e2_72770.html)).

The Governor's office said there's been no change, so it's telling all South Dakota officials and Game, Fish, and Parks officers not to co-operate or work with Prieksat. Rounds said, "We want some folks who have some

decent bedside manner, whether they be a law enforcement officer with the Highway Patrol or the F.B.I or one of our game wardens, or someone who is representing U.S. Fish and Wildlife. We simply think they have to be able to treat the citizens of this state with dignity and respect."

Prieksat's actions have given South Dakota a bad reputation because people sometimes have thought he worked for the state in an area that draws thousands of waterfowl hunters each fall. Hunters claimed that Prieksat has tried to intimidate them with rudeness, vulgar tirades or aggression. More than sixty people filed written complaints and many people signed petitions calling for his removal.

However, an internal investigation by the OLE cleared Prieksat of the misconduct allegations.

The Associated Press reported - *A US. Fish and Wildlife Service agent whom Gov. Mike Rounds publicly criticized for allegedly harassing hunters has moved to a new state. Bob Prieksat is the regional agent in charge of South Dakota, North Dakota and Nebraska. Prieksat now is based in Omaha, Neb., in a move that was effective Sept. 28, 2009. A spokesman for the Fish and Wildlife Service said the move was at Prieksat's request. Prieksat refused comment. He is the supervisor for SD, ND and NE. Bob Prieksat now is based in Omaha (Fort Calhoun, NE). He is the regional agent in charge of South Dakota, North Dakota and Nebraska. He still supervises fish and wildlife law enforcement programs in the three states. A spokesman (Oberholtzer) for the Fish and Wildlife Service said the move (at the government's expense) was at Prieksat's request (where he will retire in December 2013. Prieksat move to Fort Calhoun, NE (402.468.4218) was predicated in reuniting with his family there and his wife securing a promotion in the new locality.*

The OLE hasn't had any presence in Omaha, NE for decades until Prieksat's arrival in contravention of the *OLE Strategic Plan*. Within a short period of time, Prieksat went into retirement mode and although he gave up his supervisory authority, he retained his GS-14 salary.

Like Prieksat, Chang's buddy the Wilsonville Oregon RAC Robert Romero (503.682.6131) recently went into retirement mode when he resigned in place to take a Senior Special Agent position, with no responsibility and the same pay. The only problem is that the earliest

Romero can retire is October 2018. Romero's wife Special Agent Kathryn Looney is already on extended leave from the Wilsonville Office since October 2006.

Similarly, Pruszenski is conniving with Woody for the government to move him at government expense to the lower forty-eight before his retirement date of August 2015. Pruszenski talks about reuniting with family in Phoenix, AZ. so the question begs to ask when will create a GS-15 special projects position for Pruszenski?

Similarly, Chang was also scheming to do the same thing for years by having the government pay for his move to his home state of Hawaii. In June 2012, Woody did just that by creating an entirely new GS-15 special projects position for Chang in Hawaii. So much for the government pay freeze. The only question that remains is if Woody will move Chang to the Big Island of Hawaii? Perhaps Woody will even move Pruszenski to Portland. OR?

Oberholtzer promoted Special Agent Richard Grosz who resides in Bismarck, ND from a GS-12 to the GS-13/14 RAC for North Dakota and South Dakota, never seriously considering a more experienced candidate for Pierre. SD. Oberholtzer has always looked out for the younger Grosz because Grosz's father was the individual who hired him.

Once again there has never been a RAC stationed in Bismarck, ND, so once again Oberholtzer violated the *OLE Strategic Plan* by moving the RAC duty station from Pierre, SD to Bismarck, ND. Moreover, Oberholtzer cavalier attitude caused a loyal administrative staff to be displaced.

In 2010 Chang and Oberholtzer (303.236.7540) connived to transfer their friend Special Agent Kevin Ellis at government expense from Grand Junction, CO to his intended retirement home of Las Vegas, NV (702.388.6380). Ellis reaches the mandatory retirement age of 57 on June 1, 2014.

Chang and Rogers expended tens of thousands of dollars in government funds to move their office from downtown Portland, OR to the Tualatin National Wildlife Refuge, 19255 SW Pacific Hwy Sherwood, OR (503.521.5300), in order to be out of city.

For decades the SAC Branch of Special Operations (GS-14) has been stationed at headquarters to coordinate all OLE domestic and international covert investigations. Similarly, from this venue the SAC would meet with and coordinate with the various state, federal and international agencies that were conducting complex overt investigations.

That all changed in 2009 through Special Agent Mark Webb's cozy relationship with Deputy Chief Mowad, In selecting Webb as the SAC, he allowed Webb to move at government expense to his retirement home of Mead, CO, so Webb could eventually startup an aviation business known as Webb's Wildlife Consultants.

When Webb retired in 2011, Woody appointed Gale who at the time was a *GS-15* SAC in Region Four, Atlanta, GA. Gale is overweight can't pass the OLE physical exercise battery and doesn't handle stress well so he asked Woody if he could to do something less stressful (in the last 10 years the Branch of Special Operations merely conducted one criminal investigation) yet retain his grade and remain in Atlanta, GA. Said action will allow for his two children, age 18 and 14 to graduate from high school in Atlanta, GA.

In conjunction with the aforementioned personnel action Woody also made RAC Santel (GS-13) (Springfield, IL - 217.793.9554) part of the Branch of Special Operations, upgrading the position from a GS-13 to a GS-14. Like Gale, Woody has allowed Santel to continue to work out of Springfield, IL, because Santel doesn't want to move.

As a *Good Old Boy* member, Woody and his predecessors have violated OPM policy for allowing Santel who is overweight and has a bad back and who can't pass the OLE medical or physical exercise battery, to continue working as a law enforcement officer. As it stands now, Santel can continue to work and be eligible for a full law enforcement retirement annuity when he turns fifty in January 2015.

Santel was the RAC for Illinois, Indiana and Missouri. With Santel's departure, Woody and Jackson intend to pre-select Special Agent Paul Beiriger who is stationed in Indianapolis, IN (GS-13 - 317.346.7014) to become the RAC (GS- 14) in place, for the state of Indiana and another state(s) to be determined. Moreover, Woody and Jackson are in the process

of pre-selecting Tabor who is stationed in Rosemont, IL (GS-13 - 317.346.7014) to become the RAC (GS-14) in place, for the states of Illinois, Michigan (remember Woody got rid of RAC Tidwell in Aim Arbor) and other state(s) to be determined.

Again the *OLE Strategic Plan for the period 2006-2010* doesn't factor in RAC offices in either Rosemont, IL or Indianapolis, IN. Moreover, the OLE is notorious for pre-selecting members of the *Good Old Boy Network*. Such actions are not only devastating to the OLE moral, it substantiates that Woody is just like his corrupt predecessors.

So now when we have the OLE becoming even more grade top heavy. Woody has moved the SAC of Special Operation from Commerce City, CO to Atlanta, GA. Woody has also upgraded the position from a GS-14 to GS-15. He has added Santel a second GS-14 RAC in Springfield, IL and most recently he hired/promoted Special Agent Dede Manera in place in Pleasantville. NJ. Then there are three GS-13 Special Operations misfits who are not doing any criminal cases in Commerce City, CO, RAC Suazo, and Special Agents Darling and Special Agent Vance Jurgens.

Presumably when Gale retires, Woody will make Kevin Garlick the SAC of the Branch of Special Operations and allow Garlick and his domestic partner to move to their home state of Road island,

Gary Mowad was the SAC in Region Six (Denver, CO). He was initially hired by the OLE in 1998 having earned his federal status as a *Bug Inspector* with the United States Department of Agriculture. Mowad had a particular unspectacular law enforcement career with the OLE, however through his obsequious personality SACs Grosz and Riley anointed *him a member of the Good O/a' Boy Network*.

In particular early on in his career, Grosz and Riley spent six figures to train Mowad to be a pilot over many more qualified OLE Special Agents. Even though Mowad left the field to become a midlevel administrator in the mid 1990s, the OLE continued to pay thousands and thousands of dollars so that Mowad could maintain his flight certification. Mowad continued to be a recreational pilot for the OLE even though flying wasn't part of Mowad's job description.

In 1998, in effort to enhance his career and garner notoriety, Mowad

who was a former teacher in Austin Texas at the Stephen F. Austin High School convinced Grosz to use government funds to mount (stuff) and transport an illegally hunted panther from Colorado to the school. The panther, which eventually became the school's mascot was named Elroy.

Having been the beneficiar<sup>y</sup> *Good Old Boy Network*, Mowad carried forward the tradition of nepotism and favoring and rewarding *Friends and Family* members of the OLE at the expense of outsiders. As previously described, Mowad rewarded Ellis (Nevada) Kiley (Kansas) and Prieksat (Nebraska) by moving them at government expense to their retirement homes. Mowad was also responsible for making Grand Junction, CO a two-man duty station, merely so Guidera could pursue a semiprofessional mountain biking career in the Rockies.

As Prieksat's immediate supervisor for over a half decade, Mowad was aware of how Prieksat projected an aberrant, aggressive and antagonistic personality toward the public, which lead to the Governor Rounds' debacle. Every time Special Agent Grosz failed his yearly hearing test, Mowad violated policy for allowing Grosz to remain a federal law enforcement.

By mid 2007, Mowad became the Deputy Chief for the OLE and Scully's immediate supervisor. Mowad protected Scully when he failed to terminate her for lying in an official administrative investigation. Mowad selected his best friend Webb as the SAC for the Branch of Special Operations, who at the time Webb was a lowly 55 year old GS-12 Special Agent living in obscurity in Lincoln, NE.

In 2000, Mowad traveled at government expense to Nairobi, Kenya and in March 2010 he traveled to Doha, Qatar. Did Mowad report the gifts he received on these trips and other international trips he took on his annual on yearly *Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (Form 450)*?

As the SAC Webb benefited in three ways - the government paid him to move to his retirement home in Mead, CO. his retirement was enhanced from a GS-12 to a GS-14 annuity, Mowad continued to use OLE funds for Webb to maintain his pilots license even though flying wasn't part of



Webb' s supervisory responsibilities.

In the later part of 2010, it became apparent to Mowad that he didn't have the star power to be the OLE Chief. As a result he orchestrated a government paid transfer to his home state, as the Texas State Administrator, FWS Ecological Services (8027 Exchange Drive, Austin, TX 78754: 512.927.3557), where he will eventually retire.

### **Closing**

The OLE should lament that the damage they inflict on the reputation of law enforcement. Woody fails to recognize that the single-most serious problem within the OLE is a pervasive culture of exclusivity, exempt from the rules that govern all other employees of the Federal Government. A further investigation would reveal an every larger group of individuals wholl<sup>y</sup> lacking in acceptance of or adherence to government ethical standards management that through passive neglect, at best, or purposeful ignorance, at worst, is blind to easily discernible misconduct. Woody is incapable of leading by example and lacks the highest ethical and professional standards. This must be corrected.

What you'll notice when you read the biographies of the OLE Special Agents is that only a few have any college education, personal financial responsibility or investigative acumen. Most are initial selected by a SAC on a quid quo pro basis. I'll hire you, but you have to allow me to hunt on your property; i'll hire you and someday down the road you'll hire one of my family members. A long history of investigative experience or ethics just doesn't seem to be one of the criteria for selection.

If you look at, by comparison at the biographies of the Special Agents of the DEA, FBI, ICE or OIG, you'd be shocked by the contrast. Any other law enforcement institution in America is governed by officials, who in the aggregate, represents several lifetimes of law enforcement experience.

Education, experience, leadership and ethics are absent at the OLE. But don't take our word for it. Look at it yourself and make your own assessment. Protecting the resource and stopping wasteful abuses of public trust and funds rests in the hands of some fifty relatively inexperienced and unethical OLE managers.

The OLE should be applying criminal sanctions to only the most significant and egregious violators, however under the Woody and the *Circle of Eight* they will pursue every de minimis investigation to garner the spotlight. If there are any doubters, just do a Google Search for *BLM Law Enforcement Year - End Review*. Woody has expended hundreds of thousands of dollars and man-hours to get this slick propaganda publication distributed in order to get his name out whenever he chooses to enter the public sector to make his *King's Ransom*. In the meantime he is preparing to debut a similar costly version for the OLE.

There is ample historical precedent wherein the Department of Justice has temporarily taken over the administration of dishonest and corrupt police departments until the offending officials were replaced. Beyond the aforementioned lapses in personal judgment within the OLE, there also have been numerous failures in managerial oversight, training, and planning by OLE managers. Given the frequency and the number of Special Agents involved, it is hard to imagine that OLE managers will stop these episodes, until the DOI-OIG temporarily takes over all aspects of hiring, training, promotions and transfers within the OLE; and until which time the DOI-OIG and the Secretary of the Interior are satisfied that the OLE is on the right track. These scandals have long-term consequences in regards to agency moral and they reinforce impressions of arrogance to the public.

Least we forget, OLE Special Agents are keenly aware that even their predecessor/colleague **Special Agent Kelvin Smith** nearly succeeded in escaping the wrath of the Eleventh Commandment ("Don't Get Caught") when on government time and using government equipment (vehicles/weapons) Smith trained Ramzi Youset et al., the perpetrators of the *1993 World Trade Center Bombing*. Moreover, OLE Special Agents are perceptive enough to realize that Smith even after he was implicated was merely incarcerated for one year and a day, a slap on the wrist. The DOI-OIG was asleep, as were the OLE managers and the OLE Special Agents at large. Nothing is different today.

Woody and his OLE managers are on a rudderless path of waste, fraud and abuse. Someone should be channeling Nikita Khrushchev and pounding a shoe on the podium until the Secretary of the Interior or some higher authority listens, asking for Woody's resignation.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar in facing Congress about the *Deepwater Horizon Oil Well* blowout in the Gulf of Mexico said that the majority of the agency's employees were honest and capable but that there remained "a few bad apples." He said that anyone found guilty of negligence or corruption would be rooted out. Similarly, Defense Secretary Gates in the *Walter Reed Hospital* debacle asked for the resignations of some dozen high-ranking generals and admirals for their misdeeds. The same should hold for the OLE and if you can't terminate them, then you can surely relocate them to a venue where they will be miserable, without a government vehicle and without their LEAP.

**AFGE Wildlife Inspectors Bargaining Unit, Local 2103**