



ROD PACHECO
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

A VICTIM'S VOICE WILL BE HEARD

VIOLENT OFFENDER CAUGHT IN STANDOFF

NEW DEVICE TO TRACK DUI OFFENDERS

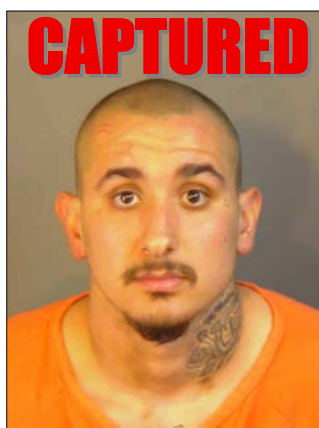
District Attorney Rod Pacheco, Chief Probation Officer Alan Crogan, and Supervisor Jeff Stone joined together to create an innovative program to track felony DUI offenders. Effective May 1, the Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring (SCRAM) can be used as a term of probation for those convicted of felony DUI, DUI with injury or death, or alcohol related vehicular manslaughter.

The SCRAM device is an ankle bracelet that provides 24-hour monitoring of alcohol concentration through the skin. The unit collects, stores, and transmits the participant's alcohol level for a period of 120 days and can detect whether or not the device has been tampered with. Leaders in Community Alternatives, Inc. will work with the Riverside County Probation Department to manage the use of the system.

The program is the brainchild of Riverside County Supervisor Jeff Stone who proposed a resolution calling for a multi-agency approach to reducing injuries and deaths associated with driving under the influence. The Riverside County Board of Supervisors adopted his resolution and this new alcohol monitoring device program was launched as a result.

A second fugitive featured in Riverside County's Most Wanted Fugitives has been apprehended in the program's short five-month history. Anthony Albert Paez is behind bars awaiting trial on numerous charges, including murder and four counts of attempted murder of a peace officer. At only 18 years old, Paez has established himself as one of the most unpredictable and reckless gang members in Riverside County. Since 2007 he has been on a one-man crime spree, committing crimes including armed robbery and grand theft.

On May 15, 2008, District Attorney Rod Pacheco and Sheriff Stan Sniff, in conjunction with Crime-Stoppers, The Desert Sun and CBS-2 News, identified Paez as one of the County's Most Wanted Fugitives. Both news outlets ran stories simultaneously, advising the public to be lookout for this active gang member. Law



enforcement agencies received and processed several tips regarding Paez. Only a week later, two California Highway Patrol Officers identified Paez driving a stolen car and attempted to stop him. Paez responded by opening fire on the officers with a shot gun.

Paez avoided apprehension for another week as local

media continued to highlight the case and the need to bring this dangerous gang member to justice. On May 30, Paez was located in another stolen car in Desert Hot Springs. He once again engaged police in a shootout, risking the lives of all officers involved. In the extended shootout, Paez was shot 5 times and taken into custody while another gang member was fatally shot in the exchange.

Paez is now being held without bail and facing 100 years to life in prison if convicted.

The Most Wanted program, exclusive to the county's Coachella Valley, has thus far featured 16 different criminals. Of the 7 murder, 4 attempted murder, 3 armed robbery and 1 sexual assault crimes, the DA's Office and Riverside County Sheriff's Office has seen the capture of 2 dangerous suspects by Riverside County Law Enforcement.

Community Outreach

College Academy

The District Attorney's student intern program allows students considering a career in law, paralegal studies, or victim services to gain hands-on experience each summer and winter. Students will tour other law enforcement agencies, learn courtroom procedures, and how to prepare for a trial and assist on active cases when paired with a mentor. The next academy begins in January, applications will be accepted for the until December 1st.

Citizens Academy

The Citizens Academy will consist of an eight week program, meeting once a week, designed to immerse participants in the judicial process. Curriculum will offer a clearer understanding of both the process of a trial and the inner-workings of the District Attorney's Office. The academy will include tours of the Robert Presley Detention Center and Riverside Historic Court House. For more information visit www.rivcoda.org/programs.

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Legislative Corner

Elder Testimony Support Bill Passes Out Of Legislature

Often times, elder or dependent adults are compelled to testify in court and have had serious problems facing their abuser without any support mechanism in place. New legislation being sponsored by the District Attorney's Office and carried by State Senator Jim Battin and co-author State Senator Gloria Romero will offer that sense of security by expanding current law to allow elders or dependant adults, testifying in abuse cases, to have up to two support-personnel with them while giving testimony during trial. This new law will empower many

elderly victims of abuse to stand up in court and face their abuser with confidence and a strong sense of security.

The idea for the bill came from Deputy District Attorney Joanna Daniels, and with a strong show of support has been passed out of both houses of the state legislature and is currently awaiting enrollment. Once signed by the Governor, this new law will help elderly victims across the state testify with tangible support, there to help them tell their story and see justice served.

Legislative Update

The following is a sampling of key legislation sponsored by the Riverside County District Attorney's Office.

DEATH PENALTY REFORM

SB 315 – Appointment of Counsel **(Senator Tom Harman)**

Location: Assembly Public Safety Committee

Those who have been sentenced to death row wait, on average, over 5 years before they are appointed their first attorney to represent them in California's automatic capital punishment appeal process. This bill would require appellate counsel appointment to be made within one year of being sentenced to death and require that the defense opening brief be filed within one year of the record being certified and complete.

AB 2228 – Conditional Exams **(Assemblymember Paul Cook)**

Location: Senate Public Safety Committee

In trials, except for death penalty cases, some witnesses may become ill or deceased before they have an opportunity to be heard in court. When there is evidence to suggest that the life of the witness is in jeopardy, a witness may be examined and their testimony used in court if they are deceased by the time they are needed. Because of the length of time a death penalty case generally takes, this bill would allow for that same exception be made for witnesses in death penalty cases.

GENERAL LEGISLATION

SB 1287 – Real Estate Fraud **(State Senator Dennis Hollingsworth)**

Location: Assembly Local Government

As real estate owners often do not live anywhere near their real property, there are times unaware of transactions taking place regarding said property. Often times real estate fraud occurs through the simple act of placing a "For Sale" sign on a plot of land and listing a different number as the contact. The land can be sold using faked titles and the actual owner is never notified. Initially an idea from DA Investigator Julie Lowrey, this bill will require that anytime there is a transaction regarding their plot of land, a postcard will be sent to the owner of the land notifying them of the change in status. While again a simple fix, it is expected to help prevent this form of Real Estate Fraud in the county.

AB 2190 – Domestic Violence Reporting **(Assemblymember Bill Emerson)**

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

This bill would require a law enforcement officer notify the appropriate local child welfare agency whenever substantial evidence exists to support a finding by the law enforcement officer that a child has been exposed to secondary abuse by witnessing domestic violence in the home.

For more information on these bills, or for any legislative questions relating to the District Attorney's office, please contact Kelly Jay at (951) 955-5400.

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