

TopCops NewsMagazine

September 2006 – Volume 2

TopCops on the Internet - <http://www.topcops.com/>



Men and Women of law enforcement from around the world
Los hombres y las Mujeres de la aplicación de la ley de alrededor del mundo
Les hommes et les Femmes d'application de la loi d'autour du monde

Männer und Frauen der Strafverfolgung von um die Welt

Gli uomini e le Donne di imposizione della legge da intorno il mondo

<http://www.toncons.com/>

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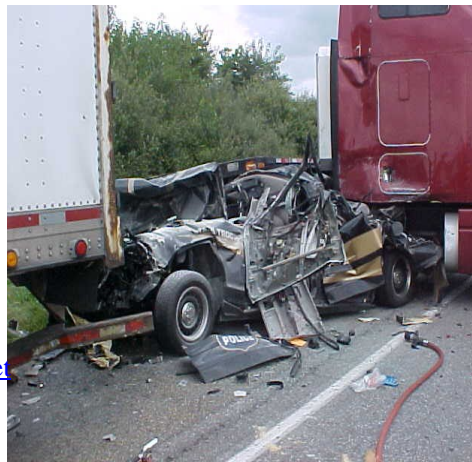
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This is from my good pal Stu, his K9 camera dog. Don't try this in the United States folks, this is a Scotland police force dog.

This Month's Issue:

Articles by List member, Tim Stacey,

- TROOPER STRUCK: MOVE OVER, SLOW DOWN (WITH PHOTOS)
- 16th annual DIAP/EPIC's training.
- Atlanta, GA Winter Interdiction Conference announcement

Article by List member, Derwin Pannell

* *Why TopCops matters*

State Trooper killed

Officer stabbed, suspect shot

Officer cleared in fatal shooting

Police raid net hundreds of guns

Officer killed

Police captain commits suicide

Family of deceased officer filed law suit

Cause of officer's death, a mystery

Gunmen kill police chief

Information offered by list member, Derwin Pannell - JOB OPPORTUNITY with the **Honolulu Police Department.**

www.honolulu.gov/hr/058967.htm

Metropolitan Police Recruit, City and County of Honolulu www.honolulupd.org

Up coming exam. Exam Date November 18, 2006 Deadline to apply October 27, 2006

Offered by List member, Tim Stacy tstacy@ci.dearborn.mi.us

Atlanta, GA Winter Interdiction Conference announcement

Marriott Atlanta Gwinnett Place
1775 Pleasant Hill Rd. at Crestwood
Duluth, GA 30096
(770) 923-1775

February 4, Monday Pre-registration
Feb. 5-9 Conference Tues. - Friday

Registration: \$250 for Members and \$285 for non-members (includes 1 year membership)
\$95.00 Per night for Single and Double Rate. Does not include tax. Parking is complementary.

Send all registration faxes to (770) 919-0314. For questions email us at NCEAcorp@ncea314.com
<mailto:NCEAcorp@ncea314.com> . Visit us on the web at www.ncea314.com
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Police captain commits suicide - South Africa - September 14 2006 at 09:24PM

http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?from=rss_South%20Africa&set_id=1&click_id=&art_id=qw1158257341649B265

A police officer scheduled for a psychiatric appointment next week, shot and killed himself in Ekulindeni village near Ermelo on Thursday, Mpumalanga police said.

Captain Dumisa Msithini, 46, shot himself in the mouth after asking his aunt to go and buy painkillers, police spokesperson Superintendent Abie Khoabane said., "Just after the aunt left for the shops, she heard a gunshot and rushed back to where her nephew was sitting."

"She was shocked to find her nephew's body lying in a pool of blood underneath a tree." Msithini, an officer at Kabokweni police station near Lydenburg, was on leave and had been visiting his mother.

Derwin Pannell is a retired officer from NYPD. He has been a member of TopCops-L for several years now. In fact, it was through TopCops on the Internet, <http://www.topcops.com/> that my sister and I got to meet Derwin. Even though he lives in the southern states, he still has family in New York, including my sister and myself. During one of his visit with his family we met for the first time. We visited with my sister, who lived in Pennsylvania at the time, and now Derwin in our heart Derwin is like our brother. In the short summary below, Derwin shares with our readers why he finds being a part of TopCops-L significant. (Deb)

For me being on the list is the best thing. The list has much information on it from around the world. Much is going on in the Police World. I have made friends on the list. I like all of the articles that I have read. Some make me laugh, some make me think, some sadden me, some have even helped me to personally grow. One thing I like best about the list is that someone is always there to help you if you need it no matter where you are in the world. Just go on the list and ask for assistance and someone will appear. "How can I assist you?". The list is a good way to network and meet other Professionals in the Criminal Justice Field.

Police officers all around the globe are doing a great job. Policing has changed alot sense I was a police officer. Policing has gone very high tech now and has gotten very sophisticated. All these new gadgets that they have now to fight and prevent crime has taken policing to a much higher level. The public view of police officers are pretty much the same. Some of the public appreciate, understand and respect us because of what we do and some do not. D.Pannell, Retired NYPD

LEARN SOMETHING NEW:

A word: VITRIOLIC (vi-tree-OL-ik) adjective - Extremely caustic; bitterly scathing

A health tip: a tablespoon of vinegar every morning keeps vital signs working great. Keeps blood pressure level, heart rate humming. Take it long enough and you might even begin to look forward to taking it,..NOT!

A diet tip: List member Derwin Pannell says 'drink v8 juice and protien shakes while on the go. Will help you to get fit.' - D. Pannell, Retired NYPD

Cures whatever ails ya: My suggestion is to eat several olives each evening surrounded by vodka and just a breath of very dry vermouth....Just my thoughts on a health tip. Y'all stay safe, - **JOSEPH N. SOOS, SR.**

This article was offered by TopCops member, Tim Stacy:
TROOPER STRUCK: MOVE OVER, SLOW DOWN (WITH PHOTOS)



Check out these pictures, they are incredible.



"Reuter, Ed" 9/6/2006 2:38 PM

Today Sgt. Rich Kelly of the Lafayette Post life was spared today. He was sitting along side I-65 conducting a level III inspection when another semi-tractor pulling a flatbed ran over the top of his police car.

Sgt. Kelly sustained a broken vertebra and was able to exit his car and use his cell telephone to call for help. The driver that struck him was going too fast and locked his brakes up thus losing control. The crash is still under investigation. When you look at the photo you realize only by the grace of God Sgt. Kelly's life was spared. Rich and his wife have 4 young daughters....

It is hard to believe that Sgt. Kelly survived this crash and may get out of the hospital sometime today. He was in the car at the time of the crash conducting a level III inspection. The driver he stopped was placed OOS for violations and the driver that struck him was operating on poor brakes on the trailer.

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Tim Stacy & Sgt. Dan Hinton of Florida Highway Patrol and Ofc. Mark Brown of Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Div. at the DIAP/EPIC conference in Indianapolis last month.

List Member, Tim Stacy writes: I just returned from Indianapolis where I attended the DIAP/EPIC's 16th Annual Motor Vehicle Criminal Interdiction Intelligence Networking and Training Conference. Appx. 700 Officers from around the US and Canada attended and we had a great time. Officer "Tex" Jones from Mississippi DOT Law Enforcement won the award for 2006 Commercial Vehicle Interdiction Officer of the Year from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's DIAP Program Director. Also noteworthy was an award from Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Division OIC Capt Robert Powers. This award was presented to DIAP Instructor and Florida Highway Patrol Sgt. Dan Hinton for his dedication to training Michigan Officers in interdiction during his numerous trips to our state. Capt. Powers stated that Sgt. Hinton's efforts are paying off and Michigan is making more and more contraband seizures.

The location for the 17th Annual DIAP/EPIC conference will be Atlantic City, NJ and details should follow within the next few months. Contact myself for details: tstacy@ci.dearborn.mi.us

I would also like to announce the following training opportunity:

Commercial Motor Vehicle Criminal Interdiction CMVCI Hosted by: Michigan State Police-Motor Carrier Division September 19, 20, 21 2006 Van Buren Intermediate School District Conference Room 490 South Paw Paw Street Lawrence, Michigan 49064 Classes being promptly at 0800 and end daily at 1700 10 min breaks will be given hourly Lunch is from 1130 until 1245 Tuition/Fees Training is provided free of tuition by the USDOT and your host. Registration for the course can be made with Sgt. Brad Banks, 517-336-6572 or BanksBB@michigan.gov or with Miss Jo Romero at 517-336-6489 or RomeroJ@michigan.gov

Lodging and Meals Lodging and meals are not provided as a part of the course. Lodging is available in Paw Paw at the Quality Inn, 269-655-0303 or the Super 8, 269-657-1111.

(This article appeared online at the indicated website from the indystar.com online paper)

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060910/NEWS01/609100525>

By Amy Bartner - amy.bartner@indystar.com

An Indiana State Police officer shot and killed a Spencer man after he threatened the trooper with a knife, authorities said Saturday.

The shooting occurred at 8:33 p.m. Friday after police tried to stop Gregory A. Bird, 28, for improper passing and failure to yield the right of way. Police said Bird continued driving on Ind. 46 for about three miles before he finally stopped and got out of a pickup truck, approaching the trooper with a knife in his hand.

Trooper Ryan T. White ordered Bird to stop and to drop the knife a number of times, but Bird refused and kept advancing toward White, police said. White shot Bird once in the chest, police said.

Emergency workers treated him at the scene, but he was pronounced dead at Bloomington Hospital. State Police Sgt. Joe Watts said he didn't know how fast Bird was driving before he finally stopped. "Our troopers are trained, number one, to defend themselves, and number two, to try and stop the threat as best they can," Watts said of the shooting. White was unhurt. Call Star reporter Amy Bartner at (317) 444-2804.

From list member Grant O'Neil to all his friends - This poem is very close to home for me right now. I went to the funeral of a good friend just two days ago. I hadn't seen him for a while. When I heard he was sick and not expected to live, I planned to go and visit him. I left it too late. I will always feel bad about letting my busy life get in the way of friendship, and it is too late to ever do anything about it. So to all my friends, even though I may not see you very often, and even though sometimes the only contact you may have from me for months at a time is forwarded humorous or interesting emails, and personal news, I just want to let you know that I appreciate your friendship and the roles you have each individually played in my life. Grant

Around the corner I have a friend,
In this great city that has no end,
Yet the days go by and weeks rush on,
And before I know it, a year is gone.

And I never see my old friends face,
For life is a swift and terrible race,
He knows I like him just as well,
As in the days when I rang his bell.

And he rang mine but we were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men.

Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired of trying to make a name.

"Tomorrow" I say! "I will call on Jim
Just to show that I'm thinking of him."
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes,
And distance between us grows and grows.

Around the corner, yet miles away,
"Here's a telegram sir," "Jim died today."
And that's what we get and deserve in the end.
Around the corner, a vanished friend.

Coming Next Issue: Article by List member Fred Leland

* *Interpersonal Communications and Officer Survival*

Published: Sunday, September 10, 2006 -
2:03 pm

Officer stabbed, suspect shot to death
in Anderson County
The Greenville News
305 S. Main St.
PO Box 1688
Greenville, SC 29602
(864) 298-4100
(800) 800-5116

A Honea Path police officer responding to a domestic call this morning in Anderson County was stabbed, and a suspect shot and killed, a sheriff's spokeswoman said.

Two Honea Path police officers who arrived to help an Anderson County

sheriff's deputy were threatened, and one was stabbed, said Susann Griffin, a sheriff's spokesman.

Then, she said, "the Honea Path police officer was threatened by the suspect. That...officer then fired his service weapon and the suspect is deceased." Griffin said she could not comment further because the State Law Enforcement Division is investigating the incident.

The injured officer is in stable condition, but she remains at Anderson Area Medical Center, according to Honea Path Police Department reports.

SLED Inspector Stacy DrakeFord said he could not discuss the details of an ongoing investigation.

Coroner's Inquest Clears Officer in Fatal Shooting

http://www.klastv.com/Global/story.asp?S=5357302&nav=menu102_1

Officer Ryan McBride explains why he shot the suspect.

Sep 10, 2006 05:39 PM EDT

A Clark County coroner's jury has found the police officer justified in this shooting death of a man on the Fourth of July Fourth. Thirty-one-year-old Tarance Hall was shot by Metro officer Ryan McBride after he drove away with another officer hanging out of his car window, hit a taxi and crashed into a barricade at one of the busiest intersections on the Strip. McBride told the jury that he feared the other officer would be hurt or killed if Hall was not stopped.

Two California tourists captured part of the incident on video and shared that with *Eyewitness News*. One of tourist's started rolling tape only after he saw the commotion while standing on a nearby sky bridge. The video was seen around the nation. It showed Hall, after he was shot, being pulled from the car and handcuffed as he lay on the ground.

Hall's family says the force the officers used seemed excessive and they want an explanation. A Coroner's Inquest is held any time a police officer fires his or her weapon. The inquest is done to determine if the shooting is justified.

Of the 150 coroner's inquests conducted in Clark County since 1976, only in one case was a police officer found to have been criminally negligent. The other 149 were found to be justified or otherwise excusable.

P olice officer killed while undercover

<http://www.dailymail.com/news/News/2006082934/>

Michael A. Jones - Daily Mail Staff
Tuesday August 29, 2006

A Beckley police officer was shot and killed this morning while working undercover, the police chief said. State Police investigators identified the officer as Charles "Chuckie" Smith, 29, of Beckley. Police Chief Billy Cole said he had been with the department for five years and was currently working in the drug unit.

Cole said Smith and another officer were participating in an undercover drug sting when shots rang out about 4 a.m. today along South Fayette Street near Willow Lane.

Cole did not know how many times Smith was shot. "He was trying to make a drug buy when the shooting took place," Cole said. Officials said Smith was transported to Raleigh General Hospital in Beckley, where he was pronounced dead.

State Police this morning arrested and charged two Beckley men with murder in connection with the shooting and said they would release more details later today. Thomas Leftwich, 24, and Michael Martin,

40, were arraigned on murder charges after police detained them following after the shooting, State Police Capt. Scott Vanmeter said. More charges could follow, he said. Cole said he sent a captain with the department to console the Smith's family. Cole has not spoken with the relatives, but hoped to do so later today.

Cole said Smith had a 2-year-old daughter. "He was just a nice guy," Cole said. Vanmeter, the trooper investigating the shooting, had worked with Smith in the past. He described Smith as a "good-hearted individual — talented and very well liked." Beckley Mayor Emmett Pugh declined to comment until State Police completed their investigation, his secretary said.

This was the first Beckley police officer killed while on duty since Sgt. David Lilly died in 1978, said Cole, who has been police chief for 27 years. There are currently 45 officers employed by the Beckley Police Department. Staff writer Justin D. Anderson contributed to this story. Contact writer Michael Jones at michaeljones@dailymail.com or 348-4850.

This article from the International front appeared online in The Guardian which is a UK online news service: **Police seize hundreds of firearms in raid on home**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/gun/Story/0,,1871977,00.html?gusrc=rss&feed=11>

Rosie Cowan, crime correspondent

Thursday September 14, 2006 - The Guardian

Police recovered hundreds of firearms in a dawn raid on a suburban house in Dartford in Kent yesterday in one of the biggest weapons seizures in the history of Scotland Yard. Pump action shotguns, automatic and semi-automatic weapons, M16 rifles, revolvers and antique guns were among arms found at the three-bedroom 1930s semi-detached home.

Around 30 officers from Trident, the Scotland Yard branch which investigates gun crime in London's black community, and the Metropolitan police's specialist search unit, Polsa - some armed, some wearing plain clothes - swarmed into the Dartford home at 6am.

They knocked on the door of the ivy-clad house and were let in by a man. They discovered guns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition all over the house and in a large garage. A sports car with personalised number plates was parked outside.

Detective Chief Superintendent Kevin Davis, from Trident, said: "This is the biggest firearms haul Trident has ever had since its conception six years ago. The premises raided were used to store hundreds and hundreds of weapons."

"I have never seen anything like it. Guns are mounted on every available wall space in the property and live ammunition was found lying on the floor. There are guns everywhere. It will take us at least three days to log it all and bag up the evidence."

A 55-year-old man, believed to be a registered gun dealer, was arrested on suspicion of supplying firearms from a residential address. He was led out of the house, which has a US flag draped down the front, under a towel around 10am and taken to a north London police station.

Yesterday's operation was timed to coincide with related raids by US law enforcement agencies in New Jersey, where a 40-year-old man was detained.

The Kent raid was the culmination of an 18-month inquiry, codenamed Mokpo, by Trident. The investigation was sparked by a spate of 13 shootings involving rival north London gangs in 2004, in which three people were killed and 11 wounded.

Trident was established to deal with shootings in the black community in the boroughs of Lambeth and Brent, but went London-wide within a year.

Officers have had some success in breaking through the wall of fear which prevents witnesses coming forward, and more recently turned the focus on the gun suppliers.

Det Chief Supt Davis said yesterday's operation was extremely significant and had the potential to save lives. "It is impossible to overestimate the misery and fear these weapons could have brought if they had got into the hands of criminals," he said. "This operation has resulted in hundreds of guns being taken out of circulation and has potentially prevented a number of serious injuries or even deaths. This seizure demonstrates Trident's determination not only to target the gunman but also tackle those who are responsible for supplying guns."

He said the planned search had been "peaceful and calm", and had not involved any risk to the public or the officers. Some of the seized weapons were old, others relatively new. "Some may be legal, some may not be legal," he said.

Two other premises in Dartford - one residential, one business - were also searched early yesterday. Four guns were found at the second residential address and police also seized cash at all three.

Roger Gray, a former Met S019 armed response officer who retired in 1998, said the cache could be a criminal armoury supplying guns to gangsters in return for a fee or share in ill-gotten gains.

He said forensic scientists would test the recovered guns to find out whether they had been used in past crimes.

Mr. Gray stressed the importance of coordinating the UK and US raids. "Timing would have been crucial," he said. "Police might have been knocking on the door of a British suspect who could immediately pick up a mobile phone and tip off associates abroad."

Officer Killed During Call To Ex-Mayor's Home Man Has History Of Violence During Diabetic Episodes

<http://www.local6.com/news/9847507/detail.html?rss=orlpn&psp=news>

POSTED: 8:39 am EDT September 14, 2006

BRIER, Wash. -- A 28-year-old police officer died in a struggle with the ex-mayor of this north Seattle suburb while responding to a call for aid at the man's home, authorities said Wednesday.

Gary Lee Starks, 55, was booked into Snohomish County Jail for investigation of third-degree assault around 4:30 a.m. Wednesday, and released on his own recognizance after a court appearance.

The Snohomish Multi-Agency Response Team assembled to investigate the case confirmed that Starks is a former mayor of Brier, a city of about 6,400 people roughly 12 miles north of Seattle.

The deceased officer, Edwanton A. "Eddie" Thomas, had been on the force since January, said Sgt. Boyd Bryant, spokesman for the Everett Police Department, which is part of the response team.

It was not immediately clear exactly how Thomas died. The Snohomish County Medical Examiner's Office completed an autopsy Wednesday afternoon, but said the cause and manner of death required further investigation.

The death occurred Tuesday afternoon, after emergency dispatchers got a report that a diabetic man needed medical treatment, according to a probable cause statement filed in the Everett division of Snohomish County District Court.

A dispatcher told the officer that the man seeking medical attention "had a history of being aggressive to officers and aid workers while in this condition," the court document said. The officer arrived at the former mayor's home around 4:45 p.m. Several minutes later, he asked for backup from the nearby Mountlake Terrace Police Department.

At 4:54 p.m., the officer pushed the emergency distress button on his hand-held radio. He called for additional backup a minute later, saying the man he was struggling with had a gun. A minute after that, he said he had the subject in custody, the court document said.

The officer's last radio transmission came at 5 p.m., when he reported the man he'd been struggling with was the city's ex-mayor, the court document said.

When a backup officer arrived, he found the two men lying on the bed in Starks' bedroom - the officer unconscious and not breathing. Starks was in handcuffs and "appeared to be somewhat incoherent and was asking for help," the court document said.

Aid workers tried to revive the officer, who was later pronounced dead at Stevens Memorial Hospital in Edmonds, Bryant said.

The backup officer said there were clear signs that a struggle had taken place. Items were scattered about the room and a piece of the bed's sideboard had been broken off, the court document said. A holstered handgun was found lying on the floor beside the bed, the document said.

Starks was appointed mayor in 2003 after the mid-term resignation of Brier's previous mayor, and did not seek re-election when the term expired last fall. Starks did not immediately return a Wednesday phone call from The Associated Press.

Family of Deceased Jersey City Police Officer Files Lawsuit Against State of New Jersey

Tuesday September 12, 9:00 am ET

Officer Shawn Carson Killed in Tragic Lincoln Highway Bridge Incident on Christmas Night

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060912/nytu035.html?v=64>

HACKENSACK, N.J., Sept. 12 /PRNewswire/ -- The family of Shawn Carson, the Jersey City police officer killed on Christmas night 2005, when his police vehicle fell through the open roadway on the Lincoln Highway Bridge, has filed a lawsuit in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Hudson County. The suit is against the State of New Jersey, the State Department of Transportation, the Town of Kearny, and the City of Jersey City (for discovery purposes only.)

Thomas S. Howard, a partner with the Hackensack, New Jersey-based law firm of Kirsch Gartenberg Howard LLP, filed the suit on behalf of Sonya Badger (Officer Carson's sister), as the administratrix and the administratrix ad prosequendum of the Estate of Shawn Carson, for herself individually and all next of kin.

Kirsch Gartenberg Howard LLP will be handling the family's case along with The Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Firm, a New York-based firm. For more information, please contact Thomas Howard at 201-488-4644 - About Kirsch Gartenberg Howard LLP

Kirsch Gartenberg Howard (KGH) areas of practice include: civil trials, arbitrations, mediations and appeals involving complex litigation, including business and contract disputes, estate matters, trade secrets and medical malpractice. KGH has offices in Hackensack, NJ and New York City.

Cause Of Officer's Death Remains A Mystery

<http://www.kirotv.com/news/9848213/detail.html?rss=sea&psp=northsoundnews>

UPDATED: 9:24 am PDT September 14, 2006

BRIER, Wash. -- Former Mayor Gary Lee Starks was in the throes of a severe diabetic episode when he struggled with a police officer who died shortly afterward, the ex-mayor's pastor and lawyer say.

Starks, 55, who had a stormy two-year tenure as mayor, was jailed for investigation of third-degree assault around 4:30 a.m. Wednesday and was released on his own recognizance after appearing later in the day in Everett District Court.

Judge Roger M. Fisher rejected a request by Snohomish County prosecutors to set bail at \$50,000, holding that Starches was neither a community threat nor a flight risk, but ordered the former mayor to surrender his passport and any firearms he owns pending a decision on whether charges will be filed.

The officer, Edwanton A. "Eddie" Thomas, 28, had been on the force since January, said Everett police Sgt. Boyd Bryant, spokesman for a multiagency response team assisting the small police force in this suburb of about 6,400 people roughly 12 miles north of Seattle.

Investigators in the Snohomish County medical examiner's office said an autopsy Wednesday failed to establish the cause and manner of death, and the investigation was continuing.

Thomas was dispatched Tuesday afternoon to Starks' home after the ex-mayor's wife told emergency dispatchers a her husband, a diabetic, need medical treatment, according to defense lawyers and a probable cause statement filed by prosecutors in court.

A dispatcher told the officer the man needing help "had a history of being aggressive to officers and aid workers while in this condition," the court document said.

Moments after the officer arrived, he asked for backup from the nearby Mountlake Terrace police force, and within 10 minutes after that he pushed the emergency distress button on his hand-held radio, requesting additional backup and saying he was struggling with a man who had a gun.

A moment later, he said he had the man in custody. In his final transmission -- 15 minutes after he arrived at the house -- he said the man with whom he had been struggling was Starks, investigators wrote.

A backup officer arrived to find both men on the bed amid signs of a struggle in Starks' bedroom, the officer unconscious and not breathing and Starks in handcuffs and seeming "somewhat incoherent ... asking for help," according to the court filing. Thomas was later pronounced dead at Stevens Memorial Hospital in Edmonds.

Starks did not return telephone calls from news reporters Wednesday. His wife referred callers to the Rev. Ken Hutcherson, the couple's pastor and friend, who told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer the former mayor had been unhinged because of hypoglycemia, or extremely low blood sugar, as a result of diabetes.

"Gary, because of the insulin shock, was totally blanked out," Hutcherson said. "He was awake, but could not remember anything that had gone on." Starks' lawyer, Tolan S. Furusho, also told The Herald of Everett that Starks acted irrationally because of a "hypoglycemic episode."

Starks was appointed mayor following the resignation of Wayne Kaske in midterm and did not seek re-election when the term expired last fall. During his term, 11 of the 18 full-time municipal employees, including five department heads, quit or were fired. One of those he fired was Police Chief Jeff Holmes.

Staff and at least one City Council member said Starks had a nasty temper and an overbearing, aggressive management style. Hutcherson said that Starks' mood swings were caused by diabetes, adding that he often stood his ground when challenged. "They might have called that combative," Hutcherson said.

Gunmen Kill Mexican Police Chief Near the Border

http://www.team4news.com/Global/story.asp?S=5401109&nav=menu90_5_6

Sep 13, 2006 08:29 AM EDT - NUEVO LEON, MEXICO

MEXICO CITY (AP) _ Gunmen have ambushed and killed a police chief in the Mexican border state of Nuevo Leon . Enrique Barrera's slaying is the latest of a law officer in a

region ravaged by a drug gang war. Barrera was police chief of the town of Linares, about 135 miles southwest of the border at McAllen , Texas.

Nuevo Leon Attorney General Carlos Trevino says Barrera was shot dead as he left his home to go to work yesterday. Trevino says the killing bore the hallmarks of an organized crime hit, but he needs to gather more evidence before making a conclusive statement.

A lone gunman killed Nuevo Leon 's top investigator, Marcelo Garza, last week outside an art gallery near the northern city of Monterrey. Trevino said there's no evidence the two killings were related. The border has seen a wave of violence attributed to a battle between the Sinaloa Cartel and the Gulf Cartel for billion-dollar smuggling routes into the United States .

Please contribute to our Newsmagazine, health tips, news articles, jokes, information, pictures...anything that might be of interest to our readers. Send your email to Deborah Gulley, LawWoman@TopCops.com

"(TopCops on the Internet - A global experience. Joining members of Law Enforcement from all over the world.) Our members send their support, unity, friendship and brother-sisterhood to all members of every branch of law enforcement from every corner of the world."

" (TopCops sur l'Internet - une expérience globale. Membres se joignants de l'application de loi de partout dans le monde.) Nos membres envoient leur appui, unité, amitié et confrérie-fraternité à tous les membres de chaque branche de l'application de loi de chaque coin du monde. "

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