

# National District Attorneys Association Newsclips September 3, 2010

## Don't Miss Out!

### **Prosecuting Drug Cases**

September 12-16, 2010

Las Vegas, Nevada

[http://www.ndaa.org/drugs\\_trainings.html](http://www.ndaa.org/drugs_trainings.html)

### **Experienced Prosecutor Course**

September 26-30, 2010

Marco Island, FL

[http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/policy\\_management\\_training\\_schedule.html](http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/policy_management_training_schedule.html)

## Today's Clip Headlines

- **D.C. Gang Statute Faces First Test in 2008 Shooting Case**
- **Grand Jury Investigating Relationship Between Waterbury Defense Attorney And State's Attorney John Connelly**
- **Georgia Bureau Of Investigation's DNA Database Has Reached More Than 2,000 Hits to Unsolved Cases**
- **SJC Backs Doctor On Patient Confidentiality**
- **Saufley Fears Effect of Cuts on Courts**
- **For Worst Wis. Inmates, Life Could Get Much Better**
- **Adoption Of Law Enforcement Data System Slow, Audit Finds**

## Clip Synopses and Links

*The Washington Post*

### **D.C. Gang Statute Faces First Test in 2008 Shooting Case**

A new District law aimed at curtailing violent crime among local gangs will be tested in D.C. Superior Court in the coming days, as a jury hears evidence in the 2008 shooting death of a man who prosecutors say was killed in Northeast Washington in retaliation by a rival gang.

Prosecutors say members of the Todd Place crew orchestrated the fatal shooting of Gary O. English, 33. According to prosecutors, after English arrived home from his job as a Comcast technician and parked his car in the 2000 block of Lincoln Road NE, a white, four-door Chevrolet HHR drove up and its two passengers began shooting, striking English in his back and thigh. He was allegedly associated with the T Street gang, the Todd Place crew's rival.

In addition to securing a conviction for those responsible for English's killing, prosecutors say they are also hoping to send a message to the District's neighborhood crews, many of whom deal in drugs, guns and violence -- that prosecutors have a new weapon in their effort to secure longer prison sentences for such individuals.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/09/02/AR2010090205377.html>

*Hartford Courant*

### **Grand Jury Investigating Relationship Between Waterbury Defense Attorney And State's Attorney John Connelly**

**FBI** agents have been interviewing former and current clients of prominent [Waterbury](#) defense attorney Martin Minnella about fees they paid and whether Minnella made promises that he could “take care” of their cases because of his close relationship with State's Attorney John Connelly.

A federal grand jury investigating the relationship between Connelly and Minnella will convene early next week in [New Haven](#) to hear testimony from some of those clients, according to sources familiar with the investigation.

The theory, said sources familiar with the investigation and potential witnesses who have been interviewed, is that Minnella has been bragging to potential clients for years that he has an “in” with Connelly and can get them better deals if they pay him more money — in effect, extorting funds from them because of the special relationship.

<http://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-waterburygrandjury0902-20100902,0,6653715.story>

*The Augusta Chronicle*

### **The Georgia Bureau Of Investigation's DNA Database Has Reached More Than 2,000 Hits to Unsolved Cases**

GBI Director Vernon Keenan says the database's rapid increase “proves the value of DNA to law enforcement in solving violent crimes that otherwise may have gone unsolved.”

It took 10 years for the database to reach 1,000 hits in August 2008. It took only two more years for that number to double.

The GBI began DNA testing in 1991 and implemented the database in 1998. At the time, only those convicted and incarcerated for sex offenses were included.

Lawmakers expanded the database in 2000 to include all incarcerated convicted felons. It was changed again in 2007 to include those on probation for certain violent felonies.

<http://chronicle.augusta.com/latest-news/2010-09-03/gbi-database-reaches-2000-hits?v=1283491062>

*The Boston Globe*

### **SJC Backs Doctor On Patient Confidentiality**

Panel sought data on pain medicines

Investigations of potential physician misconduct do not trump the law protecting confidentiality between psychotherapists and patients, the state's highest court ruled yesterday, siding with a doctor who defied a subpoena for patient treatment records despite concerns he might be overprescribing pain medication.

In a unanimous ruling, the Supreme Judicial Court held that a psychiatrist identified only as John Doe had the right to defy a subpoena by the state Board of Registration in Medicine for the records of two dozen of his patients.

The board had argued that the records were not protected by confidentiality law because the psychiatrist devotes most of his practice to pain management. The board also contended that its duty to protect public safety outweighed confidentiality concerns.

The SJC rejected both arguments. The justices said that the Legislature has carved out limited exceptions to the psychotherapist-patient privilege for matters such as suspected child abuse or neglect and that the court did not have the power to extend exceptions.

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/09/03/sjc\\_backs\\_doctor\\_on\\_patient\\_confidentiality/?p1=Local\\_Links](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2010/09/03/sjc_backs_doctor_on_patient_confidentiality/?p1=Local_Links)

*Bangor Daily News*

### **Saufley Fears Effect of Cuts on Courts**

Saying state courts already are understaffed and underfunded, Chief Justice Leigh Saufley says the courts can identify only \$85,000 in savings out of a target of nearly \$494,000 in cuts for the remainder of this budget year.

“All we have are courthouses and people, we don't have any programs to cut,” Saufley said in an interview. “We are already keeping 35 positions vacant, and there are impacts on justice from what we are doing now.”

The courts sent a formal response to state budget officials after Gov. John Baldacci ordered agencies to propose ways to meet a possible \$23 million budget curtailment. The target originally was \$100 million, but Congress provided \$77 million in extra Medicaid funds.

She said the courts have identified at least \$85,500 in savings. Those include keeping a Superior Court justice position vacant until January and not naming replacements for two magistrates recently confirmed as judges.

<http://www.bangordailynews.com/story/Statewide/Saufley-fears-effect-of-cuts-on-courts.152844>

*Wisconsin State Journal*

### **For Worst Wis. Inmates, Life Could Get Much Better**

Life is about to get better for some of Wisconsin's most dangerous and worst-behaving prisoners.

To settle lawsuits filed by inmates, state officials have agreed to make wide-ranging changes to the segregation unit at the maximum-security Waupun Correctional Institution to make it easier for them to sleep, exercise and communicate.

New windows, magazines and even hacky sacks are on the way for the 180 inmates who are housed there, according to settlements signed last month and obtained by The Associated Press. The state is also paying more than \$113,000 to two inmates and their attorneys.

The inmates had argued the conditions in the cells were so isolating and harsh they violated their constitutional right to be free of cruel and unusual punishment and made their mental illnesses worse.

[http://host.madison.com/news/state-and-regional/wisconsin/article\\_79f11eee-378b-5d64-8b77-2af5b25122e5.html](http://host.madison.com/news/state-and-regional/wisconsin/article_79f11eee-378b-5d64-8b77-2af5b25122e5.html)

*Wisconsin Journal Sentinel*

### **Adoption Of Law Enforcement Data System Slow, Audit Finds**

The state has spent years and \$6.4 million in federal money on a law enforcement data system that major police agencies have been slow to adopt, an audit found.

[The report](#) from the Legislative Audit Bureau Thursday found that planning for the Justice Gateway system by the state Office of Justice Assistance began in 2003, work had begun by 2005 and the system became available to users in 2007. Nonetheless, it has yet to be adopted by police in Milwaukee and Madison, though both agencies are scheduled to do so later this year.

The Justice Gateway is designed to give law enforcement agencies around the state access to each other's records on incidents that may not result in arrests, such as traffic stops, citizen complaints and notes from investigations. The audit said its adoption has been limited by technical challenges as well as the ability and willingness of law enforcement agencies to participate, given their other demands.

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/statepolitics/102074258.html>

## **Conferences**

### **Prosecuting Drug Cases**

September 12-16, 2010

Las Vegas, Nevada

[http://www.ndaa.org/drugs\\_trainings.html](http://www.ndaa.org/drugs_trainings.html)

### **Courtroom Technology**

September 13-16, 2010

NAC, Columbia, South Carolina

[http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/trial\\_advocacy\\_schedule.html](http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/trial_advocacy_schedule.html)

**Abusive Head Trauma: Trial Techniques for Prosecutors**

September 15, 2010

Atlanta, Georgia

[http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/child\\_abuse\\_training\\_schedule.html](http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/child_abuse_training_schedule.html)

**NDAA Fall Conference: Behind the Net**

September 22-24, 2010

NAC, Columbia, South Carolina

**Experienced Prosecutor Course**

September 26-30, 2010

Marco Island, FL

[http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/policy\\_management\\_training\\_schedule.html](http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/policy_management_training_schedule.html)

**SafetyNet: Multidisciplinary Investigation & Prosecution of Technology-Facilitated Child Sexual Exploitation**

September 27 - October 1, 2010

Easton, Massachusetts

[http://www.ndaa.org/pdf/Safety\\_Net\\_draft\\_agenda.pdf](http://www.ndaa.org/pdf/Safety_Net_draft_agenda.pdf)

**Prosecuting Homicide Cases**

October 3-7, 2010

San Antonio, Texas

[http://www.ndaa.org/homicide\\_training.html](http://www.ndaa.org/homicide_training.html)

**Prosecuting Elder Abuse Cases**

October 5-7, 2010

Inn at USC

Columbia, South Carolina

Summary

Application

**Arson Prosecution**

October 4-8

NAC, Columbia, SC

[http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/investigations\\_training\\_schedule.html](http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/investigations_training_schedule.html)

**Prosecuting Elder Abuse Cases**

October 5-7, 2010

Inn at USC, Columbia, SC

[http://www.ndaa.org/elder\\_abuse\\_training.html](http://www.ndaa.org/elder_abuse_training.html)

**Unsafe Havens II**

October 18-22, 2010

NAC, Columbia, South Carolina

[http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/child\\_abuse\\_training\\_schedule.html](http://www.ndaa.org/education/ndaa/child_abuse_training_schedule.html)

**20th Annual National Conference on Domestic Violence**

October 27-31, 2010

Washington, DC

[http://www.ndaa.org/domestic\\_violence\\_trainings.html](http://www.ndaa.org/domestic_violence_trainings.html)

**Prosecutor Bootcamp**

November 1-5

NAC, Columbia, South Carolina

[http://www.ndaa.org/career\\_development\\_trainings.html#pb](http://www.ndaa.org/career_development_trainings.html#pb)

**Government Civil Practice**

November 7-11

Scottsdale, Arizona

[http://www.ndaa.org/gov\\_civil\\_practice\\_training.html](http://www.ndaa.org/gov_civil_practice_training.html)

**Prosecuting Sexual Assaults & Related Violent Crimes**

November 14-18

San Francisco, California

[http://www.ndaa.org/sexual\\_violence\\_training.html](http://www.ndaa.org/sexual_violence_training.html)

**Trial Advocacy I**

November 15-19

NAC, Columbia, South Carolina

[http://www.ndaa.org/trial\\_ad\\_trainings.html#ta1](http://www.ndaa.org/trial_ad_trainings.html#ta1)

**NDAA Fall Board & Committee Meetings**

November 18-20, 2010

Scottsdale, Arizona

**The Executive Program**

A Course for Prosecution Leadership

December 5-8, 2010, San Francisco, California 803.705.5005

[Summary](#) | [Registration](#)

**Forensic Evidence**

December 5-9, 2010, San Antonio, Texas 803.705.5005

[Summary](#) | [Registration](#)

**Cross-Examination**

December 6-9, 2010, NAC, Columbia, SC 803.705.5050

Deadline: October 8, 2010

[Summary](#) | [Registration](#)

**Courtroom Technology**

December 13-16, 2010, NAC, Columbia, SC 803.705.5050

Deadline: October 15, 2010

[Summary](#) | [Registration](#)

**Prosecutor Bootcamp**

February 7-11, 2011, NAC, Columbia, SC 803.705.5050

Deadline: December 3, 2010

[Summary](#) | Check back to register

**Trial Advocacy I**

February 28-March 4, 2011, NAC, Columbia, SC 803.705.5050

Deadline: January 3, 2011

[Summary](#) | Check back to register

**Prosecutor Bootcamp**

March 21-25, 2011, NAC, Columbia, SC 803.705.5050

Deadline: January 21, 2011

[Summary](#) | Check back to register

**NDAA Summer Board and Committee Meetings**

July 15-17, 2011, Sun Valley, Idaho 703.549.9222

Check back for summary and registration

**2011 NDAA Summer Conference**

July 17-20, 2011, Sun Valley, Idaho 703.549.9222

Check back for summary and registration

**Change, Add or Delete E-mail Addresses**

If you no longer wish to receive the clips or wish to add an e-mail address, please send a message to [jean.hemphill@ndaa.org](mailto:jean.hemphill@ndaa.org)

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