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SPOKANE POLICE OFFICER CONVICTED OF EXCESSIVE FORCE, LYING

Prosecutors to seek six to eight years; defense promises 'to keep fighting'

Thomas Clouse and Meghann M. Cuniff

YAKIMA – His jaw quivering at times, Karl F. Thompson Jr. stared straight ahead Wednesday, showing nothing but a stern look as juror after juror confirmed the guilty verdicts they'd reached against him.

In the gallery, a supporter quietly wept.

Thompson, the decorated Spokane police officer whose department continued to rally around him as troubling questions mounted over the fatal 2006 encounter with Otto Zehm, had just been convicted of needlessly

beating the unarmed janitor and lying to cover it up.

He marched out of the courtroom, eyes fixed forward, refusing multiple requests for comment. At Spokane City Hall, paperwork terminating his employment as a law enforcement officer already was being prepared. Today, a U.S. magistrate will consider a prosecution request to take him into custody while awaiting sentencing.

"It's not something we take any joy in," Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy Durkin, the federal prosecutor who oversaw much of the trial preparations, said of the conviction. "But it's a very important case and we still have a lot of work to do."

Thompson's defense attorney, Carl Oreskovich, said the verdicts left his client "shocked and stunned."

"We believe Officer Thompson is an innocent man," Oreskovich said outside the federal courthouse. "We are going to keep fighting for him. This is a devastating day for him and us."

Jurors declined comment as they left the federal courthouse. One said they had decided as a group to decline post-verdict interviews.

The verdicts Wednesday brought to a close one chapter in the divisive community debate over police training and accountability that the Zehm tragedy, and Spokane City Hall's insistence on blaming Zehm for his own demise, had triggered. But with a civil lawsuit against the city for its handling of the case still pending, a federal investigation into at least one other Spokane police officer still under way, and

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Officer accused of infiltrating Occupy

Oakland says he supports movement After a video went viral, the police officer responded with his own online interview

*By Robert Mackey
The New York Times Blogs*

A police officer who was accused of trying to infiltrate the Occupy Oakland movement

in a video that went viral, responded online by giving an interview in which he said, "I totally agree with Occupy Wall Street."

As my colleague Malia Wollan reports, "Hundreds of police officers in riot gear circled the Occupy Oakland encampment downtown on Monday morning, making

arrests and flattening tents."

The raid is the city's second attempt to dislodge the protesters, who have been camped outside City Hall for more than a month. Two weeks ago, police officers resorted to firing tear gas and rubber projectiles at protesters who refused to

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Clothing that washes itself?

Police Tech & Gear
with Tim Dees

Your gear will still get dirty, but it might not smell so bad

One of the many distinctions between the human genders is in the way we evaluate whether an item of clothing needs to be laundered. If a woman has worn the garment since it was last washed, it's dirty. A man will smell it first, and if his eyes don't water and his nose hairs don't liquefy, it can be worn again. A process discovered and published by a team of chemists at the University of California, Davis could make that test unreliable.

The technique binds 2-anthraquinone carboxylic acid (2-AQC) to cotton fibers used to fabricate clothing. 2-AQC is photosensitive, meaning it reacts to light, in this case, sunlight or ultraviolet.

When 2-AQC is exposed to light, it produces "reactive oxygen species" of oxygen, superoxide radicals and hydroxyl radicals, which combine with water to form hydrogen peroxide. Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) is a commonly-used disinfectant, available at any drug store.

Here's a warning: if you have a weak stomach or haven't had lunch yet, you might want to switch over and see what the PoliceOne news page has to offer. This next part... well, ain't pretty.

The Wearable Petri Dish

Sweat socks don't stink solely from perspiration. Bacteria such as *E. coli* and *S. aureus* live on our skin and in other places you don't want to think about, and slough off onto the fibers of our clothes. *E. coli* is the bug that makes you sick if it gets into your food; one variety of *S. aureus* causes necrotizing fasciitis and is better-known as "flesh-eating bacteria."

Sweat produces the nice moist environment they like in order to propagate, and the oils from sebaceous glands and dead skin particles provide nourishment. Before long, you've got a wearable Petri dish of microbes sitting at the bottom of your gym bag.

The smell comes from the metabolic byproducts of the bugs' conversion of your leavings into more bugs—in essence, bacterial poop.

The chemists who developed the 2-AQC process saturated cotton fabric treated with 2-AQC and an untreated control sample with suspensions of actively growing *E. coli* and *S. aureus*, and then irradiated the fabric with UV light for an hour. The microcritters were fruitful and multiplied on the untreated control fabric, but were 99.99 percent eliminated on the treated sample. As a bonus, they also found that the treated fabric detoxified aldicarb, a commonly-used pesticide.

This development is of special interest to the military, since troops in combat can go for weeks having

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Ore. bans death penalty until 2015

Gov. John Kitzhaber said he has questioned his decisions to allow convicted murderers Douglas Wright and Harry Moore to be executed

By Jonathan J. Cooper
Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. — Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber on Tuesday imposed a moratorium on the death penalty for the remainder of his term, saying he's morally opposed to capital punishment and has long regretted allowing two men to be executed in the 1990s.

Kitzhaber's decision gives a temporary reprieve to a twice-convicted murderer who was scheduled to die by lethal injection in two weeks, along with 36 others on death row. It makes Oregon the fifth state to halt executions since 2007.

His voice shaking, the Democratic governor said he has repeatedly questioned and revisited his decisions to allow convicted murderers Douglas Wright and Harry Moore to be executed in 1996 and 1997.

"I do not believe those executions made us safer. Certainly I don't believe they made us nobler as a society," Kitzhaber said. "And I simply cannot participate once again in something I believe to be morally wrong."

Death penalty proponents criticized the decision, saying the governor is usurping the will of voters who have supported capital punishment.

Kitzhaber is a former emergency room doctor who still retains an active physician license with the Oregon Medical Board, and his opposition to the death penalty has been well-known. In a news conference explaining his decision, he cited his oath as a physician to "do no harm." Kitzhaber was elected last year to an unprecedented third term as governor after eight years away from public office.

Oregon has a complex history with capital punishment. Voters have outlawed it twice and legalized it twice, and the state Supreme Court struck it down once. Voters most-recently legalized the death penalty on a 56-44 vote in 1984. Since then, two men have been executed, both of whom voluntarily gave up their appeals during Kitzhaber's first administration.

"It is arrogant and presumptuous for an elected official, up to and including the governor, to say, 'I don't care what the voters say, I don't care what the courts say,'" and impose his own opinion, said Josh Marquis, a death penalty proponent and the Clatsop County district attorney. Marquis has prosecuted several capital cases and written about capital punishment.

Prison officials had been preparing for the Dec. 6 execution of Gary Haugen, who also had waived appeals. Haugen was serving a life sentence for fatally bludgeoning his former girlfriend's mother, Mary Archer, when he was sentenced to death for the 2003 killing of fellow inmate David Polin, who had 84 stab wounds and a crushed skull.

Fighting tears, Kitzhaber said he spoke to relatives of Haugen's victims. He said they were difficult discussions but declined to discuss them further, calling them "private conversations."

"My heart goes out to them unquestionably," he said. "This decision will delay the closure that they deserve."

Kitzhaber said he has no sympathy or compassion for murderers, but Oregon's death penalty scheme is "an expensive and unworkable system that fails to meet basic standards of justice."

Over a three-decade political career, Kitzhaber has built a reputation for charting his own course, sometimes to the frustration of fellow Democrats and others to the chagrin of legislative Republicans.

Kitzhaber's moratorium means Oregon joins, at least temporarily, four other states that have halted executions, according to the Death Penalty Information Center, which opposes capital punishment. Illinois this year outlawed the death penalty after the discovery of wrongful convictions. New Mexico voters abolished it in 2009, two years after New Jersey's Legislature and governor did the same. A New York appeals court struck down a portion of the death penalty statute.

Politicians are often hesitant to discuss abolishing the death penalty for fear it will anger voters, said Richard Dieter, director of the Death Penalty Information Center. Kitzhaber's decision might give confidence to leaders in other states, he said.

California is considering a ballot measure next year to abolish capital punishment, and death penalty opponents are also hoping legislators in Maryland and Connecticut will repeal it.

Oregon prison officials said last week that they'd spent \$42,000 preparing for Haugen's execution, not including legal fees, including \$18,000 spent on lethal drugs. Kitzhaber said he wanted to wait until the legal process played out before announcing his decision.

One of Haugen's lawyers, Steve Gorham, said Haugen was still committed to being executed on Tuesday morning. Gorham said he hadn't spoken with the inmate since learning of the governor's decision.

"I'm sure he's not very happy right now. He was committed to exercising what he thought were his rights," Gorham said, noting that he was personally pleased with the governor's decision and calling it "courageous."

Prosecutors have long complained that death penalty cases take decades to make their way through the courts, but efforts to change the law have been stymied in the Legislature. Eight condemned inmates have been on death row since the 1980s.

"I do not believe for a moment that the voters intended to create a system in which those condemned to death could determine whether that

continue death pg 3

continued death

sentence would be carried out," Kitzhaber said.

Oregon's constitution gives Kitzhaber authority to commute the sentences of all death row inmates, but he said he will not to do so because the policy on capital punishment is a matter for voters to decide.

Kitzhaber's reprieve will last until he leaves office. His term ends in January 2015,

and he has not said whether he'll run for re-election.

Kitzhaber said he hopes his decision will prompt a public re-evaluation of the death penalty in Oregon and said he will advocate for a ballot measure that would make it illegal. The governor said he prefers murderers be given a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

SC bath salts ban sets in, success may be short-lived

Authorities are still trying to understand the long-term effects of the drug

ANDERSON COUNTY, S.C. — Near the checkout counter at Zane's Fast Stop are two empty glass shelves where the synthetic stimulants known as "bath salts" used to be displayed.

The powdery or crystallized drugs, once sold for less than \$20 a jar, have also disappeared from the Iva Quick Stop.

Independent Mail reporters bought bath salts from both of those Anderson County convenience stores about a month ago.

But in Anderson County and in the Upstate, a lot has changed in a month.

Anderson County enacted an emergency ban on bath salts on Oct. 18 — three days before the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration made the same move.

The federal agency's temporary ban makes it a crime to possess or sell the three key ingredients that are used to make the paranoia-inducing drugs. The drugs' major components are mephedrone, methyldone and methylenedioxypropylone, or MDPV.

For at least one year, the federal Drug Enforcement Administration will classify those substances as the most restricted drugs in the country, while agents study the drugs to determine if they should be permanently controlled.

Anderson County leaders have already enacted measures intended to last longer than a year. After the

county's emergency ban was in place, the Anderson County Council voted last week to approve a more permanent ordinance. That ordinance makes it illegal to have bath salts or synthetic marijuana in any of the county's unincorporated areas, and comes with a \$500 fine for violators.

The city of Anderson and Pickens County have voted on similar ordinances, as have other areas in the Upstate. Those ordinances also ban substances used to make synthetic marijuana — a move made in reaction to the Oct. 4 death of Anderson University basketball player Lamar Jack. Toxicology tests and analysis revealed that Jack had ingested JWH-018, a chemical found in fake marijuana, before he died.

Enforcing the ban
Anderson County Sheriff John Skipper said his narcotics officers have seized 1,100 packages of bath salts and synthetic marijuana products since the county ban took effect.

"We've been going around to a lot of places to let people know about the ban, but we haven't issued any citations yet," Skipper said. "We have also been getting calls from citizens saying, 'Hey, I read about this stuff in the newspaper, and I know of a store that has been selling this kind of stuff.' We have been following up on all those calls and are making sure that people know these things are illegal."

Before the ban, law officers in the Upstate dealt with bath salts users like a Piedmont man who needed an Anderson County SWAT team to calm him, a Central man who wielded a gun and threatened to shoot imaginary people, and a Liberty woman who wandered the streets carrying a child.

"The only reason that bath salts were such a big hit was because you could walk into anywhere and buy them," said Lt. Chad Brooks of the Pickens County Sheriff's Office.

Since the federal ban, mentions of "bath salts" have also disappeared from the pages of police and deputies' reports in the Independent Mail's coverage area. From Sept. 18 to Oct. 19, Pickens County sheriff's deputies answered 10 bath salts-related calls from Easley to Liberty to Central, according to incident reports. Officers in those areas say that they are unaware of any new calls related to bath salts since the ban.

The same is true in the county and city of Anderson.

"Our guys have made copies of the federal regulation on bath salts and we are going around to convenience stores and gas stations handing it out," said Anderson police Sgt. Tony Tilley. "We want people to know they are illegal and they need to get them out of their stores."

Anderson University spokesman Barry Ray said Friday that the university created a policy against synthetic marijuana and bath salts on campus right after the death of Jack, a 19-year-old sophomore.

Clemson University does not have a separate, special policy, according to its spokesman, John Gouch.

"Since the DEA has put it on their illegal list, there's no reason for Clemson to do anything extra," Gouch said. "We will just comply with the law."

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60 Minutes looks into TASER usage

The segment featured an interview with Rick and Tom Smith, the founders of TASER International, who discussed the history of the device, how it has improved officer safety and counter-arguments to the claims that they are dangerous.

Also interviewed was Geoffrey Alpert, professor at the University South Carolina's Criminology and Criminal Justice Department, who authored the NIJ study that claims some police officers reach for the weapon too quickly — such as those in the infamous "Don't tase me, bro" video that became a YouTube sensation.

Approximately 500,000 officers in the U.S. carry a TASER, according to the show. Nearly 1.5 million suspects have been TASERed by authorities and 485 have died afterwards.

What are your thoughts? Send them to troopernews@ospoa.com





Fit for female cops: Belly band holsters and positioning

Be careful and recognize when 'enough is enough'

By Tom Marx

Position

The Michaels design that we mentioned before used a separate holster that was threaded onto the band. That meant the drawstroke and gripping of the weapon would be something similar to what the wearer was used to, but it also meant that the gun could be positioned just about anywhere along the circumference of the body.

Other manufacturers take a different approach and actually sew what amounts to a holster onto the band. Still others attach what in essence is "half a holster" onto the band, which traps the carried firearm between it and the band itself. Both methods work well if done correctly, and they look very professional. What must be watched out for, however, is that they are be cut to allow for a complete purchase of the handgun before it is drawn from the band and that the gun is carried at the correct angle and position.

Other bands form pockets by double layering the elastic, and some companies stitch shaped compartments into multiple layers or onto the band's surface. The issues of the gun sitting too deeply to be gripped properly or not sitting at the proper angle to be drawn conveniently can be greater with these methods of containment. Again, this is not something that has to be a problem, but it can be a problem — one that can be avoided as such if you look carefully enough ahead of time.

Carry angle

The angle at which the gun is carried (positioned or raked) within the holster or the holster compartment on the band will determine where around the body the gun can be positioned. At this point in the series, we are discussing crossbody carries, and if the band-carried weapon is to be positioned on the non-dominant side but drawn with the dominant hand, it will need to be positioned in either a vertical or "muzzle to the rear" (butt-toward-the-front, NOT true butt forward) manner to best facilitate the draw. In essence, it needs to be situated so that the gripframe of the weapon is at least directed, if not actually angled, toward the hand as it reaches for the gun during the drawing process.

Such an orientation would also allow the gun to be carried at any location from there (just ahead of the non-dominant hip), across the

front of the body, to a location just in front of the dominant (or strong side) hip. Most men will probably skip a true frontal (center of the body) position unless the rake of the holster, the officer's physical structure and the covering garment allow it. They would tend to favor either the crossdraw or an appendix carry (strong side) carry location. Some women might find, however, that in addition to the crossbody and appendix positions, if their breast size is large enough, their belly is flat enough, and their blouse is cut loosely enough, the carried firearm (if of the right size) can be located here (or at least closer to here) as well.

I know that was a lot of "ifs," but in my teaching over the years in various parts of the country, I have been amazed at the number of women I've met who have carried a small firearm in exactly this centrally located position.

It should be noted that going past the vicinity of the appendix and all the way to the strong side/dominant hip would create the sight line problems we discussed in earlier sections of this series. Moving to an area behind the dominant hip — a location most times not generally employed with a belly band due to issues involving the movement and clearance of the covering garments in regard to the draw — would require the weapon to now be positioned in either a vertical or true "butt forward" to allow for a more natural and unencumbered draw.

Shoulder straps

All of this switching out is only possible if the band's overall design (and not just the holster rake) allows for it. While many models will afford such multiple locations, some might not. The most obvious examples of those that will not work in this respect are those that use shoulder straps to help support the weight and provide additional stability and those that have adjustments or closures that are not convenient when moved around the body. It wouldn't be the end of the world, but it's just another example of doing your homework ahead of time.

The "Executive Protection Waistband Holster" from Elite Survival Systems is such a shoulder-strap model that while perhaps a bit bulky, is designed with an eye for use while running or performing under physically exertive tasks — hence the emphasis on the stability provided by the straps. Perfectly exemplifying my oft-repeated mantra of "not getting something for nothing", this model

appears that it will do what it promises, but at the expense of compatibility to different body types and clothing. Like so many of the things in this series, depending on your needs and application, it might bear looking into.

T-shirt-like

As newer fabrics have made designs more practical, T-shirt type undergarments that have holsters or holster pockets sewn directly into them have surfaced. Because of the simplicity they create, they might not be a bad idea, but they require a "big picture" look before leaping to embrace it.

In order for this idea to "work", the shirt itself must fit rather snugly to prevent sagging, movement, irritation, and visibility. Therefore, it must be cut correctly and made from a material that will not lose its shape through wearing or cleaning. The user must also be objective upfront and realize that because of how it is worn and cleaned, such a device might not have the lifespan that they are used to getting from other "holsters" they have owned. (Note that this might also be true of all the Bands we've discussed so far.) Therefore, the owners must be realistic in regard as to when such "shirts" have reached their limit and need to be replaced.

Additionally, the prospective owner must also be realistic about their body type and whether or not such a carrying means will fit them properly and fit them comfortably. These shirts are not for everyone, nor are they for every gun; size and weight becomes very important when carrying in this manner.

Conclusion

I'll close out this section by emphasizing this issue of weight. For if any of these bands, vest-mounted concepts, or T-shirt-like devices are used for carrying other gear in addition to the gun (spare ammunition, handcuffs, communication gear, etc.), one has to be very careful in regard to recognizing when "enough is enough". For even the better designs can only support so much weight before they begin to sag, move around or — just as importantly — cause doubt in the mind of the wearer because of the way the additional weight is borne on the body under even the simplest of movements. So in addition to issues of how those accessories are carried and produced from their body, the wearer, once again, must be objective as to how many of them can be carried on their body in this manner as well.

President's Note

All,

Our elections are complete. After a great response for our contract arbitration vote we sent out a ballot for the Secretary position on the SEC.

As most of you know we had two candidates, James Ragon and Peter Arnautov. Both members are currently assigned to the Capitol Mall Patrol Office.

The response was not quite as strong as in the contract ratification vote but we did get nearly 200 votes returned in this election.

James won by a margin of 3 votes and yes, we did count the votes several times.

I would like to thank Peter for throwing his hat in the ring and running for the position. He has been very vocal in his views and I have encouraged him many times to run for a position so he can be heard even more.

As I said in my last correspondence, Peter will always tell you what he thinks and that is a great resource to have in the organization.

As always the Department is re-evaluating dozens of policies and procedures. I have been asked to participate in many of the

committees to give input from the Associations point of view.

My ideas are not always accepted with open arms but they are always heard. I will say that in most of the meetings I have participated in, such as the committee that is evaluating a mandatory rotation policy, my opinions have been welcomed.

Rest assured that we will be involved in as many of these processes as possible and I will continue to try to get the members opinions and ideas heard.

The other issue that seems to keep coming up is the possibility of having a load bearing vest as a uniform option.

The Department is moving very slowly on this one. The Association offered to purchase a number of these vests for testing and evaluation and the Department chose to "evaluate" further.

I hope that they will see the value in this piece of equipment, but we will see. I will continue to push this issue and I will keep you informed.

Until next month....Stay safe and take care of each other.

Darrin Phillips, President
Oregon State Police Officers Association

NJ detective, off duty, killed outside club

Michael Morgan was shot and killed during an attempted robbery

PATERSON, N.J. — An off-duty Newark Police Detective was killed as he tried to stop a robbery outside a strip club early Monday.

Michael Morgan, 32, walked out of Sunrise Gentleman's Club with a group of friends and stopped on the sidewalk to talk to a woman, according to WPIX. A gunman grabbed the woman's purse, and a struggle ensued.

Police said Morgan, a 6.5-year police veteran, was shot in the side.

"We had officers in the area investigating another reported robbery about three blocks away when we got a call for an officer shot," Paterson police director Glenn Brown said. "We responded and when our officers arrived they found the Newark officer laying in the street with a single gunshot wound to his side."

Morgan was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital — less than a block from the shooting scene — and pronounced dead.

According to authorities, Morgan was single, but officers from both Newark and Paterson were like his family and will mourn his death.

Police are still searching for the suspect.





Man arrested in NYC police bomb plot

Mayor Bloomberg said “al-Qaida sympathizer” plotted to bomb police and post offices in NYC and U.S. troops returning home

By TOM McELROY
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Federal authorities declined to pursue a case against an “al-Qaida sympathizer” accused of wanting to bomb police stations and post offices in New York City because they believed he was mentally unstable and incapable of pulling off the alleged plot, two law enforcement officials said Monday.

New York Police Department investigators sought to get the FBI involved at least twice as their undercover investigation of Jose Pimentel unfolded, the officials said. Both times, the FBI concluded that he wasn’t a serious threat, they said.

The FBI concluded that 27-year-old Pimentel “didn’t have the predisposition or the ability to do anything on his own,” one of the officials said.

The officials were not authorized to speak about the case and spoke on condition of anonymity. The FBI’s New York office declined to comment on Monday. New York City authorities said that the FBI was involved in the case, but did not specifically say they declined to pursue the charges.

“We just believed that we couldn’t let it go any further. We had to act,” said Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly.

New York authorities said Pimentel was motivated by terrorist propaganda and resentment of U.S. troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. Authorities said police had to move quickly to arrest Pimentel on Saturday — because he was approximately one hour from being able to detonate explosives.

“He was in fact putting this bomb together,” Kelly said. “He was drilling holes and it would have been not appropriate for us to let him walk out the door with that bomb.”

The suspect was being held after his arraignment on numerous terrorism-related charges. His lawyer Joseph Zablocki said his client’s behavior leading up to the arrest was not that of a conspirator trying to conceal some violent scheme. Zablocki said Pimentel was public about his activities and was not trying to hide anything.

“I don’t believe that this case is nearly as strong as the people believe,” Zablocki said. “He (Pimentel) has this very public online profile. ... This is not the way you go about committing a terrorist attack.”

Authorities characterized him in a different way. The unemployed U.S. citizen was born in the Dominican Republic and later converted to Islam. They said he was energized and motivated to carry out his plan by the Sept. 30 killing of al-Qaida’s U.S.-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki.

“He decided to build the bomb August of this year, but clearly he jacked up his speed after the elimination of al-Awlaki,” Kelly said.

He plotted to bomb police patrol cars and postal facilities, targeted soldiers returning home from abroad, and also talked of bombing a police station in Bayonne, N.J., authorizes said.

New York police had him under surveillance for at least a year and were working with a confidential informant; no injury to anyone or damage to property is suspected, Kelly said. In addition, authorities have no evidence that Pimentel was working with anyone else.

“He appears to be a total lone wolf,” the mayor said. “He was not part of a larger conspiracy emanating from abroad.”

Pimentel, also known as Muhammad Yusuf, was denied bail. The bearded, bespectacled man wore a black T-shirt and black drawstring pants and smiled at times during the proceeding. His mother and brother attended the arraignment, his lawyer said.

Pimentel was accused of having an explosive device Saturday when he was arrested, one he planned to use against others and property to terrorize the public. The charges accuse him of conspiracy going back at least to October 2010, and include first-degree criminal possession of a weapon as a crime of terrorism, and soliciting support for a terrorist act.

Kelly said a confidential informant had numerous conversations with Pimentel on Sept. 7 in which he expressed interest in building small bombs and targeting banks, government and police buildings.

Pimentel also posted on his website trueislam1.com and on blogs his support of al-Qaida and belief in jihad, and promoted an online magazine article that described in detail how to make a bomb, Kelly said.

Among his Internet postings, the commissioner said, was an article that states: “People have to understand that America and its allies are all legitimate targets in warfare.”

The New York Police Department’s Intelligence Division was involved in the arrest. Kelly said Pimentel spent most of his years in Manhattan and lived about five years in Schenectady. He said police in the Albany area tipped New York City police off to Pimentel’s activities.

New York City remains a prime terrorist target a decade after the Sept. 11 attack. Mayor Michael Bloomberg said there have been at least 14 foiled plots against the city, including the latest suspected scheme. The most serious threats came from Pakistani immigrant Faisal Shahzad who tried to detonate a car bomb in Times Square in May 2010 and is now serving a life sentence, and Najibullah Zazi, who targeted the subway system a year earlier. Zazi pleaded guilty to federal terrorism charges and is awaiting sentencing.

Protesters: Veteran shoots self at Vt. encampment

A man who said he was a veteran may have committed suicide at an Occupy camp

BURLINGTON, Vt. — A 35-year-old military veteran apparently shot himself Thursday at an Occupy Wall Street encampment in Vermont’s largest city, fellow protesters said. Police said he was gravely wounded but would not say whether it was a suicide attempt.

Deputy Chief Andi Higbee said the public was not believed to be at risk after the 2 p.m. shooting at City Hall Park in Burlington. People who knew the victim in the encampment said they were sure the man, who said he was a veteran, had shot himself.

“This person has clearly needed more help than we were capable of giving him here at this park,” said Emily Reynolds, a University of Vermont student and a leader in the local Occupy movement.

If government provided better mental health services, she said, “this probably wouldn’t have happened.”

The shooting took place in or near a tent at the encampment. Higbee said police were trying to notify the man’s family. He is believed to be from the Burlington area.

Higbee told reporters in the park it could be several

hours before the protesters were allowed to return to their tent and that the shooting made him question whether the protest would be allowed to continue.

“Our responsibility is to keep the public safe. When there is a discharge of a firearm in a public place like this it’s good cause to be concerned, greatly concerned,” Higbee said.

The encampment has been in the park since Oct. 28. The city had threatened to evict the protesters because the park is closed from midnight until 6 a.m., but city officials made special accommodation for the protesters.



When a cop retires: Tips from those who've been there, done that

These tidbits of information were so helpful to me in my journey that I would like to share them with all the rest of my brothers and sisters getting ready to make the jump to retirement

Well, it finally came. The date to go to retirement services and apply for my retirement came on October 12, 2011. As of December 29, 2011 I will be officially enrolled in the ranks of the retired. Although it leaves me three years short of my initial plan to do a full 30 year career in law enforcement, it is the right time for me to go. The decision comes with an array of emotions from sadness and anger to happiness and a sense of calm. It has certainly been somewhat of a roller-coaster ride trying to decide how I really felt going into this.

In order to prepare myself for this new journey, I contacted some friends that have retired and seem to be "getting it right."

We have all seen these guys and gals. They all look and sound great. They are truly enjoying retirement from the police department. It seems like there are several consistencies with this group. These tidbits of information were so helpful to me in my journey that I would like to share them with all the rest of my brothers and sisters getting ready to make the jump to retirement.

Advice to Those Considering Retirement Keep Busy. This statement was echoed by every person I spoke to but each had their own spin on it. Some said to keep busy by joining another law enforcement agency, either as a full-time officer/deputy or as a reserve. Others said:

- 1.) to travel
- 2.) to go back to school
- 3.) find a new hobby or career

These were all great pieces of advice because they

all worked well for that person. The main point that all were very clear on was simple... keep busy doing something that keeps your mind and body engaged.

Find a New Purpose. This rolls right alongside of keeping busy. The day-to-day operations of the police department were once some of my purposes, but soon they will not be. One friend told me, "You might feel the urge to go back and help, don't do it unless you are asked and even then proceed with caution." His point is well taken. The police department operated fine before I came along and it will continue to operate just fine when I leave.

Find something that you can enjoy and gives you a sense of purpose. The new purpose does not have to be law enforcement related. Indeed, it does not even have to have a grand purpose designed to save the world. There is an elderly man in my neighborhood. Every day he walks to an open field where millions (just guessing of course) of ground squirrels reside. When he shows up, the critters come running because they know it is feeding time. This man clearly enjoys his squirrel feedings and gives him a purpose to get something accomplished.

Leave the Department Gracefully. I know we can all think of at least one retired guy that keeps coming back to try to force his opinions on the personnel still on the job...whether they want to hear them or not. There are several ways of doing the same job and each individual will most likely do it differently than the person before. Don't be the guy who keeps coming back to dictate his will upon the people that are trying to do their job in their own way. I remember reading an adage that was said to have come from the NYPD:

On the job, you're the best...Off the job, you're a pest.

Advice to Those Still on the Job
I believe I had a fairly successful career so please

indulge me and allow me to give those I leave behind a couple pointers that might help you in your career. This list could go on for several pages (probably causing the PoliceOne editor to have some stern words me) so I will focus on only two themes regarding building self-awareness/enrichment.

Seek Knowledge. This is a very important aspect of a successful career that unfortunately some do not pursue. This knowledge can come from different sources. Go to training courses that are being offered by qualified and experienced trainers. Take the good from these classes and you will be a better operator in the long run. Never become the self-proclaimed prophet that defiantly exclaims, "I am the only one and only my way will work."

Consider higher education as a possibility. I understand that a higher degree may not make you a better street cop, it is not designed to. Higher education introduces you to critical thinking and the ability to look at problems from several viewpoints.

Seek Experience. Go out there and do different things. Take the knowledge you have acquired and put it into action. Get advice from other experienced street cops that have "been there, done that."

Find a niche or two and really dig deep to find out how you can become a person that others might seek advice from. In doing this you will become a street smart cop. Knowledge without experience will only go so far in law enforcement. A "book smart" cop might know that a tomato is a fruit, but a street smart cop would know to never put one in a fruit salad.

Overall, it has been a good career. I love my profession and the brave men and women who will continue to carry the torch when I retire. I hope to run into a few of you along the retirement trail in my new adventures.

salt continued

Plenty left to do
Law enforcement officers say their next tasks involve searching for sales of the drugs on the streets and on the Internet.

Central Police Chief Kerry Avery said that working with local postmasters is integral to getting enough evidence to justify searching personal computers.

"When we get a search warrant, it wouldn't just be for the product itself," he said. "It would concern related papers, computers, thumb drives and zip drives."

Officials believe that the persistence of Internet-based and street sellers will keep law enforcement and health-care providers busy, regardless of the federal ban.

Dr. Wally Davies, medical director of AnMed Health Medical Center's emergency department, said he had seen several people who came into the emergency room and either said, or showed symptoms indicating, they were high on bath salts. Davies said the failure of hospital drug tests to detect bath salts is one of the biggest problems doctors face when they are trying to determine if someone has taken the drugs.

Davies predicts that a reliable test to detect bath salts won't be available quickly.

"I'm sure they will come up with a test for it, but it will take months, if not longer," he said.

Understanding the drugs' long-term effects will take even longer.

"Usually there's a several-year lag between when stuff starts showing up in the public and when it starts showing up in a definitive publication," Davies said.

That's frustrating for doctors at Patrick B. Harris Psychiatric Hospital in Anderson, where at least two patients are still having trouble coming back from the effects of bath salts they took weeks ago.

"We think the federal ban was a good idea; it was necessary to protect the public health," said hospital director John Fletcher. "But we are not under the illusion that the ban means we will never see another person high on bath salts."

A spokesman for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration said the agency doesn't have any statistics that demonstrate the effects of the temporary bans on

synthetic marijuana and bath salts.

It's too early to have that kind of information, said agency spokesman Jeffrey Scott.

"We are going to continue to aggressively pursue our cases, but we also rely on our state and local counterparts," Scott said. "We have gotten a lot of calls from store owners who want to make sure they aren't supposed to have the stuff and we have to tell them that it's illegal.

"We get: 'Can't I still sell out my last bit of stock' — and we have to say no," Scott said. "But we aren't going to be the ones out there shaking down 7-Eleven and Circle K."

In the Upstate, Dr. Davies says that controlling access to synthetic drugs is "like playing Whack-A-Mole." He said that as soon as one substance is banned, novice chemists begin to use the Internet to try to figure out how to make still-legal variants of the drug.

Some Internet companies that sell bath salts and synthetic marijuana are already claiming their suppliers have replaced banned chemicals with legal ones that are just as effective.



Complete public transparency

Klugie's Correctional Corner
with Gary T. Klugiewicz

We all know that whether the officer's actions are justifiable or not depends on the totality of the circumstances known to the officer at the time of the incident

Recently, an Alabama officer was fired over a TASERing incident that happened in local jail.

Just having the newspaper article and a piece of video footage isn't enough to make a decision on whether the use-of-force in any incident is justifiable or not. As an expert witness, I know the importance of getting all the facts first, i.e. all interviews, reports, documents, videos, personnel files, internal affair findings, etc.

We all know that whether the officer's actions are justifiable or not depends on the totality of the circumstances known to the officer at the time of the

incident.

The real importance of this recent news article is not whether the officer's actions are justifiable or not but rather a concept that Dr. George Thompson of the Verbal Judo Institute developed shortly before his death referred to as Complete Public Transparency.

This concept refers to the fact that everything that an officer does will eventually come out to and be reviewed in the full light of day. There are no longer any dark alleys or dark cells, for that matter, for the officer's actions to be hidden by.

Although the change had already begun more than twenty years ago, after the global media frenzy of the Rodney King Video, it has now exploded into an era of Complete Public Transparency. I posted a video showing the Rodney King video for our new officers who weren't around for this incident that for once and all changed how law enforcement use-of-force is viewed. This incident and others like it created a

reasonable doubt in the eyes of our citizens that the officer(s) may have used too much force.

At no time in history has police business been more public. Police response, both appropriate and improper, is no longer just caught on the front page of a newspaper or on television. Police business is now being posted on YouTube where 100,000s, even millions of people, watch it over and over again.

Our actions are now immortal and capable of being viewed forever on the Internet. This is one of the major differences in police work from a decade ago. Never before has the need for professional police conduct been more important.

As Dr. Thompson loved to say, "You need to look good and sound good or no good." We, the police, need to be act, talk, and be more professional than ever before.

Our personal and professional survival demands it.

Man fatally shot near 'Occupy' Oakland camp

Police Chief Howard Jordan said a preliminary investigation suggests the shooting resulted from a fight between two groups of men at or near the Occupy Oakland camp on a plaza in front of City Hall

By Terry Collins
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — A man was shot and killed Thursday just outside the Oakland encampment that anti-Wall Street protesters have occupied for the last month, but organizers said the attack was unrelated to their ongoing protest of U.S. financial institutions and that some of their own were the first ones to administer first aid.

Police Chief Howard Jordan said a preliminary investigation suggests the shooting resulted from a fight between two groups of men at or near the Occupy Oakland camp on a plaza in front of City Hall. During the altercation, one of the men pulled out a gun and fired several rounds into a crowd on the plaza's edge, Jordan said.

One of the bullets struck the victim, who was pronounced dead at a hospital, he said.

No suspects have been identified, said Jordan, who asked people public participating in the protest who may have taken photographs or video that captured the shooting to contact

authorities.

Investigators do not yet know if the men in the fight were associated with Occupy Oakland, but they are looking into reports that some protest participants tried to break up the altercation, Jordan said.

Drug and gang-related shootings are not uncommon in downtown Oakland, and city leaders have complained that the encampment has pulled law enforcement resources away from solving them. Thursday's shooting in the center of the debated camp comes a day after a group of Oakland city and business leaders held a news conference demanding the removal of the encampment, saying it has hurt downtown businesses and has continued to pose safety concerns.

Shake Anderson, an Occupy Oakland organizer who has slept at the camp since it was erected exactly a month ago, said the man who was shot could not be associated with the protest because he did not recognize him. Just before the shooting, a group of strangers ran into the encampment as if they were looking for someone, Anderson said.

"The person on the ground was not part of the occupation. I can verify that," Anderson said. "This is a street incident. It happens all the time."

Before the shooting, protesters were planning to have a party Thursday

night to commemorate the encampment's one-month anniversary with music, dancing, a slide show and donated cakes.

The planned celebration took a back seat after the man collapsed and screams rang out across the crowded plaza. The camp, which has about 180 tents, sits in the middle of the plaza and is ringed by a transit station and ground-floor shops.

John Lucas, 52, a recent nursing graduate from Alameda, was part of an Occupy Oakland medic team that tried to tend to the man until paramedics arrived. He said a fistfight involving several men preceded the gunfire.

"Several people went after one guy, and the group got larger, and they beat him and he ran," Lucas said. "There were six or seven shots. Everyone starts running ... and there was another shot."

Lucas, who described himself as a licensed vocational nurse who attended City College in San Francisco, said he and other medics rushed to the wounded man, who was about 30 feet away. He said they found the victim on his back, bleeding from the nose and mouth. They opened his shirt to look for wounds but found none.

"He was not breathing and there was no heartbeat," he said. "We started CPR."

Lucas said he started mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, using gauze pads to insulate himself from the man's blood, while others took turns administering chest compressions, switching every couple of minutes. He said they detected a weak heartbeat.

The crowd formed a line to keep people back from the wounded man and tussled briefly with a television cameraman who attempted to capture the chaotic scene on video.

"This was one hell of an experience," Lucas said. "Afterward, I felt like crying."

City and business leaders have escalated their calls in recent days for the camp to be disbanded, either voluntarily or by force.

Mayor Jean Quan on Wednesday asked members of the camp to show respect to the people of Oakland by peacefully leaving. That night, lights at the plaza went out, which the city said was due to a tripped circuit. Protesters have claimed the loss of light is part of a plan to force them out.

"This is what happens, if you don't have lights in the plaza, in an open area," Anderson said. "This tactic is getting people killed."

When Jordan arrived at Thursday's crime scene, people shouted, "Turn the lights on." The chief agreed the area needs to be lighted.

Domestics: Why don't they just leave?

In many cases, they stay because victims can sense the ever-present specter of their death

Police One/Lt. Dan Marcou

You could ask any patrol officer with a bit of dust on their locker to name the ten most dangerous moments in their career and it is highly likely that at least three, maybe five of those moments will have happened at domestic violence calls. The inevitable question a police officer asks at some point in a career is, "Why doesn't the victim just leave?"

Here are some answers to that question to ponder.

Financial Reasons

As the relationship develops, abusers will take control of all of the finances. Even when the victim makes the money, they often will relinquish control of it. Victims will perceive that they face financial devastation if they leave their abuser.

They Feel They Will Be Alone

As abusive relationships play out abusers will gradually isolate victims from friends and family. The process of isolation may take years, but at some time in their lives the victim will discover they feel they are all alone. The chronic abuser is usually very jealous of the attention of the victim, who will find themselves in an emotional solitary confinement.

They Feel Guilty

Abusers will often become accusers. Victims will be blamed for their own beating. The abuser will say that if only the victim would have done this, or not have done that the beating would never have occurred. They will be told they are breaking the family apart. Responding officers will often hear an abuser share, "She really knows how to push my buttons!" In time victims will believe they are at fault. Abusers will often try to convince officers called to the scene that it is all the fault of the victim.

There is not another call that officers will be dispatched at which such a high degree of possibility exists that the victim of the crime may be arrested. An understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence as well as a thorough investigation will prevent this from ever happening to you.

"I Still Love Him (Her)"

The singer Adele sings, "Some time it lasts, in love, but sometimes it hurts instead." These

violent relationships officers are called to, begin with love. It seems odd to others, who are on the outside looking in that a victim, who is beaten, abused and emotionally tortured on a regular basis could still love their abuser, but this is their reality.

The abuser often has a Jekyll-Hyde personality. They will transition quickly from delivering a merciless beating to delivering warm kisses, flowers, candy, and soft murmurings. The victim will often become a prisoner of their own heart's irrational love.

They Hope the Person They Love Will Change

Often the victims stay, because their abuser will promise to change and even make overtures to do so. At times they will attend treatment, for anger management, drug and alcohol abuse (often court ordered). In some cases this may help, but in others it only prolongs the victim's suffering.

Having hope that a chronic abuser will change brings truth to the words of Benjamin Franklin, for he said, "He that lives upon hope will die fasting," and in this case violently.

Another Often-Asked Question

When they do manage to leave, why do they so often find another abuser?

While spending a career in law enforcement it is hard not to notice that victims, who manage to leave one abuser, often find themselves in another abusive relationship. It is natural to wonder out loud, "Are they looking for it?"

It is important to note that abuser's don't always look like an abuser at a glance. Who would have guessed O.J. Simpson was a monster? Even after ample proof was given to a jury that he was, he was still acquitted. It can be argued that this happened partially because O. J. did not look to the jury like an abuser.

On the other hand, an abuser can spot a victim at a glance. Abusers are attracted to persons they can control. That is why victims are often repeatedly victimized.

A Specter Looms

According to those who count such things, it takes a victim an average of 6.5 attempts to successfully leave an abusive situation. In many cases they stay because victims can sense the ever-present specter of their death. It looms just outside their door for themselves and sometimes even their children if they ever attempt to leave. The truth of this can be found in the crime scenes stored forever in the memories of cops; for these graphic mental images are strewn with the bodies of victims, who tried to leave.

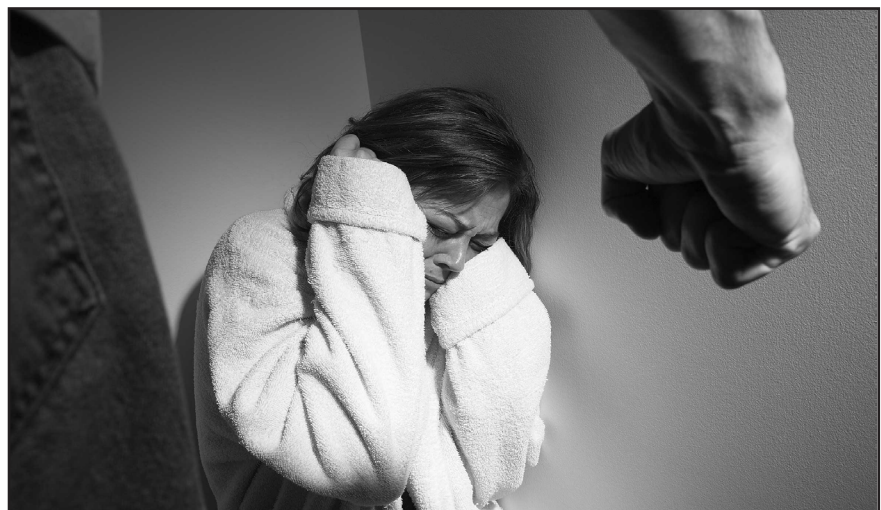
Victims know they are at greatest risk, when they try to leave. Many are living with a, not so unique kind of domestic terrorist, who maintains power and control through fear.

They Didn't Leave Yet

The fact remains victims choose to stay, which means you will be called to the residence over and over again. Just remember it does not matter how many times you have been to the house and successfully resolved the problem. The abuser wears many masks to hide the rage that lies just beneath the surface. When you picture "domestic violence victim," most of you conjure up the image of a crying, beaten and badly bruised woman, but many victims of domestic violence wear a badge.

It is said, "Never say never and always avoid using the word always," but this seems to be the exact circumstance for use of the words.

Never get complacent at a DV call. Always investigate your domestic violence cases thoroughly as if someone's life depends on it, because to some of the most vulnerable people in your bailiwick... it does!



continued Zehm

intensifying calls for independent police oversight and accountability, a new chapter begins.

"It's shocking to see a police officer who we trust to protect us being convicted of this crime, regardless of how you see the case," said Spokane attorney Chris Bugbee, who represents two other Spokane police officers who responded to the convenience store that night. "I'm sad for the community but I'm glad it has been resolved one way or the other."

Spokane police Chief Anne Kirkpatrick said Wednesday she's hoping the verdict will enable the community to finally begin healing.

Kirkpatrick planned to attend each of the department's shift roll calls over the next day to discuss the case and its outcome with officers.

"We're going to move forward," she said, "and we'll let the healing process take its natural course."

Spokane Mayor Mary Verner, who previously had said she didn't believe any crimes had been committed, also said Wednesday she's hoping the community will begin to heal.

"This tragedy has torn us apart," Verner said. "As we reach closure I hope that we'll think first and foremost of the people whose lives were changed on that day in 2006 and that we will rally together as a community."

Spokane County Prosecutor Steve Tucker, who declined to review the case because of the federal investigation, could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Zehm, who would have turned 42 on Monday, was beaten by police, shocked with Tasers and left hog-tied on the floor of a Zip Trip convenience store March 18, 2006, after being mistakenly identified as a theft suspect. He died two days later without regaining consciousness.

Thompson, now 64, was the first officer on the scene and claimed Zehm assaulted him. Store security videos contradicted Thompson's version of the encounter, but Spokane police detectives still cleared

him of any criminal wrongdoing and Spokane City Hall continued to back his version of events even as evidence mounted to the contrary.

The FBI later opened its own investigation, leading to grand jury indictments against Thompson in 2009 on charges of excessive force and lying to investigators. Spokane City Hall continued to back Thompson's version of events, even after learning that Assistant Chief Jim Nicks told federal investigators that Thompson had violated department policy in the encounter with Zehm.

Nicks' conclusions, which contradicted what he told reporters at the time of the incident, were ruled inadmissible at Thompson's federal trial. Jurors also had been barred from learning that Zehm was innocent when Thompson confronted him.

The jury, however, deliberated 10 hours over three days following a complex trial that began its fourth week on Monday. They convicted Thompson of depriving Zehm of his civil rights through unreasonable force and of obstructing justice by lying to investigators.

Prosecutors are expected to seek a six- to eight-year prison term for Thompson at sentencing, which likely will be scheduled for January.

Spokane lawyer Breann Beggs said Zehm's mother, Ann Zehm, felt relief Wednesday as the guilty verdicts were announced.

"I spoke with Ann ... and she said she needed a day to get her thoughts together of what she really thought, but all along she has not spoken as far as punishment, really just about accountability and change," said Beggs, one of the lawyers representing the family in a civil suit against the city. "This started out, unfortunately, as kind of a regular case because people with mental illness die often in Spokane when they interact with law enforcement, but it's turned into ... a symbol for what could be changed and what could be better."

Beggs took issue with Thompson's defense arguments that he was just following departmental policy.

If that is the case, Beggs said, "it's time to change policies on use of force, especially with regard to the mentally ill."

Zehm's cousin, Dale Zehm, said it's important to the family to know that the mistreatment Otto suffered won't be ignored.

"We now hope for a conclusion to the civil case, and hope for real healing in the community and a change in City Hall and how officers are trained and supervised," Dale Zehm said outside the U.S. Courthouse in Spokane, where a live video feed from the Yakima courtroom was broadcast each day.

Union leaders representing Spokane's police officers declined comment.

On social media, though, many of the city's officers expressed their shock, sadness and hopes that an appeal will overturn Wednesday's verdict.

"We believe in you Karl and are devastated! You are well loved and we support you!" Officer Erin Blessing posted on the We Support Karl Thompson Facebook page.

U.S. Attorney Mike Ormsby, whose office handled the prosecution, said the conviction is a critical step in the search for truth about what happened that night but that it's also important to remember the service that law enforcement provides.

"Many may be tempted to read messages into this verdict that I would suggest not be done," said Ormsby, whose legal team openly blamed a departmental cover-up for trying to shield Thompson from accountability for his actions. "This case was about a single police officer and what he did on one evening and one situation and the steps that he later took to impede and impact the investigation. This is not an indictment of our entire police department and it should not be an excuse for any of us to ignore the good work that our police officers do every day and every night in our community to protect us."

no-wash continued on page 10

to wear the same uniforms, unable to wash themselves, much less their clothing. Reducing the bacterial load in the fabric will do more than just make everyone smell a little better. Major trauma is responsible for most battlefield casualties, but you're just as dead if you succumb to an infection from a small cut or blister. All of us suffer from small wounds we get here and there, and anything that can reduce the likelihood of infection is a big plus.

It's not likely we will ever get away from having to launder our clothing. Dirt that gets caught up in the fibers frays them and gradually wears away the fabric. Washing clears those contaminants and makes the garment last longer. Even if you don't care how badly your "undies" stink, the people who have the adjacent lockers will.

WIND GUST TOPPLES TRUCK AND SEMI-TRAILER



A Coos Bay man received minor injuries Tuesday afternoon when the commercial truck he was driving was blown onto its side by a strong wind gust as it traveled across the Alsea Bay Bridge just north of Waldport. The crash closed three of four lanes on the bridge for about four hours.

*continued Occupy*

leave the area, badly wounding some, including an Iraq war veteran who was hospitalized with a fractured skull.

The new raid is certain to focus attention once again on the troubled relations between Oakland's police force and its citizens. It could also further complicate the life of officers who sympathize with the message of the Occupy Wall Street movement, but are charged with the difficult task of dispersing protesters.

In recent weeks, an Oakland police officer named Fred Shavies has found himself wrestling with those contradictions.

After the last round of clashes, some activists in the Bay Area released a video warning Occupy Oakland protesters to "beware of police infiltrators and provocateurs" in their midst.

The video, produced by an activist from Berkeley Copwatch, a group that has been monitoring police officers in the Bay Area for two decades, showed Mr. Shavies and another officer attending an Occupy protest in civilian

The video's soundtrack also features audio from 2003 of Howard Jordan, then Oakland's deputy police chief and now the acting chief, admitting to a police board of review that his department had infiltrated an antiwar group that year to subvert a protest against the Iraq war.

"You don't need to have some special skill to be able to infiltrate these groups," Mr. Jordan said. "You know, two of our officers were elected leaders within an hour... of being with that group. So if you put people in there from the beginning, I think we'd be able to gather the information and maybe even direct them to do something that we want them to do."

Mr. Shavies, who is active on several social media platforms, watched with alarm as the Copwatch indictment of him spread across the Web. Since, in his mind, he was not trying to infiltrate the movement but just working to identify "agitators," Mr. Shavies decided to defend himself by starting a kind of counteroffensive online.

On Twitter, he mocked the idea that he had been exposed by the filmmakers, who showed him both in uniform and in civilian clothes, by writing: "You'd have thought I was Clark Kent/Superman.... I do wear regular clothes and function in my city when I'm not at work."

In response to that comment, Mr. Shavies was asked by Josh Wolf, one of the activists who helped make the video, whether he had attended Occupy Oakland protests as a civilian or as an officer. "Both," Mr. Shavies wrote. "I have worked there and attended the protest," he said.

Police officers are "a part of the same 99 percent you are fighting for," he

added. "We have been tasked by the city to do a job that they direct us to do and then don't stand behind." He concluded: "I think the notion that someone could 'infiltrate' a transparent and essentially leaderless movement is comical."

Mr. Shavies, who is also a freelance photographer, posted four pictures of Occupy Oakland's first protest last month on his Tumblr blog. Two days later, he added this quote from another blogger to his Tumblr: "What is Occupy Wall Street? A protest about government corruption and the 1% that owns more than 30%-40% of the nation's wealth and the effort to transfer power to the other 99% of the country."

The same day he engaged Mr. Wolf on Twitter, Mr. Shavies also sat down with another Bay Area photographer, Justin Warren, to record a video response to the charge that he had attempted to infiltrate the Occupy movement.

In his video reply, Mr. Shavies discussed his work and said that being accused of infiltrating the protest movement was strange because, "I totally agree with Occupy Wall Street, even to an extent with Occupy Oakland."

"To me, it hasn't been a secret," he also said, of policing the protests when not in uniform. "I'm not exclusively a plainclothes officer, I'm not exclusively a uniformed police officer, I'm not exclusively a citizen of Oakland identifying with the movement."

Later in the fascinating interview, Mr. Shavies explained how the protests in Oakland, given the city's history, were "bigger than just money, because it's about inequality, it's about police brutality, it's about so much more. And again, being a citizen of Oakland," he said, "I identify with the 99 percent, but I also have a job to do."

Near the end of the video, Mr. Shavies also suggested that just as images of dogs and hoses being used on protesters by police officers in earlier decades had led to those techniques being abandoned, the images of tear gas being hurled at Occupy Oakland demonstrators might force the department to reconsider that tactic.

Soon after the interview was posted on Vimeo, several supporters of the Occupy protests praised Mr. Shavies. On the Think Progress blog, Z aid Jilani wrote: "Shavies' brave words make him one of the few police officers who has publicly stepped forward to question heavy-handed police tactics and to openly support the 99 percent."

As if to illustrate Mr. Shavies' contention in the video that the truth is not black or white but gray, days after his interview with Mr. Warren drew attention away from the video that accused him of being an infiltrator, another clip of him surfaced that complicated his portrait still further.

Carlos Miller, a photographer and blogger, drew attention to footage from 2009 which showed Mr. Shavies shouting obscenities and angrily charging into a television news cameraman to prevent him from filming.

As The San Francisco Chronicle reported later that year, the city of Oakland paid the cameraman \$175,000 after he filed a federal civil rights lawsuit accusing Mr. Shavies and other officers of assaulting him and breaking his camera.

To Mr. Miller, whose blog "Photography is Not a Crime," focuses on police harassment of photographers, Mr. Shavies's attempt to stop the cameraman from doing his job was inexcusable. But, as The Chronicle explained at the time, Mr. Shavies and the other officers were enraged that the cameraman was trying to film them at an extremely sensitive moment -- as they grappled with the news that four of their colleagues had just been shot and killed in the line of duty.

Mr. Shavies did not respond to requests for comment, but if he does contact us after this post is published, we will let readers know in an update.

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