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ICJE Newsletter - APR 2018

1 message

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"Be the Change" - BTC

Everywhere I turn I see "BTC". On book covers, in articles, on wall plaques. I can't escape it. At first I embraced the concept, as I am one who embraces the concept of looking for ways to continually improve.

But I'm now becoming concerned that BTC has been exploited by those that seek to

destroy the foundation of the country we collectively call home. Fundamental truths that guide us individually and collectively are framed as products of a bygone time, with no applicability to our society.

"Judgement" of others actions and behaviors, as either "acceptable" or "unacceptable", with the concept of judging anything or anyone as no longer "acceptable". BTC says we cannot judge.

Situational ethics has embraced our leaders, in politics, in business, in law enforcement, in our communities. Actions previously deemed as improper, when committed by those with whom we ideologically agree, or from whom our personal standing will benefit, are not held to the same standard.

We need to return to the fundamental principles of honesty, integrity and virtue, applied to all, and measured with a ruler that reads the same on both sides.

The founders of our great nation saw this day coming:

A general dissolution of principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their virtue then will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader.

- Samuel Adams, letter to James Warren, February 12, 1779

Be the Change in your circles. It starts with each of us individually.

As always, any thoughts you have are welcome and I will share them with the 1500 recipients of the ICJE network next month. Just send me an email at jimrechel@icje.org.

Thanks,
Jim Rechel, Newsletter Editor
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The ICJE Newsletter is published and delivered to you on the 10th of each month.

[Learn More About ICJE](#)

Why Fighting Violent Crime is So Important, and Difficult

FBI Stats

In a recent Pew Research analysis of crime statistics, the following information was presented:

Most of the crimes that are reported to police, are not solved, at least using an FBI measure known as the "clearance rate." That's the share of cases each year that are closed, or "cleared," through the arrest, charging and referral of a suspect for prosecution. In 2016, police nationwide cleared 46% of violent crimes that were reported to them. For property crimes, the national clearance rate was 18%.

As more and more witnesses and "victims" refuse to cooperate with law enforcement, it becomes even more important to ensure the perpetrators of violent crimes are identified early in their criminal careers so that they cannot continue a career of unsolved crimes.

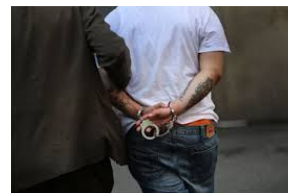
The link below is the article from Pew Research:

[Violent Crime Article from Pew Research](#)

Felons in Possession of a Gun

When then Senator Sessions was undergoing confirmation hearings for the US Attorney General position, he emphasized the need to re-institute tough gun laws applicable to felons, stating:

"Criminals are most likely the kind of person that will shoot somebody when they go about their business, and if those people are not carrying guns because they believe they might go to federal court, be sent to a federal jail for five years, perhaps they'll stop carrying those guns during that drug dealing and their other activities that are criminal. Fewer people get killed."



While there are many opinions as to the effectiveness of this "get tough" policy on gun toting felons, there is no doubt that if effectively administered, a strong message is being sent to the criminal element who carry guns.

A recent example of the get tough program:

Felon Receives 10 Years After Being Found Guilty at Trial - April 6, 2018

United States Attorney Richard W. Moore of the Southern District of Alabama announces that United States District Court Senior Judge Callie V. S. Granade sentenced Joseph W. Rohe, Jr. to 117 months (defendant given 3 months credit for the time served in jail since his trial) in prison on April 4, 2018, for the crime of Possession of a Firearm by a Prohibited Person (a felon), a violation of Title 18 U.S.C. section 922(g)(1).

Rohe's sentence was the maximum permitted by law.

On August 8, 2017, the Baldwin County Drug Task Force executed a search warrant at Rohe's residence in Foley, Alabama, in search of narcotics. Members of the Task Force located nine firearms, in addition to controlled substances and other drug paraphernalia, inside the residence with Rohe. The guns ranged from handguns to shotguns and assault-style rifles. Police were able

to determine that all of the firearms had been reported stolen.

Rohe was on probation at the time of his arrest, and had previously been convicted for the felony offense of Manufacturing a Controlled Substance in Baldwin County in 2013.

The Baldwin County Task Force, the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office, the Bay Minette Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Mobile Field Office all contributed in the investigation of this case. Assistant United States Attorney Christopher Baugh prosecuted the case for the Southern District of Alabama.

USA Today: "Domestic Abuse Victims Afraid to Call Police"

An interesting article about how domestic violence impacts many of those involved, and contained a fact which most Americans are unaware of:

In 2017, more officers were shot responding to domestic violence than any other type of firearm-related fatality, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund. From 1988 to 2016, 136 officers were killed while responding to domestic disturbances such as family arguments, FBI data show.

[Domestic Violence: Police, Victims and Perpetrators](#)



Statewide Cyber-crime Lab Announced

"For law enforcement, investigating cybercrime and accessing digital evidence present real challenges. But these hurdles can be overcome when agencies work together to combine expertise and training," Marshall said.

"The Cybercrime Lab provides cutting edge tools to enable our investigators to more effectively conduct online investigations of criminal activity, ranging from child sexual exploitation and human trafficking to network intrusions and data breaches. Equally important, the Cybercrime Lab will serve as a resource for federal, state and local law enforcement in Alabama seeking assistance in accessing criminal evidence stored on digital devices."

[AL.com Article](#)

World's fastest ever delivery drone could deliver medical supplies in U.S.

In the ever changing field of drone technology, law enforcement is sure to be addressing crimes committed by ever more sophisticated drones, like those that drop weapons into riots or prisons. If medical supplies can be delivered like this so can contraband.

For the article and accompanying video:

[World's Fastest Drone](#)



Alabama Police Trainers' Association

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Mission Statement

The mission of APTA to provide information, education, and support to those individuals who are dedicated to the training of Alabama law enforcement personnel.

In support of this mission, we are committed to:

- Excellence by promoting professionalism and ethics as a basis of the organization;
- Meeting the changing needs of Alabama Law Enforcement Trainers by providing them with information on new trends and techniques of training;
- Serving as a forum to bring together Alabama Law Enforcement Trainers so they can share different ideas and practices of training; and,
- Providing advanced training and certifications to Alabama Law Enforcement Trainers.

The goals of APTA are:

- To instill a need for ethically-based training throughout the Alabama law enforcement industry;
- To share ideas about Best Practices in training;
- To provide information about current training technology;
- To become a skills bank repository for members and departments;
- To provide basic instructional training for new trainers;
- To provide advanced instructional training for experienced trainers; and,

- To establish certification standards for our members and provide the resources by which these standards may be reached.

ICJE, Inc.

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