

U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Illinois

A. Courtney Cox, U.S. Attorney
January 2009



A Message from the U.S. Attorney

PUBLIC CORRUPTION

Public corruption involves a breach of public trust and/or abuse of position by federal, state, or local officials and their private sector accomplices. **By broad definition, a government official, whether elected, appointed or hired, may violate federal law when he/she asks, demands, solicits, accepts, or agrees to receive anything of value in return for being influenced in the performance of their official duties or embezzles, steals, or obtains by fraud property of a governmental entity.**

Public corruption has undoubtedly been one of the most discussed topics in Illinois, if not the whole nation, during the past few months. As citizens in a self-governing democracy, we all are responsible for being vigilant in holding public servants accountable.

Corruption by public officials and government employees tears at the very fabric of our form of government. Corruption can divert valuable and limited resources and assets from the good and vital work government needs to do. A democratic government can only remain healthy if it is free from the corrosive effects of unethical and illegal activities by those charged with the public trust. There are, unfortunately, many specific examples in our own state to illustrate this point.

Excellent information about the evils of public corruption can be found on the FBI website at <http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cid/pubcorr/upt/pubcorrupt.htm>. I encourage you to visit this site and read this information.

If you have information about possible public corruption, I encourage you to contact the FBI, the Illinois State Police, or some other responsible authority and make a report, even if it is anonymous. You may wish to utilize the **Public Corruption Hotline at (877) U-TIP-OFF**. You may also contact Deputy Criminal Chief/White Collar Chief **Norm Smith at (618) 628-3700**. Reporting corruption is your responsibility as a citizen.

The Office of United States Attorney takes the problem of public corruption seriously. We are working closely with law enforcement to vigorously pursue all information we receive regarding public corruption and to act decisively when it is discovered. We need your help. As Edmund Burke said, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." Said another way, indifference to evil is often the real problem. I invite you to become part of the solution.

A. Courtney Cox

Inside this issue:

LECC Activities	2
Upcoming Activities	2
Awards and Accomplishments	4
Recent Noteworthy Cases	5
Key Dates in January	10

Link to our website:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ils/index.html>

Benton Office:
402 West Main St., Suite 2A
Benton, IL 62812
Phone: (618) 439-3808
Fax: (618) 439-2401

East St. Louis Office:
750 Missouri Avenue
East St. Louis, IL 62201
Phone: (618) 482-9361
Fax: (618) 482-9302

Fairview Heights Office:
Nine Executive Drive
Fairview Heights, IL 62208
Phone: (618) 628-3700
Fax: (618) 628-3730

LECC Activities

January 14, 2009: A presentation was made on “Hidden Compartments for Dangerous Weapons and Drugs” and new policies and procedures for “Law Enforcement Officers Flying Armed” at the Madison County Sheriff’s Department.



LEC Coordinator Ron Shownes making a presentation at the Madison County Sheriff's Department on Law Enforcement Officers Flying Armed and Hidden Compartments for Dangerous Weapons and Drugs.

Upcoming LECC Activities

January 20 & 21, 2009: The LEC will be making a presentation at the National Law Center for Children and Families Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, on the subject of Networking and Learning Modalities.

LECC Activities, continued

February 25 & 26, 2009: The annual Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit will be held in Mount Vernon, Illinois, at the Holiday Inn. The registration form follows.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 25, 2009

7:00 - 8:15 a.m. Registration

8:15 a.m.

National Anthem

Ms. Leslie Cox

Honor Guard

Fairview Heights Police Department

Welcome

Honorable A. Courtney Cox

U.S. Attorney for the

Southern District of Illinois & Dignitaries

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Excited Delirium

Chris Lawrence

(Ontario Police College)

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

LUNCH - Kreiger's

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Omaha Mall Massacre

Detective Todd Kozelchik

Sergeant Teresa Negon

(Omaha Police Department)

5:30 p.m. Hospitality Room Opens

(Kreiger's)

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Sandwich & Appetizer Buffet

THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 26, 2009

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Managing & Winning Extreme Encounters

Dr. William Lewinski, Ph.D.

(Fore Science Research Center)

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

LUNCH - Kreiger's

(DUI Ignition Interlock Device - Susan McKinney)

1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Dr. William Lewinski cont.

3:30 p.m. - Closing & Drawings

**Questions? Call Cary Trame at
618-346-3616 or email
trameca@isp.state.il.us**



Registration 2009



Please type or print. If registering more than one person, please complete a separate registration form for each person attending.

Section I - General Information

Name _____ Title _____

Agency _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail address _____

Section II - Conference Registration Fee

Conference registration is \$100 per person. Registration fees include room for one night, meals, training sessions, and breaks. If you will not be staying overnight, the fee is \$75. **If you are sharing a room, the first person will be \$100 and the second person will be \$75.**

On-site registration will not be available. Please make check or money order payable to:

LECC (Law Enforcement Coordinating Council FEIN# 32-012 7696).

CONFIRMATION BY EMAIL ONLY



**If this is an agency payment for more than one person attending, each individual's registration form must be submitted together with the payment.*



REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 13, 2009

CANCELLATION POLICY: No refunds will be made after February 19, 2009.

Section III - Preferences

LODGING: Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009 Yes _____ No _____ **All rooms are non smoking.*

Special Needs _____

If you are sharing a room, please give the person's name:

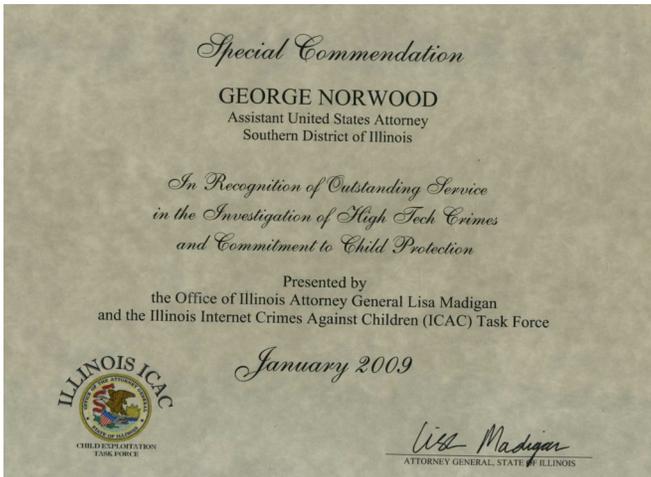
**Mail Registration Forms and Payment to:
Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit, Attn: Elizabeth Carver
(Phone: 618-346-3742 and Email: carver@isp.state.il.us)
1100 Eastport Plaza Drive, Collinsville, IL 62234.**

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CRIMINAL CHIEF NORWOOD TO RECEIVE SPECIAL COMMENDATION

Congratulations to Criminal Chief George Norwood. George was recently notified that he will receive a Special Commendation in recognition of outstanding service in the investigation of high tech crimes and commitment to child protection. The award will be presented by the Office of Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and the Illinois Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at the quarterly meeting of the Illinois ICAC.

George hit the ground running with the first of many ICAC prosecutions sent his way. He has not turned down a case offered by the ICAC and has prosecuted these cases in addition to the case brought to him by the Southern Illinois Cyber Crimes Task Force. To date, his prosecutions have lead to the incarceration of offenders in excess of 200 years in state and federal prisons. The sentences have also included 67 years of supervised release, and in three cases the offenders were sentenced to supervised release for life.



The cases adjudicated include: Jason Wade Beckham - 15-year sentence, five years' supervised release, \$800 fine; Ryan Allan Edwards - 78-month sentence, 25 years' supervised release, \$1,000 fine; Michael Wayne Foster - 78-month sentence, seven years' supervised release, \$500 fine; Chad Aaron Haslett - 151-month sentence, ten years' supervised release, \$1,200 fine; Charles Wayne Johns - 12-year sentence, five years' supervised release, \$600 fine; Darin Thomas Mills - ten-year

sentence, five years' supervised release, \$500 fine; Erich Karl Umgelder - nine-year sentence, five years' supervised release, \$1,200 fine; Justin Dean Baker - 40-year sentence, supervised release for life, \$800 fine; Mark Cecil Huffstatler - 450-month sentence, supervised release for life, \$1,000 fine; Edward Scott Luckabaugh - 20-year sentence, supervised release for life, \$1,100 fine; Kenneth Ray Lunsford—35-year sentence, five years' supervised release, \$200 fine

USAO HEADQUARTERS COMMENDS AUSAs PORTER AND CLARK

Kenneth E. Melson, Director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, sent letters of commendation to AUSAs James L. Porter and Stephen B. Clark. Director Melson recognized AUSA Porter and AUSA Clark for submitting articles for the latest edition of the *Federal Grand Jury Practice Manual*, a Department of Justice compendium of grand jury legal practices and procedures. He attributed the success of educating the USAOs to authors who were willing to share their knowledge and experience. Doing so, he expressed to AUSAs Porter and Clark his appreciation for sharing their knowledge and experience.

RECENT NOTEWORTHY CASES

METHAMPHETAMINE

On December 18, 2008, [LESLIE A. JONES](#), age 26, of Anna, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. **JONES**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging her with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, was sentenced to 210 months' imprisonment and five years' supervised release, and was fined \$100.

The violation took place between January 2006, and April 5, 2008, in Union, Jackson, and Marion Counties in Illinois. One co-defendant has already been sentenced to 100 months' imprisonment, and two co-defendants have pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by the Union County Sheriff's Office, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative for the Southern District of Illinois. The Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team also assisted in the investigation.

The case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson for prosecution.

On January 8, 2009, [JEFFREY R. HARTLINE](#), age 38, of Dongola, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. **HARTLINE**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, was sentenced to 63 months' imprisonment and four years' supervised release and was fined \$300.

The violation took place between January

2006, and April 5, 2008, in Union, Jackson, and Marion Counties in Illinois. Two co-defendants have already received imprisonment of 210 months and 100 months, and one co-defendant has pled guilty and is awaiting sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by the Union County Sheriff's Office, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative for the Southern District of Illinois. The Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team also assisted in the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

On January 8, 2009, [JOSHUA W. REAMS](#), age 26, of Boulder, Montana, formerly of Jackson County, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. **REAMS**, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine, was sentenced to 120 months' imprisonment and eight years' supervised release and was fined \$200.

The violation took place between May 2005, and March 31, 2008, in Jackson and Williamson Counties in Illinois. Three co-defendants have pled guilty to their roles in the conspiracy and are awaiting sentencing.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office, COMIT Drug Task Force, Williamson County Sheriff's Office, Murphysboro Police Department, Illinois State Police, and Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative for the Southern District of Illi-

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

nois.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.

METHAMPHETAMINE/FIREARMS

On January 9, 2009, [EDWARD A. HIGGINS](#), age 47, of West York, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. **HIGGINS**, who had previously pled guilty to a two-count indictment charging possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and unlawful possession of a sawed-off shot gun, was sentenced to 70 months' imprisonment and four years' supervised release and was fined \$400.

The offenses occurred on February 5, 2008, in Crawford County. The investigation was conducted by the Crawford County Sheriff's Department, the Southeastern Illinois Drug Task Force, the Robinson, Illinois, Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and others. In addition, the Crawford County States Attorney's Office has assisted throughout the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys George A. Norwood and Amanda A. Robertson.

COCAINE/FIREARMS

On December 18, 2008, [ANTHONY E. MOORE](#), a/k/a "Rab," age 32, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. **MOORE** was also fined \$1,000 by the court.

In May 2008, **MOORE** was convicted following a jury trial of one count of conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. The conspiracy began in October 2002 and continued through March 2007 in Jefferson County,

Illinois, and elsewhere.

MOORE was also convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm on January 12, 2007.

The investigation in this case was a cooperative effort between the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative.

The case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood.

On December 15, 2008, [PAMELA STEVENSON](#), age 29, of St. Louis, Missouri, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **STEVENSON**, who on August 22, 2008, had pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging her with conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine, was sentenced to 70 months' imprisonment, ordered to pay a mandatory special assessment of \$100, fined \$300, and placed on three years of supervised release.

STEVENSON, at her August 22, 2008 plea, admitted that between 2006 and 2007, she was involved with various individuals in a conspiracy to obtain and sell cocaine base and cocaine in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

The investigation was conducted under the auspices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), and has thus far led to the indictment of nine individuals. The Drug Enforcement Administration led the investigation.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel T. Kapsak.

[SONNY S. D. WILLIAMS](#), age 23, of Harrisburg, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois, on January 5, 2009, to a term of 108 months' imprisonment for distributing cocaine on five occasions to a law enforcement agent, for being a felon in possession of a firearm, and for possessing and selling a stolen firearm. **WILLIAMS** had previously pled guilty on September 15, 2008, to the seven count indictment returned by a federal grand jury. The indictment alleges the offenses occurred between November 7, 2007, and January 30, 2008, in Hardin, Saline, and Williamson Counties in Illinois.

Evidence presented to support the guilty plea and sentence showed that **WILLIAMS** was responsible for the distribution of approximately 3.7 kilograms of cocaine during the time frame alleged in the indictment, including five separate audio-recorded distributions to a law enforcement agent. The evidence further showed that **WILLIAMS** sold a stolen .475 caliber Wildey semi-automatic handgun to a law enforcement agent which he had previously received in trade for drugs.

In addition to the term of imprisonment, **WILLIAMS** was ordered to pay the United States fines and special assessments totaling \$1,200 and placed on a term of three years' supervised release to follow his incarceration.

Investigation into the case was led by the Carmi office of the Southern Illinois Drug Task Force with the assistance of the Illinois State Police, the Hardin County Sheriff's Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James M. Cutchin.

On January 9, 2009, [JOHN RAMOS](#), age 38, of El Paso, Texas, was sentenced to 210 months' imprisonment and five years of supervised release and ordered to pay a mandatory special assessment of \$100 and a fine of \$1,000. **RAMOS** had previously pled guilty to the charge of possession with intent to distribute cocaine on August 28, 2008.

On August 29, 2007, **RAMOS** was driving his truck from El Paso, Texas, to Chicago, Illinois. He was stopped for speeding and arrested in Granite City, Illinois, by Granite City police on that date. The police then searched the truck and discovered the cocaine in the cab and the trailer. Investigation in support of the prosecution was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Granite City Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel T. Kapsak.

COCAINE/MARIJUANA

On January 12, 2009, [ODIS ROBINSON](#), age 28, of Alton, Illinois, was sentenced to 108 months' imprisonment and five years of supervised release and ordered to pay a mandatory \$100 special assessment and \$750 fine in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **ROBINSON** had previously pled guilty to the charge of conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine and marijuana, on October 7, 2008. The conviction arose from **ROBINSON** distributing approximately 19 kilograms of cocaine and 475 kilograms of marijuana between January 2004 and June 2005.

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

Investigation in support of the prosecution was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Daniel T. Kapsak.

HEROIN

On December 2, 2008, [BRADY McGRUDER](#), a/k/a "June," a/k/a "James G. Martin," a/k/a "Brady Martin," age 42, of Chicago, Illinois; **ARTHUR DARNELL**, a/k/a "Pip," age 27, of Centralia, Illinois; **BRANDON K. PURNELL**, a/k/a "B," age 24, of Centralia, Illinois; **APRIL D. SULLENS**, age 22, of Centralia, Illinois; and **GENESIS M. EFFINGER**, age 19, of Chicago, Illinois, were named in an 11-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury sitting in Benton, Illinois.

Count 1 charges that from on or about March 2008 to November 6, 2008, in Marion County, Illinois, and elsewhere, **McGRUDER**, **DARNELL**, **PURNELL**, **SULLENS**, and **EFFINGER**, conspired and agreed with other persons to distribute and possess with intent to distribute heroin. The amount of heroin involved in the conspiracy is 100 grams or more.

Counts 2, 3, and 4 charge **McGRUDER** with knowingly and intentionally distributing heroin. The distributions occurred in Marion County, Illinois, on August 29, 2008, September 2, 2008, and September 11, 2008.

Counts 5, 6, 7, and 8 charge **DARNELL** with knowingly and intentionally distributing heroin. The distributions occurred in Marion County, Illinois, on September 4, 2008 (twice), September 9, 2008, and September 30, 2008.

Count 9 charges **PURNELL** with knowingly and intentionally distributing heroin. The distribution occurred in Marion County, Illinois, on

August 1, 2008. Count 10 charges **SULLENS** with knowingly and intentionally distributing heroin. The distribution occurred in Marion County, Illinois, on October 2, 2008. Count 11 charges that on November 6, 2008, in Marion County, Illinois, **SULLENS** possessed with the intent to distribute heroin.

With respect to Count 1, the defendants face a penalty of from 5 to 40 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2 million, and a term of supervised release of at least four years.

With respect to Counts 2 through 11, each count carries a possible penalty of up to 20 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$1 million, and a term of supervised release of at least three years.

The investigation was conducted by the Clinton County Sheriff's Department, the Illinois State Police, the Centralia Police Department, the Marion County Sheriff's Office, and the Drug Enforcement Administration pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. The Marion County State's Attorney's Office also assisted during the investigation.

The case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

BANK ROBBERY

On December 18, 2008, a federal jury in East St. Louis, Illinois, found [RODNEY BROWN](#), age 30, guilty of aggravated bank robbery and using a firearm during the commission of a crime of violence. **BROWN**, a long-time Alton, Illinois resident, was convicted in the United States District Court after a four-day jury trial.

BROWN and three other men robbed the U.S. Bank in Alton of approximately \$68,000 on October 20, 2006. **BROWN's** three co-

Recent Noteworthy Cases, continued

defendants pled guilty prior to trial. **BROWN** is scheduled to be sentenced on March 20, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois.

According to evidence presented at trial, **BROWN** provided the handgun used in the robbery and also helped to assemble a fake bomb worn by one of the robbers. **BROWN** was arrested in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on November 13, 2006. Police recovered approximately \$18,500 from **BROWN** at the time of his arrest.

The investigation which led to **BROWN's** conviction was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Alton Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Garrison.

CONTINUATION OF AMBULANCE SERVICE

On December 31, 2008, the United States District Court approved the sale of substantially all of the assets of [MERCY REGIONAL AMBULANCE COMPANY](#) to Sutton Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a Cardinal EMS. The sale of the assets allowed for an orderly transition of ambulance service from **MERCY** to Cardinal. **MERCY** ceased operations at midnight on December 31, 2008, and Cardinal immediately began operations at that time. All of the phone numbers and contact information for **MERCY** now go directly to Cardinal, and there will be no interruption of 911 service or other emergency response. United States Attorney Cox wanted to emphasize that great precautions were taken to be sure that the residents of Franklin County will continue to have quality ambulance service available to them.

All of the proceeds of the sale will be used to help satisfy the restitution judgment entered against **MERCY** and will go to the victims of **MERCY's** fraud.

The case was investigated by the Southern Illinois Health Care Fraud Task Force with representatives of the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division, and the Department of Labor Office of Inspector General having especially active roles in the investigation.

The case was handled by Assistant United States Attorneys Norman R. Smith, William E. Coonan, and Gerald M. Burke, and Paralegal Specialist Donna Gerdes.

CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

On January 8, 2009, [TILDEN B. SPRAGUE](#), age 66, of Godfrey, Illinois, pled guilty to charges involving child pornography. After the entry of his guilty plea, **SPRAGUE** was sentenced to 90 months' imprisonment, ordered to pay a \$600 fine, and placed on supervised release for a period of ten years after his release from prison. **SPRAGUE** also paid \$25,000 in lieu of the forfeiture of his Godfrey home, which **SPRAGUE** used to facilitate his crimes.

Police found that **SPRAGUE** had received and possessed child pornography during the execution of a search warrant at his Godfrey home on September 5, 2007. **SPRAGUE** downloaded thousands of images of child pornography from the internet and stored them in various media in his home.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Madison County Sheriff's Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Childhood Initiative.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Donald S. Boyce.

KEY DATES IN JANUARY

January 1:

- New Year's Day
- Israel: HAMAS suicide car bomb wounds 54 in Netanya. (2001)
- West Bank, Gaza Strip, Israel: Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was founded. (1964)
- Israel: Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade's simultaneous suicide attacks kill 23, wound 107. (2003)
- U.S.: Alcatraz Island becomes a U.S. federal prison. (1934)

January 2:

- U.S.: The maximum speed limit is reduced to 55 mph in order to conserve gasoline. (1974)

January 5:

- Israel: Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade's simultaneous suicide attacks kill 23 and wound 107. (2003)
- Gaza Strip: Yahya Ayyash ("The Engineer") was the chief bomb-maker of Hamas. Ayyash is credited with advancing the technique of suicide bombing in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Ayyash was the most wanted man in Israel and the target of a massive man-hunt. Ayyash was assassinated by the Israeli Shabak who tricked a friend of Ayyash's into giving him a bomb-laden cell phone. When Ayyash used it, Shabak detonated it, killing him instantly. (1996)

January 6:

- Colombia: National Liberation Army founded. (Spanish: Ejército de Liberación Nacional), a revolutionary, Marxist, insurgent guerrilla group operating in several regions of Colombia, South America. (1963)
- Christian: Epiphany

January 7:

- Islamic: Ashura - Islamic holy day observed on the tenth of the Islamic month of Muharram. Shi'ite Muslims regarding it as a major festival marking the martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Hussein.

January 8:

- U.S.: Ramzi Ahmed Yousef sentenced to life plus 240 years for 1993 World Trade Center bombings. (1998)

January 9:

- Colombia: Colombian Army rescues 56 hostages from National Liberation Army; the National Liberation Army captures 15 more and kills one. (2001)

January 12:

- Turkey: Execution of Kurdistan Workers' Party leader Abdullah Ocalan. (2000)

January 14:

- Gaza Strip: First female HAMAS suicide bomber kills four, wounds 10 at Erez crossing. (2004)

January 15:

- West Bank: Palestinian militia leader Ra'id al-Karmi killed by a bomb outside his home; Israel implicated. (2002)

KEY DATES IN JANUARY, continued

January 17:

- U.S.: Umar 'Abd al-Rahman (The "Blind Shaykh") sentenced to life for his role in 1993 World Trade Center bombing. (1996)
- Iraq/Kuwait: Operation Desert Storm air offensive begins. (1991)

January 18:

- Lebanon: Malcolm Kerr, American University president, assassinated in Beirut; Islamic Jihad claims responsibility. (1982)

January 19:

- U.S.: Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20:

- Iran: Remaining 52 U.S. Embassy hostages seized in November 1979 released. (1981)
- U.S.: Inauguration Day, as set by the Twentieth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Barack Obama will become the 44th President of the United States, making him the first African-American President in U.S. history.

January 21:

- Kuwait: Gunman ambushes vehicle near Camp Doha, killing one U.S. contractor and wounding another. (2003)

January 22:

- France: Armed Islamic Group ringleaders sentenced to eight years for terrorist acts; 84 others sentenced in mass trial. (1999)
- U.S.: The Senate confirms President Clinton's nomination of Madeleine Albright, making her the first female Secretary of State in U.S. history. (1997)
- Israel withdraws from the Sinai Peninsula. (1957)
- U.S.: New York City "Mad Bomber," George P. Metesky, arrested in Waterbury, Connecticut, and is charged with planting more than 30 bombs. (1957)
- U.S.: *Roe v. Wade*, a United States Supreme Court case that resulted in a landmark decision regarding abortion. According to the *Roe* decision, most laws against abortion in the United States violated a constitutional right to privacy under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. (1973)

January 23:

- Pakistan: Extremists kidnap and later kill Wall Street Journal U.S. reporter Daniel Pearl. Daniel Pearl was kidnapped on his way to interview a Muslim fundamentalist leader in Pakistan. (2002)
- Yemen: Hijacking of Yemeni flight with 91 passengers, including U.S. Ambassador; hijacker captured and passengers safely released. (2001)

January 24:

- Lebanon: Jesse Turner, Alan Steen, Robert Polhill, and Mithileshwar Singh kidnapped in Beirut. (1987)

KEY DATES IN JANUARY, continued

January 25:

- U.S.: Mir Amal Kansi kills Frank Darling and Dr. Lansing Bennett, two CIA employees, and wounds three outside Central Intelligence Agency Headquarters in McLean, Virginia. (1993)

January 27:

- Afghanistan: Armed militants attack United Nations convoy, kill two security officer escorts. (2003)
- Israel: Fatah female suicide bomber kills one and wounds more than 150 in Jerusalem. (2002)

January 29:

- Israel: Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade bus bomb in Jerusalem kills 11, wounds 50. (2004)

January 31:

- Netherlands: Scottish court finds Libyan 'Abd al-Baset al-Megrahi guilty in Pan Am 103 bombing. (2001)