

# USAO NEWS

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**In honor of the second anniversary of the passing of  
TSA Officer Gerardo Hernandez, we pause to remember him:**

**“His work will go on every day in the persistent efforts of all who had the privilege of serving alongside him. And his example, and many contributions, will never be forgotten. His legacy will enrich the community, and the country, that he loved. And his story will inspire generations of public servants to follow in his footsteps, helping to make the nation that mourns him – and the world he left too soon – not only safer, but stronger.”**

**--Former Attorney General Eric Holder's Remarks at  
Memorial Service for TSA Officer Gerardo Hernandez  
who was killed in the line of duty on November 1, 2013**

# **In Case you Missed It . . .**

## **USAO Press Releases at a Glance**

### **Man Who Hired Teenage Girl for Sex is Sentenced in Human Trafficking Case**

<http://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/man-who-hired-teenage-girl-sex-sentenced-human-trafficking-case-0>

### **Inland Empire Man Convicted of Threatening to Kill Federal Officer**

<http://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/inland-empire-man-convicted-threatening-kill-federal-officer>

### **South American Man who Illegally Trafficked in Protected Orchids on Layover at LAX Pleads Guilty to Federal Wildlife Charge**

<http://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/south-american-man-who-illegally-trafficked-protected-orchids-layover-lax-pleads-guilty>

### **Nearly 500 Hospitals Pay United States More Than \$250 Million to Resolve False Claims Act Allegations Related to Implantation of Cardiac Devices**

<http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/nearly-500-hospitals-pay-united-states-more-250-million-resolve-false-claims-act-allegations>

## **Related Agency Press Releases**

### **Arms Export Control Act**

#### **Former Connecticut Resident Sentenced to More Than Eight Years in Prison for Attempting to Send U.S. Military Technology to Iran**

<https://www.fbi.gov/newhaven/press-releases/2015/former-connecticut-resident-sentenced-to-more-than-eight-years-in-prison-for-attempting-to-send-u.s.-military-technology-to-iran>

### **Human Trafficking**

#### **Man who hired teen girl for sex is sentenced in human trafficking case**

<http://www.ice.gov/news/releases/man-who-hired-teen-girl-sex-sentenced-human-trafficking-case>

# USAO IN THE NEWS . . .

## Extortion

**Porn star sentenced to nearly 6 years in prison for extorting tech tycoon**

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-porn-prison-extorting-tech-tycoon-20151027-story.html>

**Gay-porn star jailed for extorting tech tycoon**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/28/gay-porn-star-jailed-extorting-tech-tycoon-donald-burns-after-sex-trysts/74739130/>

**Gay Porn Star Teofil Brank Sentenced**

<http://www.ibtimes.com/gay-porn-star-teofil-brank-sentenced-after-extorting-magicjack-vocaltex-chairman-2160193>

**Porn star Teofil Brank jailed for extorting tech tycoon Donald Burns**

<http://www.smh.com.au/world/porn-star-teofil-brank-jailed-for-extorting-tech-tycoon-donald-burns-20151028-gklb3t.html>

**Gay porn actor jailed for six years for extorting \$500,000 and a state-of-the-art Audi from cell phone tycoon by threatening to expose their secret sexual liaisons**

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3293674/Gay-porn-actor-jailed-six-years-swindling-500-000-state-art-Audi-cell-phone-tycoon-threatening-expose-secret-sexual-liaisons.html>

**Gay porn blackmailer gets 6 years in prison**

<http://mynewsla.com/crime/2015/10/27/gay-porn-blackmailer-gets-6-years-in-prison/>

**Gay Porn Star Gets 6 Years In Jail For Extorting Tech Tycoon**

[http://laist.com/2015/10/28/jarec\\_wentworth\\_porn\\_star\\_sentenced.php](http://laist.com/2015/10/28/jarec_wentworth_porn_star_sentenced.php)

**Sean Cody Stud Jarec Wentworth Gets Six Years In Prison For Extorting Closeted Millionaire**

<https://www.queerty.com/sean-cody-stud-jarec-wentworth-gets-six-years-in-prison-for-extorting-closeted-millionaire-20151028>

**Porn actor sentenced for extorting \$500K from executive**

<http://www.timesunion.com/news/crime/article/Porn-actor-sentenced-for-extorting-500K-from-6594614.php>

**Porn actor sentenced for extorting \$500K from executive**

<http://www.chron.com/news/crime/article/Porn-actor-sentenced-for-extorting-500K-from-6594614.php>

**Porn actor sentenced for extorting \$500K from executive**

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/state/california/article41648709.html>

# MORE USAO NEWS . . .

## Extortion (Cont'd)

**Gay Porn Actor Gets 6 Years In Federal Prison For Extorting Wealthy Businessman**

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2015/10/28/gay-porn-actor-gets-6-years-in-federal-prison-for-extorting-wealthy-businessman/>

## Human Trafficking

**Torrance man sentenced to prison for obstructing federal sex trafficking case**

<http://www.dailybreeze.com/general-news/20151027/torrance-man-sentenced-to-prison-for-obstructing-federal-sex-trafficking-case>

**South Bay 'John' who hired teen for sex sentenced to prison**

<http://mynews1a.com/crime/2015/10/27/south-bay-john-who-hired-teen-for-sex-sentenced-to-prison/>

**South Bay Court Videographer Sentenced in Teen Sex-Trafficking Case**

<http://lbpost.com/news/crime/2000007413-south-bay-john-sentenced-to-prison-in-teen-sex-trafficking-case>

**Man who hired teen girl for sex is sentenced in human trafficking case**

<http://www.imperialvalleynews.com/index.php/news/california-news/6031-man-who-hired-teen-girl-for-sex-is-sentenced-in-human-trafficking-case.html>

**Long Beach police tip to feds ends with 57-month sentence for 'John' in sex-trafficking probe**

<http://www.presstelegram.com/general-news/20151027/long-beach-police-tip-to-feds-ends-with-57-month-sentence-for-john-in-sex-trafficking-probe>

**South Bay John Sentenced to Prison in Teen Sex-Trafficking Case**

<http://myinform.com/en/a/18301992-south-bay-john-sentenced-to-prison-in-teen-sex-trafficking-case/>

## Bank Robbery

**Long Beach-Burbank bank robber Gregory Cross gets 10-year sentence**

<http://www.dailynews.com/general-news/20151026/long-beach-burbank-bank-robber-gregory-cross-gets-10-year-sentence>

**Career bank robber gets 10 years for Burbank heist**

<http://mynews1a.com/crime/2015/10/26/career-bank-robber-gets-10-years-for-burbank-heist/>

**Man sentenced to 10 years in prison for Burbank bank robbery**

<http://www.latimes.com/socal/burbank-leader/news/tn-blr-man-sentenced-to-10-years-in-prison-for-burbank-bank-robbery-20151027-story.html>

# MORE USAO NEWS . . .

## Bank Robbery (cont'd)

**Long Beach Man Sentenced to 10 Years in Prison for Bank Robbery**

<http://lbpost.com/news/crime/2000007399-long-beach-man-sentenced-to-10-years-in-prison-for-bank-robbery>

**Back to prison for ex-con drug-addicted bank robber**

<http://mynews1a.com/crime/2015/10/26/sentencing-monday-for-burbank-bank-robber/>

**Long Beach-Burbank bank robber Gregory Cross gets 10-year sentence**

<http://nvs24.com/news/us/Long-Beach-Burbank-bank-robber-Gregory-Cross-gets-10-year-sentence-1523914.html>

**LONG BEACH-BURBANK BANK ROBBER GREGORY CROSS GETS 10-YEAR SENTENCE**

<http://www.newsunited.com/long-beach-burbank-bank-robber-news/19366778/>

## Threatening a Federal Officer

**Hemet Man Convicted of Threatening to Kill Federal Officer**

[http://www.highlandnews.net/news/public\\_safety/article\\_3997249a-7f4b-11e5-9e1f-6fe9c0b65311.html](http://www.highlandnews.net/news/public_safety/article_3997249a-7f4b-11e5-9e1f-6fe9c0b65311.html)

**HEMET: Defendant convicted of threatening Forest Service officer**

<http://www.pe.com/articles/officer-784939-latka-hemet.html>

**Hemet man convicted of threatening federal officer**

<http://www.desertsun.com/story/news/local/2015/10/30/hemet-man-convicted-threatening-federal-officer/74878608/>

**Hemet Man Who Told Forest Ranger 'You're Dead' Facing 10 Years in Prison**

<http://patch.com/california/murrieta/hemet-man-who-told-forest-ranger-youre-dead-facing-10-years-prison-0>

## Illegal Trade of Protected Species

**Man smuggling protected orchids in Lego box and My Pillow Pets toy pleads guilty**

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-peruvian-national-pleads-guilty-orchids-20151030-story.html>

**Orchid scheme nipped in bud**

<http://www.pressreader.com/usa/los-angeles-times/20151031/281779922993750/TextView>

# MORE USAO NEWS . . .

## Illegal Trade of Protected Species (cont'd)

**Man caught with 200 orchids at LA airport pleads guilty**

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/news/article/Man-caught-with-200-orchids-at-LA-airport-pleads-6601645.php>

**Peruvian who hid orchids in luggage at LAX pleads guilty**

<http://www.dailybreeze.com/general-news/20151030/peruvian-who-hid-orchids-in-luggage-at-lax-pleads-guilty>

**Man caught with 200 orchids at LA airport pleads guilty**

<http://www.ksby.com/story/30397552/man-caught-with-200-orchids-at-la-airport-pleads-guilty>

## False Claims Act

Hospitals agree to pay \$250 million in settlement over device that violated Medicare rules

<http://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2015/10/30/us-reaches-settlement-with-457-hospitals-over-cardiac-device>

**St. Joseph Health, affiliates named in settlement**

<http://www.oregister.com/articles/joseph-689890-health-heart.html>

**UPDATE 3-Hospitals to pay \$250 mln for cardiac device coverage violations -DOJ**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/10/30/justicedept-hospitals-fine-idUSL1N12U1BU20151030>

## PAST EVENTS

Recently AUSA Joe Widman, Riverside Branch Chief and President-Elect of the Federal Bar Association's Inland Empire Chapter, organized a panel discussion featuring the U.S. Attorney, San Bernardino County District Attorney Michael Ramos and Riverside County District Attorney Michael Hestrin. The panel discussion, which brought together the three top federal and state prosecutors for the sprawling region of nearly 4.5 million people, was moderated by Federal Public Defender Hilary Potashner. The discussion touched upon sentencing reform, crime prevention programs, video recording of police interviews, *Brady* compliance orders, and the partnership and collaboration between federal and state law prosecutors in the Inland Empire. Thank you to AUSA Widman for organizing this successful event.



# MORE PAST EVENTS

This past week a ceremony for graduates of the Confinement and Sentencing Alternatives (“CASA”) program was held. This most recent class was another testament to the CASA program and its extraordinary coordinator, AUSA Steve Wolfe. Many of the graduates specifically thanked “Mr. Wolfe” for his help and guidance. Best of luck and wishes of future success for these graduates.

Also last week AUSAs Lisa Feldman and Tracy Wilkison helped put on the Seventh Annual Cyber Crime Prevention Symposium, held each year to educate local middle and high school students about dangers on the Internet. This year, the symposium, with the aid of Cal State Northridge acting students, had the students watch and then discuss a “sextortion” scenario, advising them how best to avoid that dangerous situation.

Last Tuesday evening the Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association (“SCCLA”) honored its past president, Wesley L. Hsu, and its lifetime member, Eileen M. Decker, for their history of support of SCCLA. Thank you to SCCLA for this wonderful event, and thank you to AUSA Wendy Wu for the kind introductions.

