



DIA

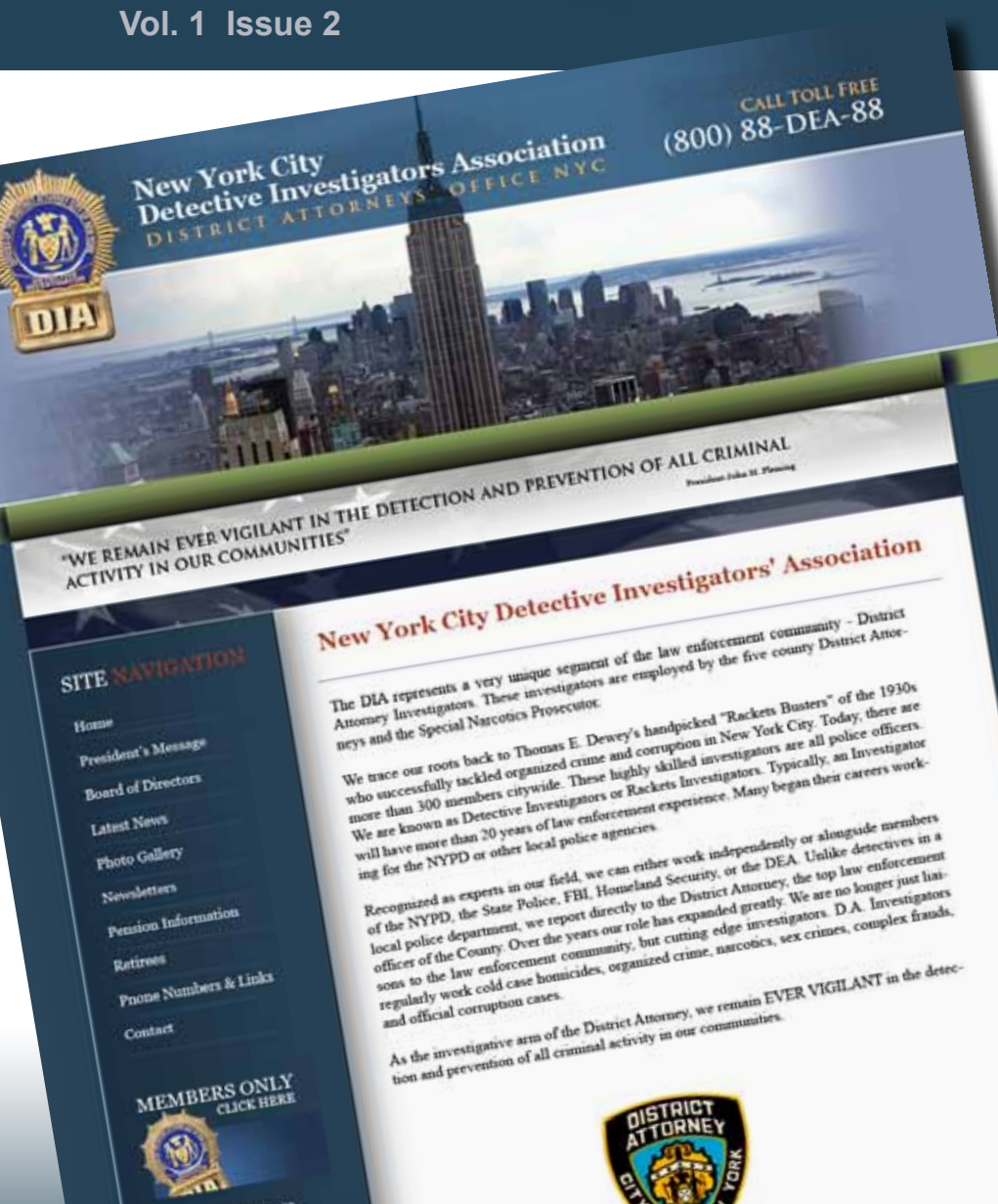


REPORT

DETECTIVE INVESTIGATORS' ASSOCIATION
of the District Attorneys' Offices, City of New York

Vol. 1 Issue 2

Summer 2010



DIA LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE

As a means of keeping in better touch with the membership in a more timely fashion, the DIA has launched a new and improved website. President John Fleming said he is hopeful that the easy-to-manuever site becomes a regular tool for members to stay on top of what's happening both within the Union and throughout the District Attorneys offices.

"We spent a lot of time on the design making sure ours is an easy site on which to find information," Fleming said. "Since our newsletters come out only a few times each year, we are counting on the website to keep members as up to date as possible."

Visit www.nycdia.com to see the new website

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JOHN FLEMING



A new battleground against unionized public sector employees is erupting throughout the State of New York. Public

sector workers are being blamed for higher taxes, municipal insolvency, and the proliferation of unending government regulation.

Labor finds itself at war. There is intimidation from all sides and the direct result is we are portrayed as the "evil" that brings down our society. Gone are the days when union representation in the public sector opened up great opportunity and a respect for what this country believes in — a good day's work and a dream to achieve. We must remember that our unions have done a very good job protecting us from the intimidation, threats, and coercion that are commonplace in the private sector.

Today, it is easier to point a finger at the union man who has a pension, good health care coverage, and a stable job environment and say, "Look, he's the problem!" At the same time, we are supposed to ignore the greed on Wall Street that brought down our economy and the dysfunction that engulfs our political system.

As a union leader, it pains me to read story after story depicting union members as greedy and selfish. No one mentions that to achieve the benefits we now have, we had to make plenty of sacrifices. Unions have always looked to join into a partnership with government to solve financial crises. History has shown time and again that

unions understand the importance of working together. It is government that fails to understand the concept of sacrifice.

On June 16, more than a dozen DIA members joined with 20,000 other union members at a Save Our City rally outside City Hall Park to send a message to Mayor Michael Bloomberg and the City Council that we are all willing to do our part, but no more. Amidst shouts of "We Are New York," some of New York City's biggest labor leaders addressed the overflow crowd that spilled out onto Broadway. The message being sent was "enough is enough". We've done what we needed to in order to Save Our City; now it's time for others to step up to the plate. New York City has a budget surplus of \$3.5 billion — more than enough to keep this City running without layoffs and cutbacks.

We are a small union compared to others, but we will be fighting with unions of all sizes in the months to come. As a unified front, labor's voice will be heard. New York City is a labor city and the Mayor and City Council need to remember that.

The Detective Investigators' Association will continue to fight to preserve the benefits we fought hard to achieve. The sacrifices of the men and women who keep our communities safe cannot be ignored. The DIA, like every other union, faces great challenges but also great opportunity.

We're facing many uphill battles in the months to come. Please check out our new web site for all the latest updates on our contract battle. You will always find the most up-to-date information on our new site.



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DIA AT IMPASSE OVER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

After six months of attempting to bargain with City negotiators for a successor agreement to our recently expired contract, the DIA again finds itself in the familiar position of needing outside assistance to settle our contract.

At our final meeting on March 19, the City presented a proposal that provides us with no raises for two years unless the raises are totally funded by givebacks. On April 5, the union petitioned PERB for a Declaration of Impasse. On April 16, mediator Phil Maier was assigned by PERB to assist in bringing closure to our negotiations and a meeting was scheduled for May 20.

The DIA was notified on May 19 that the meeting was canceled because the City was never properly notified. Since that time the City refused to return the mediator's calls for a follow-up date. In light of this and the fact that the law states that "if the mediator is unable to effect a settlement of the controversy within fifteen days after his appointment, either side may petition the board to refer the matter to a state arbitrator," I directed our lawyers to file for arbitration immediately.

On June 10, there was an emergency meeting of the Executive Board for the purpose of meeting with our lawyers to discuss the lack of progress in our impasse proceeding.


"This humiliating proposal was presented with all the arrogance City negotiators are known for," said DIA President John Fleming. "No other City union was asked to fund any part of their contract. It is clear the City had no intention of bargaining with us and as a result, I have asked our lawyers to file for impasse."

Fleming said this dejavu scenario is quite frustrating. However, it's important for everyone to know that from this point going forward the City is no longer in control. As a result of Governor Spitzer signing the DIA's PERB bill in 2008, the union is now under the control of the State Public Employees Relations Board (PERB). This is a major difference from our last contract when the City Office of Collective Bargaining (OCB) took control of Impasse Resolution.

"I have always felt that PERB provides a more appropriate forum for us to argue our case. All D.A. Investigators fall under PERB and there is a long-standing recognition by the State that our job shares a community of interest with the local police," Fleming said.

The next step will be the assigning of a State arbitrator whose decision will be binding on both parties. The DIA is always willing to negotiate for a fair contract, but will not accept anything

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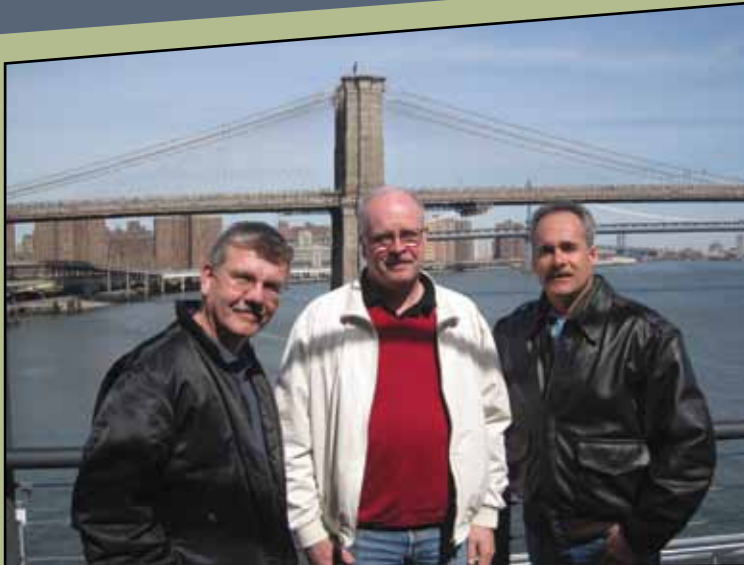


WTC
Disability Law
Filing Deadline Fast
Approaching

The World Trade Center Disability Law creates a presumptive eligibility for accident disability retirement for certain qualifying conditions if such disability occurred as a result of participation in the World Trade Center Rescue, Recovery, or Clean-up operations from September 11, 2001 – September 12, 2002. To preserve your right to the WTC presumption, members MUST FILE a "Notice of Participation." The Notice is not an application for disability Retirement benefits; rather it is a necessary prerequisite for eligibility under the law. Chapter 489 of the Laws of 2008 extended the deadline to file a "Notice of Participation" to **September 11, 2010**. **File now** if you haven't already done so in order to preserve your right to benefits later on should you need them. This important filing affects ALL investigators who were on duty September 11-12, 2001. The DIA urges all members to check that they have completed this form.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS



VISIT FROM SWEDEN

DIA President John M. Fleming (right) was asked by the President of the NYS FOP to speak to Karin Wickberg, President of the Swedish Federation of Police Association, in April. Mike Nied, Retired DIA Secretary/Treasurer, who is now FOP Statewide Trustee, also attended. The two showed Wickberg the Police Museum and South Street Seaport.



RDNY CRUISE

DIA Officers and Trustees attended this year's RDNY Cruise. From left are: Sgt. Cres DeLuca, former Queens Trustee; Vice President Anthony Franzolin; Det. Stanley Schiffman, Bronx DA's Office; Det. Frank Connelly, Manhattan Trustee; Secretary-Treasurer Jack Freck; and President John M. Fleming.

THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE JOE



Det. Joseph Iodice, a 19-year veteran of the Bronx District Attorney's Office was recognized for his service to our country at a party in his honor earlier this year at Empire Post 375 Veterans of Foreign Wars in Yonkers, NY.



Petty Officer 1st Class Iodice served a combat tour of duty in the North East areas of Afghanistan as a member of the U.S. Navy.

"The DIA is proud to salute the sacrifice and courage of Detective Iodice and all our members who have fought overseas to protect our country," said President John Fleming.

Pictured at top are friends and co-workers of Iodice who threw him the welcome home party. Bottom photo is Iodice with his wife.

BROOKLYN PROMOTIONS

District Attorney Hynes has authorized the promotion of Supervising Investigator Gregory DeBoer to the position of Deputy Chief Investigator, Special Investigations Division. Additionally, he authorized the promotion of Detective Investigator Anthony Nelson to the position of Assistant Deputy Chief for Administration, Special Investigations Division.

IN MEMORIAM

John "Jack" P. Clark

9/28/1941 – 6/17/2010



The DIA mourns the loss of one of our Detectives with a distinguished career. Jack P. Clark died on June 17, having most recently been assigned to the Manhattan District Attorney's office as a Senior Investigator, HIFCA/HIDTA in Chelsea. He went to work at the Manhattan DA's Office after a long

and successful career in the NYPD. Jack was appointed to the NYPD on December 11, 1962, and retired on February 1, 1989, as 1st grade Detective out of the NYPD Intelligence Division. Jack specialty was organized crime, and could often be seen and heard telling stories of back in the day. Jack had close to 48 years in Law Enforcement experience.

Jack was a wealth of knowledge. Not just about work, but about life in general, and will be sorely missed by all who knew him. This is definitely an "end of an era."

Jack is survived by his lovely wife Jeannie, his son Scott and wife Lisa, and their two children Nate and Zoe, his son, Michael and Michael's son, Anthony. His love for his family was always something that was admired by many. Donations to Jack's family would be greatly appreciated.

Donations Can Be Made to the DIA (we are a 501(c)3) and sent to PO Box 130405, New York, NY 10013. All donations will be forwarded to the Clark family. Donations are not tax deductible.

Top left: President Fleming presenting plaque to Det. Whalen

Top right: hoto Chief Festa presenting retirement shield to Whalen

Bottom: President John M. Fleming, Detective Bill Whalen, Chief Larry Festa and Queens Trustee Ron Hickman.



QUEENS

DA INVESTIGATORS HELP SOLVE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR REAL ESTATE FRAUD CASE

Congratulations to Queens DIA members involved in helping solve a case involving 17 individuals – including two Queens attorneys – who were charged with defrauding legitimate homeowners and various lending institutions out of more than \$3 million in equity that was stripped from



26 refinanced residential properties valued at \$13 million. Pictured from left are: Sgt. John Kenna, Queens DA Richard A. Brown, Det. Jerome Pugh, ADA Mariana Zelig; and David Nummey from the New York State Banking Department.

QUEENS DETECTIVE WHALEN RETIRES

Friends and coworkers gathered to offer their best wishes to Queens Detective Billy Whalen as he prepares for retirement. The party was held at DEEs, on Metropolitan Avenue in Forest Hills on June 24. Billy worked in the Queens DA's office for 25 years and was in charge of the witness relocation unit. He was also a Sergeant in the military.

There's A New Chief In Town

Congratulations to Frank Chiara, the newly appointed Chief Detective Investigator in Bronx County.

In July 1978, he joined the Bronx Detective Investigator Squad as a line investigator, after having worked with the FBI for two years. He was assigned to the Arson Task Force, at a time when the Bronx was going up in smoke. Frank handled numerous cases to combat Insurance Fraud, that was often the result of these arsons.

In April 1982, he was promoted to Senior Detective Investigator. Shortly thereafter, he established a warrant team. Under his supervision, the aggressive team established an 85% clearance record. Eighteen months later, he was promoted to Supervising Detective Investigator/Lieutenant. During his tenure, in addition to supervising the squad, he supervised Detectives off site, assigned to the El Dorado Task Force Operation Sunrise. Chief Chiara assisted in a multi-Gun Trafficking investigation that consisted of guns being transported via UPS. The investigation led to the seizure of 150 handguns and multiple arrests.

Frank Chiara was promoted to D/C in July 1991. Under his command, he supervised a Multi-agency investigation into Tax Fraud, a joint investigation into Organized Crime and Trademark Infringement cases with the Motion Picture and Recording Industries.

So who is Frank Chiara and what's he all about? For starters, he has been the loving husband of Venetia for more than 20 years. He is the proud father of Guissippi, Michael and Nicolas, his 13 year old triplet sons.

He is a leader with a mission to lead his men and women to new heights in their dedication and professionalism in law enforcement. Integrity is the center of his being, and what he shows on the outside, is in deed what lies within. As a result, he has the trust and respect of his squad. He is truly loyal to his beliefs, his values, his families, both at home and in the office. His strong ethics and dedication have led him to the position he now holds.

He spends whatever time and energy is necessary to accomplish the task at hand. Thereby creating an environment that brings out the utmost from his Detectives by inspiring, nurturing, motivating and even exciting them to do what is in the best interest of the constituents of Bronx County.

Great things will come with his leadership! Congratulations and Best Wishes from the DIA. We also wish our best to Retired Chief Steven Nasta for a long and happy retirement.

President John Fleming (left) with Bronx Trustee Juan Crosas Medina (right) presenting a plaque to Nasta.



From left: Chief Detective Investigator Frank Chiara, Lt. Frank Thorp, Lt. Raymond Jones, Ret. Chief Steven Nasta and Lt. Doris Amador, Supervisor's Trustee.



At the promotion party for Chief Frank Chiara, held at the Bronx D.A.'s Office, the Lieutenants who planned the whole party held at the Eastwood Manner in the Bronx on May 20, gather around Chiara to wish him well. From left: Lt. Frank Thorp, Lt. Doris Amador, Chief Chiara, Lt. Raymond Jones and Lt. Rocco Galasso.

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

Former DIA President Al Lombardo Retires After 24 Years of Distinguished Service



In October 1986, Alphonse "Al" Lombardo joined the ranks of the Kings County District Attorneys Office as a Detective Investigator. Earlier this month, after 24 years of service to this Office, Deputy Chief Lombardo retired. In his 24 years of service, DCI Lombardo exemplified the fine attributes and professionalism that has become the cornerstone of Detective Investigators throughout the City.

At the outset of his career, Lombardo was assigned to the Sex Crimes Division, where he was responsible for handling very sensitive investigations. Subsequently, his skills were utilized by the Homicide Division, where he was assigned to the Drug/Homicide Task Force. The success of this task force in focusing on the relationship between the sale of drugs and the potential for murder led to the conviction of numerous drug dealers, including the infamous "Baby Sam" investigation.

Deputy Chief Lombardo's interpersonal skills, not only amongst his peers but with suspected criminal offenders, led to his assignment as one of this Office's primary Polygraph Analysts. In 1993, Lombardo was promoted to Supervisor and was one of the original members of the Office's Special Investigation Unit. The creation of the Special Investigation Unit and Chief Lombardo's assignment to this Unit reflected his ability to investigate complicated and diverse investigations.

In February 2003, Deputy Chief Lombardo was activated for duty by the US Armed Forces and served a 14-month tour in Afghanistan. For his services in Afghanistan, he was awarded the Bronze Star. After nearly 30 years of active and reserve duty with the military, Lombardo retired from the military in 2005. Upon his return to the District Attorney's

Office in August 2004, he was promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief Investigator.

In this capacity, Lombardo oversaw a wide range of investigations involving sex crimes, official corruption, narcotics trafficking and organized crime. In returning to his early focus on sex crimes related investigations, he has been active as a volunteer in protecting children from violence. He is a member of the Executive Board for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (formerly the Adam Walsh Foundation).

Additionally, Lombardo graduated of the FBI's National Academy, and while working at the District Attorney's Office, continued to pursue academic success culminating in obtaining a Masters Degree from Norwich University focusing on Psychological Profiling.

Deputy Chief Lombardo's accomplishments also transcend the workplace. In addition to his volunteer work with the Center, Lombardo was active in pursuing the professional development of Detective Investigators throughout New York City. Much of the recognition that Detective Investigators receive today are the result of Lombardo's efforts as a Past President of the Detective Investigators' Association. Deputy Chief Lombardo also served as the President of the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 38, where he also doubled his responsibilities as a member of its Pipes and Drums Band.

Al Lombardo has retired, but has not gone into "retirement". Al is involved in two private ventures working closely with his son and friends. It is in retirement that Al will be spending more time with his two passions: his wife, children and grandchildren, as well as, returning to performing in a "rock and roll band". Though the experience, expertise and mentorship the Deputy Chief Lombardo provided to the Detective Investigators of Kings County will be lost, the Detective Investigators Association wishes only the best to a valued member of our ranks.



By Julian Yannotti, former DIA Vice President

THE RACKET-BUSTING YEARS

The “Roaring 20s” and “Dirty 30s” were eras plagued with organized criminal activity. Monies earned from the 20’s prohibition period enabled the leaders of the criminal underworld to become powerful overlords of their chosen cities.

Many law enforcement officials and politicians fell into line, bought off by the proceeds earned from any number of rackets controlled by the organized crime bosses. Newspapers chronicled organized crime’s disregard for innocent bystanders as their violence spilled upon the civilian populated streets. Driven by greed, the different criminal factions fought over territory and control of their competitor’s lucrative criminal enterprises. And in the “Windy City” the Thompson submachine gun, christened the “Chicago Typewriter,” became the weapon of choice.

Not unlike a number of other major metropolises throughout the nation, New York City in the 20s and 30s had also succumbed and fallen into the clutches of the mob. Tammany Hall, and law enforcement officials, following their counterpart’s sullied behavior in other cities, turned a blind eye as members of organized crime continued to reap profits from their many illegal enterprises and cause a general concern for public safety among the citizenry.

This trying period in our City’s history set the stage for a team of dedicated individuals of steadfast character, bold enough to take on the scourge of organized crime and the entrenched political corruption.

The year was 1935, a Grand Jury not satisfied with District Attorney William C. Dodge’s less than aggressive pursuit of organized crime and political corruption, publicly complained to the news media. The “Runaway Grand Jury” prompted New York State Governor Herbert H. Lehman, a Democrat wishing to avoid accusations of partisanship, to appoint Thomas E. Dewey, a Republican and former Federal Prosecutor, to the position of Special Prosecutor for New York County.

Mr. Dewey, not one known for wasting time, quickly put together a staff consisting of 60 assistants, 10 Rackets Investigators, (our predecessors), process servers, stenographers and clerks. Mayor Fiorello H.

La Guardia handpicked a number of police officers and assigned them to work exclusively for Mr. Dewey, thus complimenting the remainder of his crime fighting staff. A base of operations was established in the Woolworth Building. Its many exits and entrances enhanced the Rackets Investigator’s abilities to safely and stealthily escort witnesses and confidential informants in and out of Mr. Dewey’s inner sanctum.

Rackets Investigators targeted the usual organized criminal activities, gangland slayings, extortion, prostitution, numbers racket, political corruption, and other crimes committed by the criminal underworld.

Dutch Schultz, a prominent underworld figure and nemesis of Mr. Dewey and his Rackets Investigators, escaped prosecution in his first trial when a jury, unable to render a verdict, remained deadlocked. While Mr. Dewey and his Investigators prepared for a second trial, the slippery Schultz and his attorneys successfully argued for a change of venue.

A second trial was held in Malone, N.Y., a small upstate town. Months before the trial began, Schultz moved into the community and cunningly gained the townspeople’s sympathies, having frequently plied them with dinner and drinks while visiting their local establishments. The scheme worked and resulted in an innocent verdict for the “Dutchman.” He was again targeted by Mr. Dewey and his Rackets Investigators. As a result of further prosecutorial action, and an impending arrest, Schultz marked Mr. Dewey for assassination. And to prove that he was serious, Schultz let it be known to the heads of New York’s five organized crime families that he had placed a \$25,000 price tag on Mr. Dewey’s head, payable to anyone willing to do the job. There were no takers. Against their wishes, Schultz adamantly stated that he would do the deed himself.

Knowing that Schultz would follow through on his threat

to murder Dewey, New York's Luciano Crime Family Boss, Salvatore Lucanio, aka "Lucky Luciano," called for a "Mafia Commission" meeting. In the early days of the American Mafia, "The Commission," a governing body formed in 1931 by Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky in Atlantic City, NJ, comprised of the founding bosses of New York's five organized crime families.

Al Capone's "Chicago Outfit," and Stefano, "The Undertaker," Magaddino's "Buffalo Crime Family," met to prevent conflicts, and mob wars, and to facilitate business interests while maintaining a low profile. There was a unanimous consensus among the Commission members that incorruptible law enforcement officials, "Straight Arrows," such as Dewey and his Rackets Investigators, were immune from any acts of violence committed upon them by members of their crime families.

Under Luciano's Chairmanship, the members of the Commission agreed that Dewey's murder would only serve to heighten and intensify rackets probes into their organized criminal activities, and other well established criminal enterprises under their control. As a consequence of Schultz's plan to murder Mr. Dewey, Luciano ordered the killing of Schultz. The Dutchman was subsequently gunned down while visiting a urinal at the Palace Chop House in Newark, NJ. With Schultz out of the way, and no longer a threat to his life, Mr. Dewey and his Rackets Investigators focused on Luciano.

Eventually Luciano, the boss of his own crime family, under-bossed by Vito Genovese, was arrested and convicted of operating the largest prostitution racket in our Nation's history. He received a sentence of thirty to fifty years for his involvement in, and control of, eighty houses of ill repute in New York and New Jersey.

With Mr. Dewey in command, his Rackets Investigators worked tirelessly to bring to justice some of the most notorious and sinister gangsters of the period. However, there were other individuals, less violent, but just as menacing, who were brought to justice as well. Two such individuals were Richard Whitney and Fritz Kuhn.

Whitney, President of the NY Stock Exchange, was arrested, indicted, and convicted of embezzlement in 1936. Kuhn, leader of the American Nazi Party, was arrested, indicted, and convicted for the same crime two years prior to our nation's entry into the Second World War.

A self proclaimed "American Fuhrer," Kuhn's Nazi Party membership of 25,000, modeled after Adolph Hitler's "Brown Shirts," sympathized with Nazi Germany and promoted its brand of fascism and anti-Semitism. His organization was considered a threat to national security by The House of Un-American Activities Committee. Prior to his arrest and conviction, he travelled to Germany to meet with Hitler. After his conviction, Kuhn spent

a number of years in Sing-Sing state prison. And after our nation's entry into the Second World War, he was transferred to an internment camp in Texas, later to be deported at war's end to West Germany where he was again imprisoned.

In late 1937, the overwhelming successes of Mr. Dewey's rackets probes, as well as his other successes in combating official corruption and white collar crimes, catapulted him to the elected office of New York County District Attorney. With officially taking office in the early months of 1938, Mr. Dewey transitioned his Rackets Investigators, and additional staff members, to his newly appointed office.

It has been more than 70 years since our humble but proud beginnings. In that span of time we have grown in numbers, from an initial force of 10, to one of more than 300 law enforcement professionals, representing the law enforcement arm of the five District Attorney's Offices, and the five counties under their separate and independent jurisdictions. As such, we continue in our efforts to assist our elected D.A.s in their tireless efforts to apprehend and prosecute all those involved in criminal activities. And as always, we remain, "Ever Vigilant."

A few notable asides worth mentioning:

An excerpt from ADA John C. Fine's 1944 book, "Racket Squad,": "District Attorney Frank Hogan's Chief Investigator, Thomas Faye, was in charge of a small group of Rackets Investigators on the 'Tightrope,' a special type of undercover work. These men infiltrated corrupt trade unions and mob racketeering activities; their work was dangerous, oftentimes entering situations alone and unarmed."

The 1946-1948 New York County District Attorney's Report reflects that Harold R. Danforth, Herbert C. Israel, Emil J. Johannsen, Peter J. Kilmartin, Francis McAree, Michael J. Monz, Anthony J. Perone, Anthony J. Scanlon, and Edward A. Whitside, were all employed as Rackets Investigators for DA Frank Hogan's Office. Thomas M. Fay was the Chief Rackets Investigator.

In 1951, a popular television series was based on Mr. Dewey and his Rackets Investigators exploits in combating organized crime.

In 1959, another popular television series titled "The D.A.'s Man" made its debut on NBC television. The producer of the series

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DIA ENDORSES DANIEL DONOVAN FOR NYS ATTORNEY GENERAL



The DIA recently endorsed Dan Donovan, former DIA member, for New York State Attorney General. In making the endorsement, DIA President John M. Fleming said, "I have known Dan Donovan for more than 20 years. I have had the pleasure to work for him and I saw first hand the intelligence and commitment that he brings to the job."

During Dan's tenure as Richmond County District Attorney, Staten Island saw a major revitalization of the office. His aggressive prosecution of sex offenders, domestic violence offenders, and those who prey on our senior citizens or children made Staten Island a safer place to live and raise a family.

"We are most proud of the fact that Dan began his career as a Detective Investigator and worked his way through law school to become a fine prosecutor. It was that initiative that makes him the right man to take on this important challenge," Fleming said. "Dan has a proven track record of putting aside political ideology and working collectively with all groups to insure the job gets done. His leadership in identifying better ways to protect the community makes him the best choice to be our next Attorney General."

Meet Dan Donovan

Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. started his career as a DA Investigator in Brooklyn in 1976. He was elected Richmond County District Attorney in November 2003, becoming the first Republican elected District Attorney in New York City in more than 50 years. He was overwhelmingly re-elected in 2007 with nearly 70% of the vote. A native Staten Islander, Donovan was educated in local schools and attended St. John's University (Staten Island Campus) where he earned a BA in Criminal Justice. He later attended the Fordham University School of Law and earned his JD, with honors, in 1988. True to his modest upbringing, Dan paid his own way through college and law school, working various jobs and learning the true value of hard work and determination.

District Attorney Donovan began his career as a prosecutor serving eight years under Manhattan DA Robert M. Morgenthau where he prosecuted major narcotics cases throughout the City and served as senior trial counsel. After leaving Morgenthau's office, Donovan began serving Staten Island in 1996 as Chief of Staff to then Borough President Guy V. Molinari. In January 2002, he was appointed Deputy Borough President.

As Staten Island District Attorney Donovan led the City in the conviction of dangerous felons (a staggering 94%); became the first prosecutor on Staten Island to use New York's Hate Crimes statute to prosecute bias crimes; and aggressively targeted illegal guns, drunk drivers, sex offenders, domestic violence and those who prey on senior citizens and children.

As DA, Donovan has undertaken an ambitious legislative agenda, calling upon legislators to enact or improve laws where the people of New York are not being adequately protected. Donovan has been an out-spoken advocate for tougher laws regarding sexual predators, illegal guns, drunk drivers, domestic violence, gratuitous video game violence, and for repealing the statute of limitations in serious sex offenses. Donovan plans to harness all the powers of the office, to bring an end of to the corruption in Albany, and to restore New Yorkers' faith in their elected officials and state government.

To accomplish this Dan will:

- Make the Attorney General's office ground zero to root out government corruption.
- Aggressively prosecute corruption at all levels of government.
- Shine a light on all legislators' conflicts of interest.
- Foster real transparency in the "member item" process.
- Crack down on abusive contractors.
- Guarantee the state pension system serves retirees and taxpayers, and not the well-connected.
- Root out Medicaid fraud in every corner of the state.

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Retiree News



By Nick Vessio, Retiree Delegate

For all our retired members, I just want to let you know that I am back fulltime as the DIA's retiree delegate.

For any new retired member, who does not know me, I was a Supervising Rackets Investigator in the Manhattan District Attorneys' Office for twenty years. Prior to that, I worked as an investigator for several City agencies. I have a B.A. in Criminal Justice and a master's degree in Public Administration.

I want all our retirees to know that it is the intention of the DIA to have our retired members play a more active role in our union. We want you to be included and active in all aspects of the Association. Your participation and suggestions are welcomed.

In addition, later this year the union will sponsor firearms qualification for any member who retired with over fifteen years of service. This training will be conducted by a certified NYS Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) firearms instructor. The purpose is to conform to federal legislation (H.R. 218) that allows qualified retired police officers to carry their weapon outside of New York State. Those who pass will receive the State certification card which must be carried by retired police officers who carry their weapon outside the State. The retired member will pay a small fee. The DIA encourages any retired member who plans on carrying their weapon outside the State to take this qualification course.

Any retired member with questions can contact me at (917) 502-1215 or at retirednycdia@hotmail.com. For those who recently retired, I wish you and your families all the best.

DIA ENDORSEMENTS

The DIA is endorsing the following candidates for office:

New York State Attorney General

Daniel Donovan

New York State Senate

Frank Padavan. District 11 Queens

Diane J. Savino. District 23 Staten Island

Mark Levine. District 31 Manhattan

New York State Assembly

Peter J. Abbate. District 49 Brooklyn

Westchester Family Court Judge

Patricia O'Callaghan

We request all our members to support these candidates on Election Day in November.

THE RACKET-BUSTING YEARS

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was Jack Webb of "Dragnet" fame. The series was based on a book written by Rackets Investigator Harold R. Danforth, co-authored by James D. Horan; it chronicled the exploits of Investigator "Shannon" a fictionalized characterization of Investigator Danforth who became a technical advisor for the television series. Danforth's book was well received and later won the much coveted Edgar Literary Award for best fact crime book.

Harold R. Danforth began his law enforcement career in 1935. Hired as a Rackets Investigator by Mr. Dewey, he worked through the tumultuous racket-busting years. A great deal of the evidence gathered by Rackets Investigator Danforth aided in the prosecution of such notable underworld figures as Lucky Luciano, Dutch Schultz and Dixie Davis. He retired from D.A Frank Hogan's office after many years of outstanding and honorable service.

Benefits of Joining the Fraternal Order of Police

DIA members are encouraged to join the Fraternal Order of Police. The FOP offers a multitude of programs and benefits for both members and their families, which include survivor aid, scholarships and discounts on many types of businesses.

One of the newest benefits being offered to FOP members is the opportunity to participate in a group life insurance program with The Hartford Insurance Company which is offering very attractive rates.

Since the FOP is the largest law enforcement organization in the United States, it can assist you with networking for both job-related and vacation-related travel. In New York State alone, there are more than 80 local lodges you can belong to; two of which have many DIA members in them.

For more information about the Fraternal Order of Police, please contact Ret. Detective Investigator Mike Nied at (917) 345-0164 or by e-mail at fop38prez@aol.com. Mike is the NYSFOP National Trustee.

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less than what is offered to other City employees.

“State arbitrators routinely allow for discussion of benefits and work rules we are unable to discuss with the City. We have lined up four law firms who prepared cases for investigators in other parts of the State and they are sharing with us important strategy.”

Fleming said he will be scheduling meetings at each office to further discuss this process and answer members’ questions.

DIA ENDORSES DONOVAN

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- Work with localities to protect residents from never-ending property tax increases.
- Track the flow of terrorist money into our state before anybody can attempt to attack us.
- Protect investors and consumers from the financial crimes of Wall Street.
- Stem the flow of illegal guns into our state.
- Protect our children from predators whether on the internet or in person.

Detective Investigators' Association
District Attorneys' Offices — City of New York
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