Lee Bailey wrote a fine book (where the above title originates) 30-some years ago about those he advocated for against the machine, the establishment, the man. Killers, rapists, and all sorts of odd human beings who, by their own free will, allegedly did terrible things to everyday, normal human beings—just like you!

Great books and movies have been made from these snippets of life, horrible as they may be, and F. Lee did pretty well for himself. There is popularity in defending a-holes! And besides every monster hiding behind a Jason mask is a good attorney (as F. Lee was) who will seek nothing more than justice for their sick, perverted and murdering clients. The question here is: Do they seek justice, or do they just want to get their clients off? There is a lot of future work as Mr. Bailey has clearly demonstrated over the years by getting obviously guilty people off the hook. Big bucks await big cases. Advocacy and justice for all.

I get it but don’t always buy it. Those of us in the law enforcement profession really do and don’t. But neither are we blinded by the shrill calls of “injustice” by the liberal or advocacy pettifogging machine either. We believe in a fair trial. An honest one. One built on truth, decency, and actual evidence.

Everyone is presumed innocent before being brought before a tribunal of courts. No set-ups, frame-ups, or screw-ups should ever occur. Sadly, that does happen, but in the big scheme of things, not often. Our job as much as we have a say in it, should strive to manage and eliminate the false allegations and prosecutions.

Our court system is really geared to do just that as multiple and repetitive appeals are a way of life. We all know of cases where serious misfits are allowed back into society due to the errors, misdeeds, or mistakes of those in our profession, including prosecutors. Throw in double dealing...
Chaplain’s Column

By: Thomas Ross

E ver hear of the BLUE WALL? I think we all know it is alive and well in policing. It is true that many groups in society build similar walls, but the Blue Wall is unique. It is an intentional wall that is carefully guarded and maintained. Not only do officers maintain that wall around their work, but also around their relationships and families. The effects of maintaining the Wall can adversely affect these relationships. Behind the Wall are hurting people, people who need the care and support of others who will intentionally understand them and their world.

Every officer goes through developmental stages in their career. Knowledge of these stages can help us understand the uniqueness of the job and personal stressors they face.

The first stage is the rookie stage, which includes training and probation phases. Most officers I know joined a department so they could help people and their community. Sometimes, along with that desire, often comes the misconception of the “super cop.” They feel they can help solve any problem in society. Through the process of screening, the trainee begins to accept their new police culture and release some of the civilian culture. This many times includes Church. I hear so many issues—no time, I don’t want to meet someone I arrested, so on and so forth! Now, the officer puts up a wall of silence when they do not want to talk about their job and fears with their spouse. Rookies are told to not talk to anyone outside the job, especially the spouse. The spouse wants to relate to their spouse’s work, but the officer deliberately insulates their family from the negative elements that they see on the job and shuts out the spouse’s natural interest in the job. One divorced officer referred to his wife’s curiosity in his work by saying, “Sure. She’d ask. But it was none of her damn business.” It may be that the officer doesn’t want to discuss work because they might expose their feelings, something they have tried hard to control and hide. This “shielding” can cause numerous communication problems.

The second stage is the early years, as this is their time to try to fit in and gain acceptance. Peer pressure is tremendous. Many times they become more defensive as the public appears to be a threat. Every day contact with negative elements reinforces this.

The third stage is commonly referred to as “The John Wayne Syndrome.” During this time, the officer gains a unique sense of power. There is a feeling of being invincible, which causes them to take chances. This behavior can naturally frighten the spouse. There is a macho image displayed at home which can affect relationships. During this time there is a transference from idealism to cynicism.

The next phase is the journeyman. Here the officer begins to mellow out. They

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Chief’s Follies

By: Joseph Andalina

#1. St. George and the Saints

There goes George once more. Naperville mayor George Pradel, that is. His lips are moving again.

Chicagoland’s “hottest” mayor, who is noted for wearing strange hats, having a sandwich named after him, who has never met a camera he didn’t like, makes funny faces, is also known to say some imprudent things. We have channeled his past utterances in a few columns in the past. And once more, he comes up with some intriguing flap-doodle.

Whether he just likes to bloviate when asked any kind of a question or he really thinks that he has to answer every question when no comment should suffice, I don’t know.

He is safe, non-threatening, an ex-Officer Friendly, and all politicians in many ways. But why is he talking or giving opinions that always makes me chuckle. And if the press liked all cops like they do this fine fellow, we wouldn’t have any pension problems right now.

Getting on with it—”all know by now that the New Orleans Saints were punished big time by the Football Gods for its “bounty” program. You know, players being paid a stipend for “seriously” hurting other players.

The program was supported by many coaches who should have known better, including Sean Payton, the head coach who walked on water when the Saints won some sort of game after Hurricane Katrina.

Now Mr. Payton lived in Naperville for a time and played football at a local high school. Because of this, and winning “the” big game, he was revered by the local political honchos in Naperville. He was the ‘ville’s hero and received numerous plaudits and all the other garbage politicians heap on celebrities who have roots in any town—even though they don’t live there anymore.

Yes, the politicians all must find someone to slobber over, so you won’t notice them with their hands in your pockets looking for loose change to add to the local tax base. Look, Payton is from Naperville! Let’s raise the gas tax while no one is paying attention!

Well, Mr. Payton’s exploits in New Orleans has nothing to do with his upbringing in Naperville. He just used to live here. But he came “home” after his big win, said all the right things, visited downtown, ate with politicians and other notables, and visited his alma mater. All nice stuff but predictable.

Once there, he told the students that “his defining moments of his life are the times of difficulty and hardships.” (Too bad he couldn’t see the future—who knew?) Among other professed sentiments: “What matters is how you handle those things, pressure, and other stuff.”

Some might say he didn’t handle all that “other stuff” very well as he took winning to an extreme—he had his players hurt others to win. And then the guy got caught trying to orchestrate a cover-up and only when the NFL investigation uncovered his cover-up did he “confess” and admit to the error of his ways. Yes, he should be disgraced, in my humble opinion. Hurting people, hurting them for money, forgetting your ethics, lying about it, covering it up, are all the things that you would get fired for.

So in the aftermath, the press goes to St. George and other “leaders.” They want a statement. And they and St. George delivered. Maybe George was carrying his signed football or wearing a “Payton” jersey when he told the press on how they (we) needed all the facts and no one should judge Payton. Until, yes, all those facts were in. Such denial. I would expect to hear that from the defense attorneys as outlined in this issue’s cover piece.

Never mind that Payton participated, got caught, covered up, and then coppped out. Well, the Saints’ #1 Fan, having the good of Naperville first and foremost in everything he does, relates “We will hold him (Payton) in high esteem. I’m not sure how he got caught up in it (the bounty program) but we are supporting him as a Napervillian in whatever he does.”

Really, George? In whatever he does? That was just a foolish thing to say. All the issues have been in, and in for
The 13th apostle
More news from Governor Quinn and the Big Guy in the Sky. Those of you who follow Governor Mandate (winning the top seat in Illinois by a whopping 5% of the vote) know he likes to make references to having the Lord’s phone number on his speed dial. A few years ago, he and Blago (now resting in the Governor's mansion) went public about receiving messages from the Big Guy himself.

At about the same time, Quinn’s staff got caught peddling his access to who-ever would pony up, campaign contributions in excess of $15,000. I’m not sure if the Governor or his staff gave the church tithes in excess of $15,000. It seems that these two issues are combined now when dealing with the budget.

The debt in Medicaid is unsustainable, so says one press, whose motto on the same page of its paper says: “Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth, and make money.” So they must support Quinn because as illustrated above, there might be a direct connection between the Almighty and the Almighty. And we don’t want to go against Him, since He and Quinn are obviously tight. And who doesn’t like money? Unless you’re a public employee, then “they” don’t like you.

So by the time you read this, there seems to be a strong possibility that the pension crisis could be tentatively made over for teachers and state workers. Of course, anything agreed upon in legislation won’t actually come to fruition for about 30 years, as it will take that long for this to resolve itself, and you can bet that the state will be spending thousands of your tax dollars in a constitutional fight that the various unions for the employees must file to object to the legislative illegal change of the Illinois Constitution.

Poor folks
The legislation is also trying to fix the budget from Medicaid abuse, over-spending, or ineptness. Not sure which one, or maybe all three.

And again, Quinn has a sound byte moment that the press just sucks up, spits out, and saves to savor later. Quinn: “This is our moment in history to get these issues resolved.” The press says the governor is right. So be it. If the press says so, who are we to argue? I think he was referring to the pension crisis also, (see above) as well as Medicaid. It seems that these two issues are combined now when dealing with the budget.

The debt in Medicaid is unsustainable, so says one press, whose motto on the same page of its paper says: “Our aim: To fear God, tell the truth, and make money.” So they must support Quinn because as illustrated above, there might be a direct connection between the Almighty and the Almighty. And we don’t want to go against Him, since He and Quinn are obviously tight. And who doesn’t like money? Unless you’re a public employee, then “they” don’t like you.

But out of control spending will hurt, as they say, vulnerable children, poor, and the elderly who rely on Medicaid. It will hurt hospitals and other provid-ers. Services will be cut. We have to act. Cuts must be made the least painful. It has to be done.

Because of Medicaid and the pension problem, our state’s economy is a mess a while as the numerous media stories have alleged that scandal in various formats over and over again.

Supporting this coach, even if he is a cheater or liar or whatever he does, just illustrates that this reprehensible behavior was okay with George and others. No sir, that is not what Naperville should be about. You don’t give him a free pass because he once lived here and played a sport here. That’s just absurd.

But his sentiments are touching. Wish he felt the same for some of his em-ployees whose concerns may have been totally ignored in the past. And if a future employee gets caught in a “cover-up.” I hope I hear George say “We will support him in whatever he has done. He is from Naperville!” But I wouldn’t bet on it.

George was not alone in these feelings, however. But a more honest and reliable answer came (in the same article) from an ex-high school football player who was queried about this issue. His answer was handled with complete sincerity and I hope the politicians took note.

The ex-star player said that while he loved the coach (Payton), he believed that what the coach did was completely illegal and punishment was warranted.

Refreshing, isn’t it? The young man, unlike elected “leaders,” showed loyalty, compassion, and responsibility. That’s the way politicians should think and act but we don’t really expect them to, do we? After all, they are politicians.

#2 A chief in the DUI lane
You almost feel sorry for him, even though he is a chief. While obviously we should all support DUI enforce-ment, when the law catches you, you sort of wish that the old “professional courtesy” existed. But that went out with the 8-Track tapes and Milli Vanilli.

However, that doesn’t exist anymore, thanks to our chiefs, so when you might say, “get tagged—even if you are a chief. And in this case, the Grayslake Police Boss was recently arrested in Wisconsin on drunken driving related charges.

Not good conduct for any “grunt” on the street, but really unacceptable conduct for a chief. The mayor sus-pended the chief and that was prop-er. They don’t want a distraction in the PD. Well, let me tell you, I don’t have to work there to advise you this can’t help being a distraction. But the cops will persevere and do what cops do—show up, put up with the bs, arrest some bad guys and look for a way to get out of a lousy beat.

It is funny that the chief, whose first mistake was to drink and drive, also made mistake #2—get stopped in Wisconsin. Pretty much as zero-tolerance as you can be for any kind of traffic offense. When I drive in Wisconsin, I drive five miles under the speed limit and drink only green tea.

Well, it gets better. The chief, after mistake #1 and #2, then made mistake #3—he crashed his Honda into another vehicle while turning. Screwed, blued, and tattooed, one might say.

No injuries. He got out on bail but did have a loaded firearm on him, so that became part of the charge; being drunk and carrying a firearm. Not even a break there. My, my, my.

Initial reports indicated that the boss smelled of alcohol, was swaying to the officer’s musical questioning, and his eyes were red and glassy. He admitted to having a few beers with din-din. Interestingly, the chief refused a field sobriety test. He was taken to the hospital to give blood, refused, and then reeled. He suddenly got soft. Can’t forget the law—especially when you are the law.

No word on blood alcohol level at the time of this writing. We wish him the best, although he made the right decision and resigned soon after his arrest.

Legislative News
by: Joseph Andalina

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Some chiefs have done much worse, but he should know above all, that like the ad says: IF YOU DRINK AND DRIVE, YOU WILL GO TO JAIL. Even if you are the chief.

Make laws, yes. But laws that really mean something to citizens. Lots of crap in them there law books. Let’s applaud Mr. Dillard.

Miscellaneous

Lots of bills out there. Little room for it all. More to ponder.

• Making it more difficult to raise tolls by requiring more tollway directors to vote. (Like that would really change anything?)
• Extra pay for stipends for leading legislative committee is staying. A bill to eliminate them was defeated. $1.3 million could have been saved, but noooow. That stays. Legislators don’t want to give up their nickels and dimes. (But you must pony up your pensions.)
• Likewise, a plan that would have kept legislators/members of state boards from collecting travel reimbursements was also quashed. (Throw some quarters into the pot for the tolls, please.)
• State Senator Mike Nolan wanted legislation to create a study on Universal Health Care, but his fellow Democrats said no—it’s a waste of time. (Say hi to Mr. Dillard above.)
• The Boan Yard, or is #3. The Boan Yard, or is

A plan that would have liked trees, is out there on controlled burns, can identify a Pin oak from a Bur oak or maybe he just spreads of lot manure for the mayor when asked. Sometimes I think that in incidents like this one, maybe it would be proper to name the woods for a person in Public Works who actually maintains it. Perhaps someone in Forestry.

For a guy who loves woodlands like I do, I’ll have to mosey on down to see what kind of woods they are. But I’ll have to watch out for all those bloodsucking ticks that could be there.

#4. The Circus in Barrington Hills

And it might stay for a while. MAP has been representing the officers in Barrington Hills for some time now. We have been fighting for the officers with ULPs, arbitrations, and fighting against worthless ULPs by the town and their attorney, who we believe to be the reincarnation of Methuselah, a patriarch who lived 969 years.

In a recent ULP against MAP, he prepared an affidavit where he stated
Defense never rests

Continued from page 1

Witnesses or those witnesses who don’t know shit from shinola and sometimes it is a problem. But again, we strive to perfectly prosecute a maybe-oriented bad guy or two, and we are pretty resourceful at that. The nefarious among us deserve the best that we can give them away from decent humans everywhere.

However, the laws of advocacy heavily favor the miscreant. Lawyers for the dark side get way more latitude in how they bring a case to trial. Much more so than any prosecutor. If a prosecutor so much as withholds, misrepresents, infers, or implies something not direct to the evidence, there is hell to pay. Mistrials, contempt charges, acquittals, and bashing in the press will result for these prosecutorial errors.

I guess that’s okay, because reasonable doubt is a good barometer of guilt. We on this side of the fence do not need to falsify or misrepresent our goal—to put bad guys away.

But the other side? Lots of leeway there. They (defense attorneys) can just say, imply, or infer anything to get their client off. Sometimes those of us in law enforcement feel that this whole justice thing is not about justice but about advocacy. It’s normal for a defense to do whatever is necessary to get their client off. Being innocent has more merit in how the defense attorneys always continue this crap and endless appeals. The defendant, however, lost at that venue, forever barring a metal stud in your tongue as being an excuse for drunk driving.

And of course, there is the pre-menstrual syndrome excuse, or PMS, and that “my period made me crazy.” I’m not going any further on this one.

Then there is the “Matrix” or “Matrix Reloaded” defense—a recent twist on the time-proven “insanity defense.” In this venue, you could kill your parents, your spouse, a friend and profess the idea that you were living within the “Matrix.” Of course, you have to get a judge and jury to buy into that excuse and make them believe that you are actually Neo or Mr. Anderson and these evil computers are creating an illusion and nothing is really real anyway. (I worked at Bolingbrook PD so maybe there is something to this.) These computers can be so much worse than “Hal” from 2001: A Space Odyssey. But this excuse does take the cake and these evil computers are creating an illusion and nothing is really real anyway.

There is the “pierced tongue” defense. Really? To me it is just a lot of baloney. When I see a piercing, I want to ask the person to take it out, and that is what I did—just a lot of baloney.

Then there is the “pierced tongue” defense, where after a DUI and breathalyzer test, the defense claimed that the piercing constituted a foreign object in the mouth of their client which invalidated the breath test. My thoughts? A hot dog would probably do the same thing, so carry a pack of Oscar Mayer if you like to imbibe. It’s cheaper and less painful.

This case actually made it to the Illinois Supreme Court, which is why the defense attorneys always continue this crap and endless appeals. The defendant, however, lost at that venue, forever barring a metal stud in your tongue as being an excuse for drunk driving.

And of course, there is the pre-menstrual syndrome excuse, or PMS, and that “my period made me crazy.” I’m not going any further on this one.

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seven or eight times how “angered” and “disgusted” he was with MAP. Presumably he and the clowns up there that are impersonating public officials are disgusted with MAP because we are the officers’ union and have been, well, fighting for them.

I don’t know why old “M” should be so disgusted. MAP hasn’t committed any crime, nor have we committed any sins against mankind. But we pushed back when the village committed ULPs, wasted much time in hearings and defended our officers.

MAP beat the village’s attempt to block our majority petition, as well as attempts to have officers decertify from MAP and in ULPs and we hope for similar success when the contract arbitral award is issued.

I could go into all the superfluous briefs filed by old “M” but it would just bore you to death. It does me. I can’t get past his never-ending exclamation points and underlined words. When it caused my eyes to water, I would stop and read something by H.L. Menken, whose words of wisdom always make a rebel like me smile.

In this incident, I believe his words are true. I believe his words are true.

So back to the village and old “M’s” disgust and anger with MAP. Some of it might be attributed to an article I wrote in a past Chief’s Follies where I referred to “them” as a bunch of crybabies or something similar. (They filed a ULP against MAP in that, too—which, by the way, went absolutely nowhere! They lost there, too.)

But it’s most likely that it’s a “how dare a union come into this village.” We have seen this before with better-than-thou mayors and the like who forgot one thing when a union comes to town—their employees wanted us and overwhelmingly signed up to bring MAP here and there.

Now, as MAP and the village have filed their briefs in the recent contract arbitration, Old “M” is at it again. In his 37-page filing with this calling card of underlining something on each page there are numerous references to issues that just make one ZZZzz.

One noteworthy snippet on page 6, however, Old “M” cites a ULP by the village which was dismissed by the ILRB. He claims that this award, going against the village could make the officer (chapter) puppet/pawn for MAP. Consequently, MAP, by collective bargaining, could globalization something on each page that is numerous references to issues that just make one ZZZzz.

So again H.G. Mencken. It’s his quote. But the chief of police at Country Club Hills (ex-chief now) apparently does not have one, or maybe she’s misplaced it.

She was indicted for misspending $1.25 million she received as the chief for a state job training agent. Mail fraud and money laundering were the official charges. Instead of using the money for the “emarkeled” disadvantaged folks to get good trade jobs, the money went to pay her personal debts.

It appears that this problem started when she attempted to run a landmark theater on Chicago’s south side, which ended up putting her millions of dollars in debt.

The Illinois Commerce Department and the AG’s office attempted to get some of the money back when she was the chief after noting that $500,000 to train 40 people to get trade jobs instead went into the theater project to pay those debts. Then $135,000 went into her personal bank account and $50,000 went to family friends and associates.

She pled innocent and her lawyers say she is presumed innocent and the government won’t be able to prove its case. Okay, if her lawyers say she is innocent, why bother prosecuting, right? Another example of hyperbole by the defense.

The lawmakers who helped her get the grant money said “either this is a heck of a front, or she got lost in the mission. She bears some large questions that need to be answered.” I’ll say. How can money from a state grant help the people get jobs be deferred to some personal goal of fixing up a movie theater?

The mayor of Country Club Hills who hired the chief said “I don’t think she really meant to do anything wrong. She did a good job for Country Club Hills.”

Maybe someone else has lost their conscience, too.

#6. Oh nuts!

Usually we don’t go into the universe of firefighters. It is inhabited by people that sleep with each other but perform a serious job of putting out burning buildings. God bless their little hearts. But this incident was too good to pass up.

A Deputy Chief in the fire department in Columbus, Ohio has found himself in trouble within his department and maybe the law. His offense and possible crime?

He posted a comment and picture on his Facebook page regarding the trustee of the county. The post read “Breaking News: DC Fire Chief gives Trustee Chairman his opinion. Details to follow.”

The picture then shows a kid kicking another kid in the balls, or should I say groin. The DC, who has been a firefighter for 30 years and a DC for six, is astounded by the attention this posting is receiving. He says it was satire and a joke—“that’s it.” Well, we in police work are never astounded by the sanctimonious attitude and behavior of our elected morons.

The trustee in question told a TV station that the Facebook post, based on the wording and picture, represents an attack on him. He felt threatened and contacted the sheriff’s office. He is waiting to hear from the prosecutor’s office to see if any formal charges would be filed.

Really, I am not making this up. Criminal charges for posting a picture of a kid kicking another kid in the “cojones”? I don’t see a crime here, but what do I know. All I can say is, Mr. Chairman, can you spell w-u-s-s?

#7. A noxious aroma of self-indulgence

The treasurer of Dixon, Illinois, Rita Crundwell, is accused of bilking the town of about $53 million. Yeah, that’s right, $53 million. Makes the chief entry in #5 look like an amateur.

A “trusted” city official for years, Ms. Crundwell is believed to have spent her ill-gotten gains on championship horse breeding farms, motor homes, jewelry, and who knows what else. A retiring Dixon finance officer said just last year while praising her that Crundwell “looks after each dollar as if it’s her own.” She must have believed her own hype. Nobody had a clue in this town that for over 20 years this money was being embezzled.

And the press wants elected officials to fix our pensions?

Editor: There seems to be no end to the bad behavior and in some cases, the sublime actions of our leadership. In this issue I think we have a little of both. See you next time in the Land of the Hypocrates.
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Defense never rests

It was reported that his folks found his weed and told him that’s a no-no. Maybe that set him off. After all, the Cook County Commissioner wants to decriminalize weed, (and the Chicago top cop is considering it) crack, and similar substances that you can inhale, keeping these drug users out of jail. Did this simple act of getting caught with some cannabis cause the death of his parents? People don’t kill people, taking away your weed kills people.

When accosted by the police, the son gave numerous alibis but none were corroborated.

His defense attorneys, however, says his client could not have done this dastardly deed because he is “slight of frame.” Oh yeah, the old “slight of frame” defense. How could you not buy that one?

While the case is pending, it was later learned that $35,000 was stolen from his parents and that “some” friends helped him kill his folks. So did he do it? Did he have some help? Did he pay others to do it? Is he innocent? But that’s a possible defense! Slight of frame! I hate to be perjorative once again, but time will tell if this defense actually works.

And then there is a 27-year old police officer gunned down in 2009. The shooter, originally trying to kill other people, allegedly fired at the officer and another person who survived. During the trial, the defendant’s lawyer argued for a new trial because of the large number of police officers at the trial. That was unfair, he complained. He also compared the case to the movie To Kill a Mockingbird where a black man was falsely accused of raping a white woman in the South. The defendant in this case is black; the officer Latino. I do not see the connection.

The judge who was black, told the lawyer that he saw a different trial than the defense and obviously read a different book than the defense also. After the trial, the judge gave the defendant 125 years, despite the To Kill a Mockingbird defense. My kind of justice. But really, we have to waste our time with this garbage? But we had an intelligent judge in this one.

Then there is the elderly woman beat to death in her home by a piece of puke on parole after serving 17 years on an attempted murder charge and other random acts of unkindness. Like I always say—someone is letting these people out of jail. (And by the way, my feelings are that attempted murder should be treated the same as the actual murder. Just because you failed doesn’t mean you should get less time, right?)

He then swipes her rings, has them re-engraved and proposes to his girlfriend, giving her the slain woman’s ring (unbeknownst to the girlfriend). So he is planning a wedding as the family buries their 73-year old mother, wife, and grandma. No word on a defense here, but what can you argue in this one? Let’s see, society treated him poorly. He could not get a job. He was drunk or on drugs. He doesn’t remember. He was defending himself after a 73-year old attacked him for breaking into her garage. It shows that actually there are some cases that cannot sustain a defense. Anything here has to be completely made up. You can bet your booty that some lawyer will do just that.

But defense attorneys are always long on excuses. There is plenty of research being done that suggests that criminal behavior could be blamed on how someone’s brain is wired. However at this time, having psychiatric circuitry is not a general defense against someone murdering someone else. But criminal defense attorneys may be chomping at the bit with this one. A big barn door could be opening.

Studies are being conducted to show a correlation of “brain science” within the legal system. Brain scans are being used in increasing numbers because psychopaths for one have different brain structure from most people. For now, the differences are said to be not enough to be used for defense purposes in criminal hearings. I’d like to see the makeup of a jury deliberating on the brain, ganglia, synopses, and motor neurons. You can bet attorneys are boning up on brain pathways as we speak.

With some attorneys, this provides the opportunity to conjure up all kinds of advocacy and technical gibberish to get their clients off. Justice suffers with this kind of nonsense. It’s not about justice anymore—it’s about getting guilty people off—period. Do I sound naive? Like I didn’t know that? Sure, I did, but it can really piss you off.

A recent case heavily in the news is the soldier accused of killing 16 civilian Afghans, mostly children. His lawyer was on the telely as I wrote this in late March formulating his defense. The soldier served four deployments in a war zone. He had a concussion, he saw dead bodies and picked up body parts. He probably had PTSD. And yes, that all might be true. But putting aside that war is hell, over 50,000 soldiers have been deployed at least four times in the Afghanistan/Iraq wars. Lots of deaths and destruction occurs before those 50,000 pairs of eyes. As much as one can understand the atrocities of war, there is a right way of being a soldier and a wrong way.

But the soldier will get his day. What is interesting is how his attorney is laying the groundwork for trial. I have sympathy for the soldier, but not nearly enough to excuse those deaths, if guilty, especially of the women and children sleeping in their beds.

Yes, we need defense attorneys. We use them at MAP frequently. There is such a thing as “overzealous,” “inequitable punishment” and on occasion, “they” may get the wrong guy. We need those who toil away in a courtroom, working to provide real justice. We need them to care and allow a fair shake for all of us.

But we don’t need “Twinkies,” “evil computers,” “tongue piercings” or “brain scans.” That is not justice. That is a joke. Defense should not be predicated on untruths or lies, or maybe this would work. We should not tolerate trumped up charges. But neither should we tolerate rationalizations, or excuses that you can find only in the Twilight Zone. Neither side should proceed with lies. If guilt is prominent, then artificial excuses have no place in the courtroom. Just figure out the appropriate punishment for true justice.

Sometimes the defense should just give it a rest.

Editor: There are some good defense attorneys. Most of them work here at MAP. But for all you other guys. How many lawyer jokes are there? Only three—the rest are true stories.
are seasoned and more secure in their work and do not feel they have to prove themselves. Career advancement becomes an objective.

The final stage is retirement. Here, the officer sees themselves gradually leaving the police “family” and rejoining civilian life. This can be a difficult time with a lot of changes.

If this is the understanding of policing, is it any wonder many have marital problems? Communication in the marriage becomes difficult. This shielding and protectionism can generate fear in the spouse’s mind. Soon they begin not to trust anyone.

The job becomes the “third person.” A spouse’s attentiveness to the spouse’s mind. Soon they begin not to trust anyone.

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If the job is the understanding of policing, is it any wonder many have marital problems? Communication in the marriage becomes difficult. This shielding and protectionism can generate fear in the spouse’s mind. Soon they begin not to trust anyone.

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Career advancement becomes an objective.

The final stage is retirement. Here, the officer sees themselves gradually leaving the police “family” and rejoining civilian life. This can be a difficult time with a lot of changes.

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One police psychologist offers this simple advice:

Don’t be a cop, don’t be a friend, be a parent. And someday, if your kid does get into trouble, above all else relate as a parent, not as a police officer. Don’t expect your kids to be different from any other kids just because you’re a cop.

One could extend this advice to be a good spouse in your relationship and not a cop. Really think about sharing about your job. Maybe not all details, but enough so your spouse can understand what is going on in your life. Spouses want to be included and want to support us in our work. I know in my ministry, I need and live by the support of my wife. Without that support, I know I would not be able to do what I do. And Church and faith, well I think that is and will always aid us in being well rounded and grounded in life. My personal opinion, without faith, life may seem so dark and hollow.

(With thanks to Lowell F. Lawson, Breaking the Blue Wall. ICPC)

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A word of praise.  

John Gaw, police officer, MAP chapter president, and friend, recently stepped down from his role as Lisle Chapter #87 union president.

To say he was the driving force for years behind the chapter’s financial gains and benefits is putting it mildly.

MAP and our chapter attorney, Rick Reimer, has assisted John in making Lisle a premier place to work and bring their chapter that was once last in comps, to above the median wage. He is a resourceful guy and one who always put his fellow membership above himself as he led his department through negotiations and various disciplinary issues.

But the future caught up to John as he tried to blend the duties of a full-time cop, husband, and father while attending law school. So his local chapter officers honored his departure from the president’s position at a union meeting on February 15, 2012. MAP, too, would like to congratulate him also, but we make no promises that we won’t ask him to participate in some matters in the future.

Good luck with law school, John. We do see a specialization in labor for sure. Congrats and hope your future is bright in television. What’s next? American Pickers? River Monsters? Let us know!

Shooting in Elgin

MAP handles another officer shooting

On Saturday, March 17th, a City of Elgin police officer was involved in a shooting on Route 53 near Algonquin Road near Rolling Meadows. The officer, who is a MAP legal defense member, was transporting a prisoner to bond Cook County court in Rolling Meadows. The prisoner escaped by jumping out of the squad car while it was in motion. During a confrontation with the prisoner, the officer was forced to shoot him.

MAP attorney Richard Reimer promptly responded to the scene to represent the officer. Mr. Reimer was present during the officer’s initial and subsequent interviews. MAP and Mr. Reimer will continue to represent the officer while the Illinois State Police conduct their investigation into the matter, as well as any Elgin Police Department proceedings that may occur.

My daughter, the scientist

Congratulations to Kayla, our youngest daughter on achieving her Bio-Engineering degree from UIUC. Mom and Dad and your family are proud of you!

For a list of MAP chapters and other content, see the web site www.mapunion.org

Congratulations to all of the officers who have been recently elected to their local boards

Du Page County

Mark Woltenberg President
Pat Burke Vice president
Joyce Pfiefer Vice president
Tim Garlisch Secretary
Guy DeCaris Treasurer
Ryan Culver Sergeant-at-Arms
Scott Kuchell Sergeant-at-Arms

Elk Grove

Flo Williams President
Marly Racila Vice president
Scott Lawrence Secretary
Joe Kuschehl Treasurer

Lake in the Hills

James Chad Rife President
Erik Watters Vice president
Matthew Mannino Secretary

New on the MAP

Alsip

Buffalo Grove

Grundy Co Consolidated 911 Dispatch
NIU Dispatchers
Olympia Fields
Park Forest

MAP Elections

Park Forest—35 members

MAP 25
FOP (incumbent) 1

MAP Wins!

Alsip—44 members

MAP 25
FOP (incumbent) 4

MAP Wins!

Addison

Algonquin

Algonquin CSOs/Disp

Alsip

Arlington Heights

Barrington

Bartlett

Bensenville

Bolingbrook

Bolingbrook civilians

Bolingbrook Sgts/Lts

Bridgeview

Buffalo Grove

Burridge Sgts/Cpls

Carpentersville civilians

Carpentersville Police

Carpentersville Sgts

CenCom E-9-1-1

Channahon

Chicago State

University Police

Chicago State

University Sgts

Coal City

Cook County Dispatch and Vehicle Service

Cook Co DCSI Deputy

Chief

Cook Co Dispatch Supv

Cook Co Social

Casaeworkers I and II

Crest Hill

Crest Hill Sgts

Crest

Crystal Lake

Darien Police and Sgts

Darien Police civilians

Des Plaines

Des Plaines Sgts/Lts

DeKalb County

DuPage Co Patrol/Court Svc

DuPage Co Coroner

DuPage Co Forest Preserve

Dwight

East Dundee

Elwood

Elk Grove Village

Ford Heights

Fox River Grove

Gurnee

Harvest

Gilbert

Glenwood

Grundy County

Hanover Park

Hanover Park Sgts

Harvey

Hasbro.utilities

Hawthorne Woods

Hickory Hills

Hoffman Estates

Hoffman Estates Sgts

Homewood

Huntley

IL DOC Investigators

Indian Head Park

ISTHA

ISTHA Call-takers

John Stroger Hospital Sgts

Justice

Justice Sgts

Lake Forest

Lake in the Hills Police

Lake in the Hills Dispatch/CSO’s

Lake County

LaSalle County

LaSalle Co Correctional Officers

Lake in the Hills

Lemont

Lemont Sgts

Liste

Lockport

Matteson

Matteson Sgts

Maywood Sgts

McCook

McHenry Co Crt Clerks

Midlothian

Momence

Munooka

Moraine Valley College

Morris

Mt Prospect

Mt Prospect Sgts

Naperville civilians

Naperville Sgts

New Lenox Sgts

Niles Police

Norridge

North Aurora

Northeastern Il Campus Police

Northern Il Emergency Comm Center

Northern Illinois University

Northern Il University Security Officers

Northwest Central Dispatch

Oak Forest

Oak Lawn

Oak Lawn Telecom, CSO’s, & Detention Aides

Olympia Fields

Orland Hills

Oswege

Palois Hills

Palois Park

Park City

Park Forest

Peru T/Cs

Plainfield

Prospect Heights

Prospect Heights Sgts

Quadcom Dispatch

River Valley Detention Center Supvs

Romeoville

Romeoville Sgts

Roselle

Roselle Sgts

Round Lake Police

Round Lake Supv

St Charles

St Charles Sgts

Schaumburg

Schaumburg Command SEECOM

Seneca

Southchum

South Barrington

South Elgin

South Elgin civilians

Steiger

Streamwood

Streamwood civilians

Streamwood Sgts

Sugar Grove

Tinley Park

Tricom Dispatch

University of Illinois

Villa Park

Warrenville

Warrenville Sgts

Waukegan Sgts

Westcom Dispatch

Westchester

Westchester Sgts

West Dundee

Western Springs

Western Springs Sgts

Wheaton Sgts

Will Co Mgmt Assoc

Wilmington

Winfield

Winfield Sgts

Winnetka

Woodridge

Woodridge civilians

Collective Bargaining Chapters

Metropolitan Alliance of Police

Summer 2012