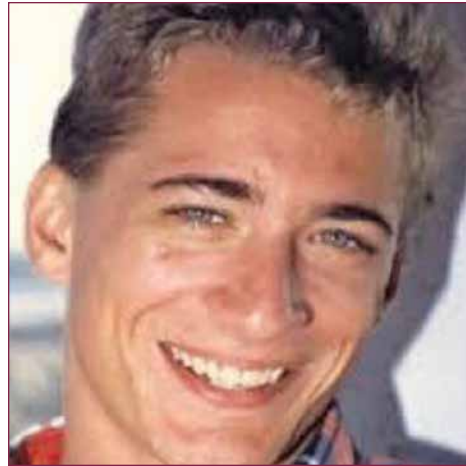




Join us to make a difference

*A non-profit, public benefits organization serving families and friends of homicide victims.*



## Help Cheryl and Andy

*By Andy's Father, Garland Atkinson*

On June 20, 1990, the following suspect brutally raped a woman returning to her boyfriend's house on Terra Cotta in Northwest Houston after working at GiGi's that night.

The man wore a fishnet stocking over his face, black gloves, a dark shirt and pants that matched, possibly a uniform. He held a long-barreled handgun in his left hand.

The man taunted her, putting the gun to her head and cocking it. He bound her hands behind her back with gray duct tape before taking cash from her purse. Then he duct-taped her eyes and mouth shut, threw her on the bed and shoved a bag or pillowcase over her head.

He became very vulgar with her while he was raping her, and he told her she wasn't very observant, that he had a military uniform, which was probably him trying to throw her off the fact that he might have had a security guard uniform on.

After he finished, the man ordered the woman to lie on the floor and not move. "I may be in the house for an hour or for five minutes," he said.

The woman later discovered he had disconnected the phone and put the receiver under the mattress.

*—continued on page 3*

*Our Next Meeting  
will be on Sunday,  
July 14, 2019  
10:00 a.m.*

*Loch Lomond Yacht Club  
95 Loch Lomond Drive,  
San Rafael, CA*

## Inside This Issue

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*Become a CAH Member!*

# CITIZENS AGAINST HOMICIDE

## About Us

The majority of our CAH Board Members have lost a loved one to murder. We will never “get over” our tremendous losses, but we do “get through” the grief. Becoming proactive; assisting/supporting families throughout the most difficult time of their lives and guiding them through the complicated criminal justice system. We have joined together to create a voice for families of homicide victims.

## CAH Objectives

- Assist families through the complicated criminal justice system;
- Act as Liaison between families and investigative law enforcement;
- Provide assistance with Parole Opposition Letters;
- Accompany families to parole suitability hearings (when possible);
- Provide trial and courtroom support (when possible);
- Facilitate Reward Billboards (when/where possible);
- Provide information on pending crime legislation

## Protecting Your Own Interests

We cannot prepare for the devastating event that changes our lives forever. We can only react. You will need to know how to deal with the subsequent trial, sentencing and (today) the unavoidable parole hearings. CAH will help you take action to protect your own interests.

If you know of a family or friend who may need our help, please share the information we have provided here.

## Location for Meetings

We hold bi-monthly meetings on the second Sunday of the month at Loch Lomond Yacht Club - 95 Loch Lomond Drive, San Rafael, CA. The meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. We encourage anyone interested to attend.

## A Few Words From Jan

It has been a while since I have written ‘Words’ for our Newsletter. I have missed these writings and the wonderful feedback I have received from so many of you over all these years. Let me just say, the last year has been something of a roller coaster known as “life”. I will choose to focus this writing of “words” on all of the good and wonderful things that have happened and that are ongoing. I will suggest that you read every word of the rest of this newsletter as I am sure it will contain all of the very negative and sad things happening in this beautiful and once wonderful state we live in—California.

On a personal level, I am pleased to share that my daughter and business partner will be coming back to work around August 1st after a battle with cancer. She is now considered a “cancer survivor”. The prayers, words of hope and love that we received from our many friends and family are and always will be appreciated. We will forever hold all of you close to our hearts.

*Thank you so very much.*

During the month of June, we had the great pleasure of experiencing the middle school graduation of a grandson and he will now be starting his freshman year at Marin Catholic, continuing a family tradition; (seven graduates; two currently attending and now we add one more attending). We also had the pleasure and joy of attending the graduation of two grandsons from Cal Poly (Spring Commencement of 2019). One received a Bachelor of Science from the College of Engineering and the other received a Bachelor of Science from the Orfalea College of Business. We could not be more proud of these young men. What a wonderful and memorable long weekend we all had. We so enjoyed our graduates; their accomplishments, their friends and so many family members who were able to attend. All this excitement and love within the relaxing and beautiful surrounds of the bluffs, the surf and views of San Luis Obispo.

—continued on page 3

## Officers

Jane Alexander	Co-Founder Emeritus
Jan Miller	Co-Founder/President
Gene & Shellie Cervantes	Victim Advocates /Consultants/Newsletter
Angela Bushnell Gillam	Victim Advocate /Communications
Boni Driskill	Victim Advocate
Ora Knowell (Vacant)	Victim Representative Treasurer
Carol Silveira	Corresponding Secretary
Eryn Cervantes	CAH Consultant
Susan Fisher (Vacant)	Legislative Consultant Recording Secretary
Foothill Printing & Graphics	Design & Printing

## Advisory Board

Chuck Mitchell	Andi Jarmicki
David Perotti	Terri de la Cuesta
Kit Ball	Joyce Tuhn
Ken Holmes	

## Citizens Against Homicide

The UPS Store  
369-B Third Street, Box 303  
San Rafael, CA 94901  
Tel 415-455-5944 • Fax 415-721-0788  
E-Mail: vctmsmurdr@aol.com  
Website: www.citizensagainsthomicide.org

## CAH Victim Advocate:

For advice regarding your individual murder case, 1-209-728-2873  
cahadvocate@yahoo.com

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## Words From Jan—cont. from page 2

Here at CAH, the work never stops even if it seems there has been a lull lately. Not a week goes by that Gene and Shellie are not working on another emergency parole opposition or speaking with families and friends of victims. We had a wonderful Annual Meeting in May and we were thrilled to have Marc Klass as our guest speaker. He was both inspirational and honest about the battles facing victims of crime today in our State of California.

Two years ago (2017) during our Annual Meeting, we shared with our members that CAH was the recipient of a gift from the estate of a family we had helped for many years. We unanimously made the decision these monies would be used to assist cases in getting DNA processed. Thus far, we have been able to assist in the DNA

processing of 3 cases. In each case, we have had degrees of success. This DNA processing has helped investigative detectives rule out suspects and has helped them focus on specific suspects with greater interest. The process is still ongoing in two of the cases, while we believe we have done all we can on the third (where there has been an arrest). We will keep you informed as this process moves forward.

Our next big event is our 26th Annual Golf Tournament—Friday, August 2, 2019 at Rooster Run in Petaluma. The funds we raise at this (our only) fundraiser is what helps keep CAH going and pays monthly expenses. Please, I encourage everyone who can to attend. If you cannot attend, please consider donating or providing a gift for our auction. This event

is wonderful, relaxing and fun and continues to be a gathering of good friends (old and new) and family. Your donation helps CAH survive another year.

In this Newsletter, you will find our Golf Tournament brochure. If you did not receive one in the mail with last years' photos, it is because I was never able to "catch up". Hopefully, with all the good, positive and wonderful things currently happening, I will be able to catch up and stay on top of my game.

To all of you again, I say *Thank You !!*

*I hope to see you August 2nd at Rooster Run for a day of fun and laughs and most of all bugs!*

---

## Help Cheryl and Andy—cont. from page 3

When Sgt. Mike Miller of the Houston Police Department tracked the woman down in Galveston County, she still remembered her attacker's features through the fishnet stocking. In 2008, she described him for Lois Gibson, HPD's forensic artist.

She said he was a white man in his late 20s to mid-30s, about 6 feet tall and 180 pounds with brown hair, brown eyes, a possible mustache and olive skin.

On August 22, 1990, just off of Eldridge and Enclave in West Houston, known to local high schoolers as Lovers Lane, this same suspect used rope to tie up Cheryl Henry. He brutally raped and murdered her and bound Andy Atkinson's hands around a tree nearby and cut his head almost completely off.

The composite sketch shows what he looked like in 1990 on the left and age progression on the right from 2008.

We know there are other victims. I still think he's out there, and he is who he is—a rapist and a killer. He still could be doing this today.

Someone out there recognizes this murderer/rapist. Someone out there worked with him or went to school with him. PLEASE SHARE!

Any tips should be directed to HPD Homicide Division at 713-308-3600.

The families of Cheryl Henry and Andy Atkinson, in addition to the other victims and their families, will not stop seeking justice! (Follow FB Page—Help Cheryl and Andy)



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## The Mystery Continues

# The Murder of Joan Bue Butterbach

By Kim Stephan

Joan Bue Butterbach disappeared on October 5, 1971; she was 45 years old. She was 5'-5" and was of a medium build with light brown hair and green eyes. She would list her occupation as Housewife. She had been married 25 years to John "Jack" Joseph Butterbach. They had 3 adopted children, two twin boys approximately 13 years of age and a little girl who was approximately 10 years of age. They lived a comfortable, middle class life.

Joan left her home in Waukesha, WI during the early morning hours of October 5, 1971. She was on her way to Bird Island, MN to visit friends and then a three-hour drive down to the Bue family farm in Chatfield, MN to visit relatives. The only known clothing she was wearing was her brown tweed coat, ¾ length. Unknown dress or shoes. She was driving a 1969 green Mustang. She was never seen or heard from again.

In tracing her route, she drove Wisconsin I-94, prior to the exit (right) into Menomonie, she stopped at a Mobil Gas Station to fill up (per gas receipt). Straight ahead (past the Menomonie exit), is the exit for the Twin Cities in Minnesota that veers to the left. What happened to make her veer off her path and turn right down the Menomonie exit is anyone's guess•

The Mobil Station at the time did car repair work, so if there had been a fender bender, the mechanic could have taken care of it. There would have been no need to drive into Menomonie. Is it possible that Joan may have either decided to grab a bite to eat in Menomonie and/or someone

impersonating a sheriff's deputy could have lured her that way? Being such a small town, if Joan had been approached at the service station, the attendant would have sensed foul play and interceded. Unless, of course, it was an official sheriff's deputy or... perhaps the Sheriff himself(?)

During the summer of 1972, local kids discovered a submerged vehicle in Tainter Lake, Menomonie, WI. They used it to dive from into the cool waters. (This "lake" looks more like a river as it is approximately 50 yards wide. On one side is a Supper Club called Jake's and directly across, on the other shoreline, is the boat launch that was used to launch the car into the water).

The kids had reported to authorities that the car was there and went so far as to break off a windshield wiper to prove their finding. It would be safe to say that many (if not all) of the town's 11,112 residents knew there was a submerged car in the water. This included the Sheriff of Dunn County, Sheriff Daryl "Corky" Spagnoletti, who took no interest or action. Why?

(Note: Many of these children who swam this lake and played hooky to go fishing there, grew up to become sheriff deputies and one became the chief medical examiner of Dunn County.)

In April of 1977, the lake had to be drained for some repair work on the dam. As the waters receded, the car became visible and there was no more ignoring that it was down there.

On April 18, 1977, after the car was pulled from Tainter Lake, the plates were

run through the teletype system. The report came back that it was in direct connection with a missing person case. Upon prying the trunk open, a body was discovered, later identified as Joan Bue Butterbach. Also confirmed, the vehicle was Joan's 1969 Ford Mustang with Wisconsin plates M4586.

Sheriff Spagnoletti ordered the car towed to the fairgrounds where the crime lab began processing procedures. The body was removed and an autopsy was done. Dental records confirmed the body was that of Joan Butterbach.

In processing the vehicle, it was discovered the headlight switch on the vehicle was in the "on" position; the ignition was in the "on" position; the spare tire was removed from the trunk and was placed in the backseat; the throttle assembly was taken apart, the spring was removed and it was locked into a wide open position. This allowed the car to be catapulted down the boat ramp and into the water without assistance from a driver. The only other damage to the car was the pry marks on the trunk caused by the deputies and damage to the right front passenger side quarter panel (this was in direct line of damage to a tree at the entrance to the boat landing).

Apparently, it was common practice for all sheriff departments to send their evidence to Madison, Wisconsin to be stored. Finally, the day came when Madison informed all the municipalities they would be sending their evidence back to them, they just did not have the room for it anymore. Upon receiving Joan's murder evidence,

—continued on page 7

# 2019 Annual Our 26th Year Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Help CAH Make This Fundraiser a Success

*Remember together we CAN make a difference*

Make a copy and encourage a friend to buy tickets

## Win a one-week stay at one of these beautiful resorts:

- **ORANGE COUNTY, FL—**  
Orange Lake Resort  
Holiday Inn Club Vacations  
8505 Irio Bronson Memorial Highway, Orange County, FL  
3 bedrooms, sleeps 12 max, 8 private, Jacuzzi, hot tub, kitchen, fitness center.
- **HILTON HEAD—**  
Waterside Spinnaker Resort  
Hilton Head Island,  
45 Waterside Dr., SC  
3 bedrooms, sleeps 8 max, 8 private, Jacuzzi, hot tub, swimming pool, fitness center, kitchen.
- **MYRTLE BEACH, SC—**  
Sheraton Broadway Plantation  
3301 Robert Grissom Parkway,  
Myrtle Beach SC  
2 bedrooms, sleeps 8 max, 6 private, Jacuzzi, hot tub, indoor swimming pool, sports court, outdoor swimming pool, kitchen.

### CAH GRAND PRIZE DRAWING August 2, 2019

Drawing to be held at our Charity Golf Tournament Awards Banquet.

Note: Date and location of these one-week vacations cannot be changed for any reason. All reservations are final.

Suggested Donation \$5.00

#### CAH Special Grand Prize Drawing • August 2, 2019

ORANGE COUNTY, FL: 05/03/2020–05/10/2020  
HILTON HEAD, SC: 03/28/2020–04/04/2020 • MYRTLE BEACH SC: 04/19/2020–04/26/2020  
THESE DATES AND LOCATIONS CANNOT BE CHANGED

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Donation \$5.00

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PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Donation \$5.00

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CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Donation: \$5.00 each or 5 tickets for \$20.00

Tickets must be received at the CAH address by no later than August 1, 2019

Return tickets and/or donation to: CAH The UPS Store • 369-B Third Street, Box 303 • San Rafael, CA 94901

# 2019 Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Help CAH Make This Fundraiser a Success  
*Remember together we CAN make a difference*

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<b>AWARDS SPONSOR</b> Includes two foursomes, official program recognition and special tee sign.	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>TEE PRIZE SPONSOR:</b> Includes two foursomes, official program recognition and special tee sign.	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>LOGO BALL SPONSOR:</b> Includes one foursome, official program recognition, special tee sign and logo ball insignia.	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>LUNCH SPONSOR:</b> Includes one foursome, official program recognition, special tee sign and lunch table sign.	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>BEVERAGE CART SPONSOR:</b> Includes two-player entry, official program recognition and special cart sign.	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>WINE or DESSERT SPONSOR:</b> Includes two-player entry, official program recognition and banquet table sign.	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>HONORARY SPONSOR:</b> Includes one-player entry, official program recognition and special tee sign.	<b>\$500</b>
<b>HOLE SPONSOR:</b> Includes official program recognition and special tee sign	<b>\$250</b>

If you would like to become one of our tournament sponsors, please mark the appropriate box and mail this form along with a check for the designated amount to:

Citizens Against Homicide Charity Golf Tournament  
The UPS Store  
369-B Third Street, Box 303  
San Rafael, CA 94901

For more information on sponsorships  
(or co-sponsorships) please contact us at:  
Ph: 415-455-5944 • Jan: 415-308-9413  
Email: [jan@citizensagainsthomicide.org](mailto:jan@citizensagainsthomicide.org)

Although I am unable to play golf this day, I would like to help make a difference by my enclosed donation of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SPONSORSHIP/PLAYER FORM

- Business Sponsorship:  
 \$4,000     \$2,000     \$1,000     \$500
- Hole Sponsor: \$250
- Golf Tournament Registration: \$150
- Dinner Only: \$50      Number of Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
**CITIZENS AGAINST HOMICIDE**

Make a Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Charge My Credit Card:

- VISA       MasterCard

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV#: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### SPONSOR INFORMATION

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### NAME(S) OF GOLFER(S) PARTICIPATING

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

*Use an additional form for more golfers*

### MAIL ENTRY FORM AND CHECK TO:

Citizens Against Homicide Charity Golf Tournament  
The UPS Store • 369-B Third Street, Box 303  
San Rafael, CA 94901

or for more information please contact us at:

Ph: 415-455-5944 • Jan: 415-308-9413

Email: [jan@citizensagainsthomicide.org](mailto:jan@citizensagainsthomicide.org)

## Joan Bue Butterbach—*cont. from page 4*

Spagnoletti had it destroyed. Now, in a murder investigation, it is state law that evidence must always be preserved. Never disposed of.

There were two “Red Letter Days” for Joan’s killer. First, the car purposely being left submerged in the lake for 6 years and then all the evidence destroyed. The evidence included clothing, jewelry and some sort of binding that was used.

Wisconsin did send their elite cold case detectives to look into this homicide. The Wisconsin DOJ report that the cold case detectives put together was shared with the family, but that was all. They refused to provide them a copy. The current Sheriff provided no further info except that most of the report was their investigative questioning aimed at Daryl Spagnoletti.

The family was not provided a copy of the autopsy report nor a copy of the Mobil receipt with Joan’s signature.

When the car was discovered, the Waukesha Police Department (WPD) was dispatched to Menomonie and said they would be taking over the case. Unfortunately, the family was told that in 1992, volunteers at the WPD had changed all the old reports to microfiche and in that process the reports in reference to the Joan

Butterbach homicide were misplaced. To this day, the reports have not been located.

Spagnoletti said in an interview with Investigator Travis Mayer that he had learned through the Waukesha detectives that Joan had no connections to Menomonie, only the Twin Cities. Since Joan had already been driving a good 5 to 5-1/2 hours and had another 3-hour drive to Bird Island, did she decide to drive into Menomonie to grab a bite to eat at Jake’s Supper Club? Since her husband was a sales rep for Mobil Gas (and had stopped there many times in the past), could he have suggested this stop before heading to Bird Island? What happened before, during or after her stop in Menomonie? Who accosted her, murdered her and then discarded her body and car in Tainter Lake?

It has been almost 48 years since the disappearance and murder of Joan Bue Butterbach. Someone holds the key which will unlock this mystery. No one is above the law, especially those who are sworn to uphold and protect it. If anyone has information, please do the right thing and come forward. Call Russell Jack, Police Chief, Waukesha Police Department at (262) 524-3761. Her family deserves answers and justice.

## Quote of the Month



“The ignorance of one voter in a democracy, impairs the security of all.”

—John F. Kennedy

## How can you request compensation for travel costs to a parole hearing?

The Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services has funds available through a federal grant which allows for reimbursement to victims and next-of-kin for costs associated with travel to parole hearings. For information on how to apply for travel reimbursement contact OVSRS at 1-877-256-6877.

## Parole Hearing Results

Lori D. Smith

GOOD NEWS, Lori Diane Smith’s parole was denied for 3 years. Thank you so much for support through your organization and personally. It means more than you know.

—Jason Sinner

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# Newsom Supports Killers, Rapists and Torturers Over Victims and Their Survivors

By Michele Hanisee

In 2016, the people of California spoke loudly and unequivocally by passing Prop. 66, a ballot measure to reform and maintain the state's death penalty.

Last week, Governor/Emperor Gavin Newsom voters and victims of crime sided squarely with the state's most monstrous murderers, rapists and torturers by imposing a moratorium on executions, granting reprieves to all 737 death-row inmates and closing the state's execution chamber. The governor's powers of clemency, commutation and reprieve exist so that the governor can, in individual cases, issue such an order as an act of mercy.

Newsom's act is a slap in the face to victims who were shown no mercy when they were raped, tortured and murdered. It's a slap in the face to their families and loved ones. And it's a slap in the face to the majority of voters who supported Prop. 66 and who, a new poll shows, still support the death penalty

Let's meet some of the fine, upstanding people who were granted mercy courtesy of our governor.

Charles Ng and his pal, Leonard Lake, kidnapped and murdered women, men and even entire families. They made videotapes of them raping and sodomizing terrified women while their anguished husbands and children howled in the background. They forced girls as young as 12 to engage in three-way sex with them and other captives. Lake committed suicide when cornered by police; Ng was convicted of 11 murders, but it's believed this sadistic killer brutally murdered more than 25 victims.

Emperor Newsom thinks Ng deserves mercy.

"Tool box killer" Lawrence Bittaker and his partner, Roy Norris, called their van "Murder Mack" because it had no windows so they could safely hide the young girls they kidnapped as they cruised up and down Pacific Coast Highway in the first half of 1979. 16-year-old Cindy Schaeffer was picked up by the pair near Redondo Beach. Norris forced her into the van, duct taped her mouth and bound her arms and legs. Bittaker drove her to the San Gabriel Mountains where both men raped her. Bittaker then wrapped a wire coat hanger around her neck, tightened it with vice-grip pliers and strangled her to death. Afterward, they dumped her body in canyon. They next picked up 18-year-old Andrea Hall. She was taken to a remote area and raped repeatedly. Afterward, she was stabbed with an ice pick in both ears. When she wouldn't die fast enough, the duo strangled her and threw her body off a cliff. In September, Bittaker and Norris offered Jackie Gilliam, 15, and Leah Lamp, 13, a ride while they sat at a bus stop. After getting in the van, the girls became suspicious and tried to escape. Bittaker and Norris beat the girls with a baseball bat. The girls were bound and kept alive for two days, while being raped and tortured with a wire hanger and pliers. Bittaker and Norris audio recorded the agonized screams of the victims. Eventually, they killed the girls using a sledgehammer and an icepick and dumped their bodies over a cliff. Jackie's head still had the icepick in it when she was found. Later that month, the pair kidnapped Shirley Sanders. Both men raped her, but she managed to escape. Finally, they went on to kidnap 16-year-old

Lynette Ledford, raping her and then tape recording her screams of agony as they crushed and mutilated her genitals, and nipples with vice grip pliers. Eventually, they strangled Lynette with a wire hanger and dumped her body on the front lawn of a residence in Hermosa Beach.

Emperor Newsom thinks Bittaker deserves mercy.

Rodney Alcala murdered 18-year-old Jill Barcomb, 27-year-old Georgia Wixted, 31 year-old Charlotte Lamb, 21-year-old Jill Parenteau, and 12-year-old Robin Samsoc during his murder spree in Southern California between 1977 and 1979. In November 1977, he raped and sodomized his victims, beat some of them in the face in with a rock before strangling them with a belt. After raping Georgia Wixted who was a nurse, he sodomized her with a claw hammer before using the tool to beat her head in before strangling her to death with a nylon stocking. After murdering his victims, Alcala often posed them in lewd and grotesque positions and photographed them. When arrested, Alcala possessed over 100 photos of women, most of whom were never identified.

Emperor Newsom thinks Alcala deserves mercy.

We do not take issue with Newsom's philosophical opposition to the death penalty. Reasonable people can disagree and opposing views deserve respect. And in some instances, the power of clemency—an act of mercy—is entirely justified.

While Newsom claims he took this action in part because an innocent person

—continued on page 9



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# Parole & Clemency Hearings

These parole hearings are imminent.  
Send letters in support of these families today.

(DATE)

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1303 10th Street, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Steven Douglas Burr—  
CDC# G-37732  
Mule Creek State Prison  
Parole Hearing Date: June 19, 2019

Dear Governor Newsom,

Please DO NOT grant parole to convicted murderer, Steven Burr. On June 26, 2008, Diana Basham, age 40, was brutally beaten and strangled by Steven Burr. Steven Burr was sentenced to Second-Degree Murder and received a 15 Year to Life term.

During his most recent parole hearing, Steven Burr testified that he lied during the criminal trial to try to get his time reduced. Shockingly, this manipulative move was successful. He received Second-Degree Murder instead of the First-Degree Murder he should have legally received. He relayed during the parole hearing that Diana Basham told him she was leaving him. He further stated that “if I couldn’t have her, then I didn’t want anyone else to have her”. He relentlessly began brutally beating her and strangling her. After some time sitting next to her, he saw her stirring and realized that she was still alive. At that time, he grabbed one of her son’s trophies and began bludgeoning her until she was dead. He stated that his intent was to murder her. He appealed his case in 2012 and was rejected.

There is every reason to believe that he will continue re-offending. A few years prior to murdering Diana Basham, Burr was arrested for assaulting his first wife. Fortunately, the

intended victim managed to escape and immediately filed for a restraining order and an annulment of their marriage. Prior to this incident, he punched his female roommate in the face and broke her nose. He was charged with embezzlement from his long-term employer, Albertson’s, and attempted to escape by flying into New York. However, he was cajoled by his wife, Diana Basham, to return and face the consequences. He received three DUIs. He did not file income taxes for years. Steven Burr has made wrong choices time after time and has a history of violence against women that only continued to escalate.

Steven Burr must be held accountable for his personal choice to execute his wife, who was a mother to two teenage boys. He has not accepted the consequences of his actions. Due to his complete disregard for human life, lack of remorse and the heinous nature and brutality of this crime, justice demands that this convicted murderer be denied parole. He must remain behind bars, where he can

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## Newsom Support—*cont. from page 6*

might receive the death penalty, there is no doubt about the guilt of these despicable killers. If Newsom has proof someone is innocent, he has the ability to do something about that individual case without making a blanket order that includes every person on death row. Yet Emperor Newsom would rather these vicious murderers avoid the justice a jury and the courts decided they deserved.

It’s beyond unconscionable that Newsom coddles the worst human beings imaginable while arrogantly

never again harm another innocent human being. Diana Basham had so much to offer this world; so many wonderful plans and dreams for her future. She will never get a second chance at life; she is gone forever.

If this murderer is released, according to his own statement during the parole hearing, he will seek a new relationship with a female. His only purpose for participating in any self-help programs (group classes) was to gain a reduction in his prison term. Astonishingly, he received no direct mental health therapy for his sociopathic behavior and domestic violence! As a result, he continues to be a danger to public safety and society. Do not allow this murderer another opportunity to demonstrate his obsessive, compulsive, brutal and entitled behavior. Please deny parole to convicted murderer, Steven Burr, for the maximum time allowed by State of California law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
(Your Name/Signature)

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dismissing the victims, their survivors and the majority of California voters.

*Michele Hanisee is President of the Association of Los Angeles Deputy District Attorneys, the collective bargaining agent representing nearly 1,000 Deputy District Attorneys who work for the County of Los Angeles.*



## What Happened to Humanity?

*By Christina Rochelle*

I've posted a lot of law enforcement stuff the last few days not only to show my support for Officer O'Sullivan and the Blue family, but also because these heinous acts hit so close to home.

I come from a Law Enforcement family with my brother, sister, and nephews that serve in various branches. I also have 2 daughters who are beautiful young women inside and out that chose careers in law enforcement because with all the turmoil in the world. They want to do their part to make a difference in their communities, they want their younger siblings and their own future children to be safe in the world we live in, and They truly want to Be The Change.

Both of my daughters are eager to hit the streets, even with the recent deaths of their Brothers and Sisters in Blue. Deputy Tara O'Sullivan, Officer Natalie Corona, Corporal Ronil Singh, Deputy Mark Stasyuk, and Deputy Bob French are all names my girls will

never forget—as my 24 year old put things into perspective when she told me she's been on the department for less than 2 years and this will be her FIFTH funeral. The dangers are real yet their focus is to get out on those streets and do what their heart is calling them to and that is to Serve their Communities.

I cannot fathom what the parents, the spouses, children, and families of these slain officers must be feeling. Personally, I know what it feels like to have a family member murdered and of all the traumatic events I've faced in my own life, even having cancer twice—I can easily say that everything else was a walk in the park next to the indescribable weight of grief after homicide, the quest for justice, and the road to healing. As complex as that road has been, I can only imagine the added burdens these Blue families must face for their loved ones that died in the line of duty. I think about it heavily. And although I know my girls are following the paths

they are called to, the climate in our communities today makes me selfishly wish they would've chosen a safer career, but only for a moment.

The hatred for law enforcement in today's society is unbelievable. How did we get to a place where people can live-stream an officer's death? How can any human watch another one die as if it were entertainment? To just stand back and watch as he struggles for his last breath in front of you?? How can any human sleep at night after watching that? How can a community heckle police officers and tell them they all deserve to die just because they wear that uniform? That officer is a human who has likely put his/her life on the line numerous times for complete strangers, yet there are some who want them dead.

This post isn't meant for a political debate, so please don't go there. It's simply meant to ask the question... What happened to humanity??