



## Bartholomeaux / Public Relations

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10-May-11 Contact: Carole V. Bartholomeaux, 602.404.8018 or [Carole@b-pr.com](mailto:Carole@b-pr.com)  
To: All media, for immediate release

### **WAS THE MURDER OF BUCKEYE POLICE OFFICER, ROLANDO TIRADO, JUST A FLUKE OR WAS IT PREMEDITATED?**

**The illegal alien who murdered Officer Tirado was just released from an LA County Jail.  
He should have been sent back to Mexico. He was not.**

PHOENIX—Buckeye police Officer Rolando Tirado had no warning before he was fatally shot Sunday, May 1st. Officer Tirado and fellow Buckeye Officer Christopher Paz were working off-duty, dressed in police uniforms and wearing protective vests, at El Gran Mercado, a swap meet and country dance hall in Phoenix when they were assaulted. Brian Livingston, Executive Director, Arizona Police Association (APA) has reason to believe the murder of Officer Tirado, a former Marine Corporal, was more than a random incident. The person who murdered Officer Tirado in cold blood was on a temporary Visitor's Visa from Mexico. He was just released from a Los Angeles County Jail. He should have been deported upon release. He was not. He was a known gang member. The second suspect was an illegal immigrant from Mexico. Quick reactions by Buckeye Officer Christopher Paz resulted in the death of the person who killed Officer Tirado. Officer Paz and another suspect were critically wounded. Officer Paz continues to improve. For additional media information, to set interviews, etc., please contact, APA's publicist, Carole V. Bartholomeaux, 602.404.8018 or [Carole@b-pr.com](mailto:Carole@b-pr.com).

"Information has come to light in the past week since the death of Officer Tirado that we believe shows that those involved in his death had an agenda. We believe that the public needs to know the whole story in the interest of safety," Livingston explained. "As with all police investigations, we wanted to be sure that the facts were correct and verified before we provided this information to the media to disseminate to the public."

"The fact that the shooting suspect was a member of Sur 13 should not have been lost on California Corrections Officials. Recent reports that a clerical error occurred which allowed the shooting suspect to be released without being handed over to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency simply is not credible to the APA," Livingston continued. "Gang members sentenced to prison receive special review when they are about to be released. To contemplate that the California prison officials did not perform due diligence in administratively releasing Cesar Quiroz is unconscionable to the APA."

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TAKE 2 OF 2, 05.10.11

WAS THE MURDER OF BUCKEYE POLICE OFFICER ROLANDO TIRADO PREMEDITATED?  
ASAP

In 2010 the California legislature passed a new law which demanded that California's prison population be reduced; changed parole rules and encouraged inmate rehabilitation by increasing the amount of credits earned for good behavior.

"In this particular case the immigration laws, designed to protect American citizens from criminals, have failed to be enforced. Once again, people with a violent background are permitted to terrorize and victimize American families," Livingston said. "But what have we heard from U.S. and California politicians recently? California lawmakers, where is your apology to the Tirado and Paz families? Where is your apology to the Buckeye Police Department and to the citizens of Arizona?

"The final questions I need to ask is where are the immigration activists now? Why aren't they rallying for our Hispanic officer's family? Why aren't they rallying in support of Officer Paz who now faces an uncertain future? Where is Mayor Phil Gordon's condemnation of this police officer being killed in his city by this alien criminal?" Livingston concluded.

Livingston was joined at the news conference by officers representing the member agencies of the Arizona Police Association and elected officials.

APA represents more than 10,000 rank and file law enforcement officers who are members of 23 law enforcement associations in Arizona. [www.azpolice.org](http://www.azpolice.org)

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**REMARKS BY BRIAN LIVINGSTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ARIZONA POLICE ASSOCIATION,  
05.10.11:**

"Today the APA will not discuss the shooting incident that took the life of Officer Tirado and severely injured Officer Paz because it is still a fluid investigation and it has still not been turned over to the Maricopa County Attorney's office. But we will provide you with information regarding the shooting suspect in this case, Cesar Tomas Quiroz.

Cesar Quiroz was recently released from a California State prison. He was convicted of numerous offenses including weapons violations. The suspect was a green card holder and was in this country illegally at the time of the shooting.

He also appears to be a member or has an affiliation with a notorious street gang known as "Sur 13". The Buckeye shooting suspect had "Sur 13" emblazoned on his chest.

"Sur 13" is part of an alliance of hundreds of individual Mexican American street gangs that originated in Southern California. Mostly found in Los Angeles and San Diego this gang is controlled, and influenced by the Mexican Mafia. These street gangs involve themselves in extortion, narcotics, trafficking and murder. It is important to know that this gang was developed inside the California prison system but soon expanded its reach outside the prison complexes and extended to communities throughout the United States.

The fact that the shooting suspect was a member of Sur 13 should not have been lost on California Corrections Officials. Recent reports that a clerical error occurred which allowed the shooting suspect to be released without being handed over to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency simply is not credible to the APA.

Gang members sentenced to prison receive special review when they are about to be released. To contemplate that the California prison officials did not perform due diligence in administratively releasing Cesar Quiroz is unconscionable to the APA.

Ironically, in 2010 the California legislature passed a new law which demanded that California's prison population be reduced, changed parole rules and encouraged inmate rehabilitation by increasing the amount of credits earned for good behavior. As to the other two persons who accompanied the shooting suspect, we know the driver of the vehicle was in this country illegally. The second person is reportedly a citizen of the United States. The driver has been turned over to immigration officials and the passenger has been released pending the County Attorneys review.

Once again the laws of this country have been tossed aside by American politicians and the courts. In this particular case the immigration laws, designed to protect American citizens from criminals, have failed to be enforced. Once again, people with a violent background are permitted to terrorize and victimize American families. But what have we heard from U.S. and California politicians recently? California lawmakers, where is your apology to the Tirado and Paz families? Where is your apology to the Buckeye Police Department and to the citizens of Arizona?

The law enforcement officers and elected officials here today have long warned of the dangers that confront the Arizona law enforcement community and our citizens. The outspoken stance these strong individuals have taken on the immigration issue is to ensure that our laws are enforced and violent foreign criminals are deported.

The final question I need to ask is where are the immigration activists now? Why aren't they rallying for our Hispanic officer's family? Why aren't they rallying in support of Officer Paz who now faces an uncertain future? Where is Mayor Phil Gordon's condemnation of this police officer being killed in his city by this alien criminal?

A couple of final thoughts: Over the weekend I had the privilege of meeting several officers who worked with Officer Tirado and Officer Paz at a fund raising event in Buckeye. Among these officers was the Chief of the Buckeye Police Department, Mark Mann. If it was not for this chief, who understands the value of continual training and recently had his men go through specialized firearms training, we might be mourning the loss of two officers; not just one. I wish to publicly thank the Chief for his diligence and professionalism.

Again, the Buckeye Police Department and the Town of Buckeye has lost one of its finest. The APA wishes to express our condolences over the loss of your fallen brother and our continued concern over your injured officer. The emotional devastation felt by everyone who lives or works in Buckeye is one that will not soon pass. I hope that you can draw strength from the millions of people who support your community. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the officers families.

We, the members of the APA ask politicians from the President of the United States on down, to cut the rhetoric and address the problem of illegal immigration once and for all. I ask for the President to come to Arizona and meet with our elected and law enforcement officials to discuss illegal immigration. The fact is Arizona cops are dying because no one in Washington has the courage to get the job done."