



Criminal Investigations Training Seminar

Patron Saints of the Mexican Drug Underworld

Sponsored by the Members of the Arizona WANTED Violent Offender Task Force

Thursday, January 12, 2012, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Cocopah Resort and Casino, River Room, 15318 S. Avenue B, Somerton, AZ

Target audience includes Police Detectives and Investigators, Sheriff's Deputies and Investigators, DPS Criminal Investigators, Crime and Intelligence Analyst and all Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement Officials.

The training provided by the Arizona WANTED Task Force is FREE OF CHARGE. This course qualifies for 8 hours AZ POST training credit. AZ POST certificates will be distributed at conclusion of training.

Seating is limited to 250 registrants. Response is required by COB Friday, January 6, 2012.

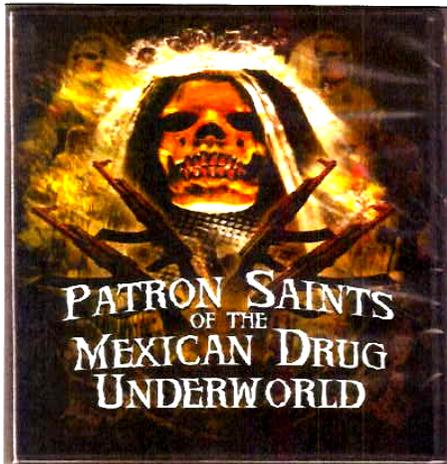
To enroll: Register online at <https://portal.nhac.org>

- An error message may appear about the secure certificate.
Select the option "Continue to this website"
- User name and password: Class (case sensitive).
- Select Online Registration from the portal.
- Select SWB Arizona
- Be sure to select "Patron Saints of Mexican Drug Underworld"
- Fill in registration and select Complete Registration.
- Save the application number. You will receive an email confirmation.

For questions regarding online registration, please contact Tom Hayden at (520) 351-8988. Specific questions may be directed to: Thomas Smith, Supervisory Deputy US Marshal, (928) 580-8202, thomas.smith6@usdoj.gov

To make reservations at the Cocopah Resort, contact the reservations department at (928) 722-6677 and ask for the U.S. Marshals hosts: Patron Saints of the Mexican Underworld group rate. The rate is \$77.00, per night, tax free. A robust continental breakfast and 24 hour use of the hotel facilities are included in the rate.

EXTREMELY GRAPHIC COURSE MATERIAL



Presented by Robert Almonte
United States Marshal
Western District of Texas

The presentation by U.S. Marshal Robert Almonte will include information and cases on the use of prayer in traditional or recognized religions to facilitate drug trafficking and other crimes. Often, drug and human traffickers involve the spiritual world in their trade for protection from law enforcement. This intensive course will include information on various legitimate and illegitimate saints and icons used almost exclusively by the Mexican drug dealer. Some “saints”, or spirits, that drug traffickers and others use to protect themselves from law enforcement include Jesus Malverde – “Patron Saint of Drug Traffickers”, Juan Soldado - “Patron Saint of Illegal Aliens”, Santa Muerte, and San Simon among others.

Marshal Almonte has visited shrines erected in homage to these “drug saints” and will display photos, show video, as well as exhibit paraphernalia drug traffickers and other criminals may have had in their possession. The significance of the presence of “drug saints”, spirits, images, icons, statues, etc., may often be overlooked by law enforcement. His course serves to educate, enhance knowledge and alert law enforcement.

Marshal Almonte retired at the rank of Deputy Chief after 25 years of service with the El Paso Police Department. The majority of his career was on the frontline of the drug war. He spent years conducting extensive research on the Mexican drug trade.

This unique course is beneficial to law enforcement officers in all parts of the country who may encounter images, icons, statues, and other items during or pursuant to an investigation with a drug nexus. The course has helped enhance understanding by law enforcement throughout the country, aiding in many arrests. Several significant drug and money seizures throughout the country have been attributed to this course.

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