



EXCLUSIVE:

Pico Rivera Councilman David Armenta Used Influence to Initiate Arrest, Family Alleges

FAMILY MEMBER FACES FOUR LIFE SENTENCES; ALLEGED VICTIM HAS BEEN ARRESTED MORE THAN 100 TIMES AND IS IN AN ARIZONA JAIL SERVING A 7-25 YEAR SENTENCE.

By Randy Economy, Pete Parker, and Brian Hews

Family, friends and community members are questioning if a jailed Pico Rivera man deserves to be facing four life sentences for a crime they contend he did not commit, alleging that David Armenta, an elected member of the Pico Rivera City Council, was heavily involved in a behind the scenes influence scheme to “manipulate” deputies and “distort facts” to have him arrested by the Pico Rivera Sheriff’s Department.

George Karavolos, age 38, has been locked away in the LA County Men’s Central Jail since May 23, 2012, with a \$4 million bail hanging over his head.

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Lakewood Opposes Proposal to Restrict Contract Services

By Rico Dizon

“One of our City’s priorities for 2014 is to protect the city’s right to contract for services,” said Lakewood City Mayor Steve Croft during the City Council regular meeting last March 11, 2014.

Mayor Croft stressed this in reaction to the report made by City Manager Howard L. Chambers on proposed legislation to restrict the cities in contracting public services to private companies and County agencies. Chambers said that proposed

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Moskowitz Foundation Honored by American Red Cross at Annual Hometown Heroes Luncheon



Sal Flores [center] Director of Public Affairs for the Moskowitz Foundation accepts the Philanthropy Hero of the Year Award from the Greater Long Beach and Rio Hondo Chapter of the Red Cross. Standing with Flores is [l] Margaret Arbini-Madonna, CEO, Greater Long Beach/Rio Hondo Red Cross and [r] Mollie Beck, Chairperson of the Board of the Greater Long Beach/Rio Hondo Red Cross.

By Brian Hews

The American Red Cross presented a special recognition for a Philanthropy Hero of the Year given to an individual or foundation that contributes at the major gift level and provides an excellent example of Red Cross partnership and support.

The Irving Moskowitz Foundation, a charitable, non-profit foundation established by Doctor and Mrs. Cherna Moskowitz in 1968 is dedicated to improving and enriching the lives of people based on the precept, “he who has saved one life, it is as if he has saved the world.”

Dr. Moskowitz began practicing medicine in Long Beach in 1953.

Moskowitz has a history of donating generously to the Greater Long Beach Chapter.

For many years, he has donated to the National Disaster Relief Funds, supported national recovery efforts from wildfires in California, helped Hurricane Katrina and Sandy victims, helped in recovery from the tornadoes in Oklahoma, the floods in Colorado.

He has also donated to the International Disaster Relief Fund for disasters in Indonesia, China, Haiti, Japan and most recently Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

“The Moskowitz Foundation qualifies

as our Philanthropy Hero not just because of their unstinting generosity, but also because of their sincere desire to help the Red Cross,” said CEO Margaret Arbini-Madonna. “Each gift has arrived within hours of the disaster without a formal request with a simple phone call from Sal Flores, the Moskowitz Foundation’s local Director of Public Affairs.”

“For their generous and ongoing support of the American Red Cross both here and abroad, the Moskowitz Foundation is recognized the American Red Cross Greater Long Beach and Rio Hondo’s 2014 Philanthropic Hero of the year,” said Arbini-Madonna. The award was accepted by Sal Flores.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies nearly half of the nation’s blood; teaches lifesaving skills; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families.

The Red Cross is a charitable organization — not a government agency — and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.redcross.org or join their blog at <http://blog.redcross.org>.

Downey, Norwalk Suspects Arrested In Brutal Knife Attack of US Marines

By Peter Parker

A man and woman from Norwalk and Downey have been arrested and booked on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon after a brutal stabbing attack in Huntington Beach that left three US Marines severely injured this past weekend.

Manuel Alexis Alvarez, 23, of Downey, and Victoria Robledo, 20, of Norwalk face felony charges in regards to the knife wielding attack that was caught on video tape and posted on You Tube.

A total of six people were arrested Sunday evening after authorities were notified of a dispute between Dodgers and Angels fans in the popular entertainment district just feet from the world famous Hunting-

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PIH Invests \$20 Million into Downey Regional Medical Center

By Randy Economy

A world class, state of the art community based hospital has emerged in Downey thanks to a \$20 Million investment into the medical facility that has served generations of local residents.

During the past number of months, Downey Regional Medical Center (known as DRMC), has recently become part of Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital and according to Brian Smolskis, Chief Operating Officer, the results of the acquisition are already paying off with big results.

Smolskis and a number of his key administrators provided a comprehensive tour of the Brookshire Avenue hospital in Downey to Hews Media Group-Community Newspapers last week that showcased the “new” 199-bed, state of the art, medical facility.

“This hospital facility has been part of

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