

March 7, 2009

TO: Blanca Pelowitz, Manager (0-41)
Sheriff's License Division

Millie Faiai, Sheriffs Licensing Specialist (O-41)
Sheriffs License Division

VIA: Chain of Command

On February 10, 2009, I received the file on Edward Allan PERUTA who submitted an application for a CCW license on February 3, 2009. PERUTA is retired and travels throughout the country in his RV. PERUTA lists numerous reasons on his ccw application for desiring a ccw license. He listed the following:

He and his wife like other individuals who maintain a mobile home/residence often carry large sums of cash, valuables and equipment in the motor home.

He and his wife while traveling in their mobile residence, often find it necessary to stop and spend evenings in extremely remote rural areas of the United States and the State of California where there is no means to contact or summons assistance in the event of a public safety emergency.

He and his wife are fearful of the possibility that they and their mobile residence may become the target of criminal acts and violent crime(s) while spending nights in remote areas where in many situations, there are no means to summon public safety personnel.

He is also the founder and sole stockholder of American News and Information Services Inc. and often gathers and disseminates breaking news video and still photographs together with timely information as an active member of the news media and legal investigator. As a full *time* member of the media and part time legal investigator, who specializes in breaking news and information he travels throughout the United States and California for business and pleasure. He often finds it necessary to enter high crime areas and location where there is no opportunity or means to summon assistance while performing his assignments.

When I received PERUTA'S application, it shows he was interviewed by **Donna BURNS** (License Supervisor) on November 17 2008, for the initial phase of the CCW application process. He was advised by BURNS he did not meet the criteria for a CCW license. PERUTA not satisfied with this returned in December 2008 and again in January 2009 to speak with **Blanca PELOWITZ** (Manager.) who also concurred with the information given to him by her staff

Despite the fact that **PERUTA** was told he did not meet the criteria for a CCW license PERUTA insisted this office accept his application. PERUTA was advised that **no monies would be refunded** once his application was accepted.

While reviewing PERUTA'S application he did not provide any current documents (i.e. police reports, TRO, etc) to substantiate or support his need for a CCW license based on the reasons he listed. The residence address PERUTA listed on his application, (REDACTED Drive, San Diego CA 921XX, is owned by his wife's sister and brother-in-law (Gloria and George REDACTED) who also reside there. I conducted a search of the County of San Diego's assessor's database as well as the Registrar of Voters system to determine whether PERUTA **owns property(s)** or is **registered to vote** in San Diego County. The searches produced "no record" results. I also conducted an **ARJIS search** to determine if there

were any reports of threats or violence against PERUTA and his family also with no results. PERUTA lists **his business** as American News and Info Services located at, 38 Parish Road in Rocky Hill, Connecticut 06067. I conducted search of that business and address and it revealed the property is a **single family residence** owned by PERUTA (Hartford County Assessor #14-01-004.39). Also, listed on his application was a **mailing address in Pensacola, Florida**. The background investigation revealed PERUTA has a **single family residence** located at, 2036 20th Avenue SW in Vero Beach, Florida 32962 (Indian River County Assessor #33393500002146000007,0) and **another one at 8120 Holy Cross Place in Los Angeles** (LA County Assessor #4113-006-005).

On 03/4/09, I called the Finance Department (860-258-2720) in Rocky Hill, CT to verify whether PERUTA'S business was still active. I spoke with Kathy who referred me to the Town Clerk's office. Kathy asked me the name of the business and told me she wasn't familiar with it. I called the Town Clerk's office (860-258-2705) and spoke with Linda who said a business has to file a trade name with that office and then pay taxes to the Assessor's Dept. **in order to conduct business** American News and Information Services, Inc. filed a trade name in 1997 by Edward PERUTA. Linda said a person can file a trade name but it does not necessarily mean they are in business, I asked Linda if this filing was something like a Fictitious Business Name statement and she said "yes". The only way to verify whether they are in business is to check with the Assessor's office and she transferred me. I spoke with Cassandra (Assessor's Dept.) who checked the business name, address and owner information and could not find anything in their system. Cassandra said if the business was paying taxable personal property for the business it would have shown on their database. **Based on our conversation PERUTA does not have a valid business license in Rocky Hill, CT at this time.** However **the business is filed as an active corporation in the State of Connecticut** and not California. On 03/04/09, I called Jocelyn PEREZ (Los Angeles's Sheriffs Dept.) who processes CCW licensee in Los Angeles County. Since PERUTA has a residence in Los Angeles I wanted to find out whether he had applied to their department as well. PEREZ left me a message stating she checked their files and have no record of PERUTA applying with them.

On **03/04/09**, I called Campland on the Bay because PERUTA stated, on the initial application he submitted, **he resides full time at this facility**, I spoke with Kim (Reservations Office) who said they offer long term stays which is 30 days or more up to a maximum of 270 days in a calendar year. Because they are a **transient** park, they have the campers vacate every 90 days for at least 24 hours then they can return. I asked whether PERUTA was a camper at their park and she stated he reserved the spot on November 15, 2008 until April 15, 2009. Kim, checked her records and stated he was also at the campgrounds in February 2007 to April 2007 but showed nothing for 2006.

On **03/04/09**, I received information regarding a telephone call received from SDPD Officer LIMON regarding an incident at their front counter involving PERUTA. I called the phone number provided (619-531-2231) and spoke with Officer HARVEY. HARVEY stated his partner Officer LIMON was the one who had dealt with PERUTA but was out due to a family emergency. HARVEY stated he would be speaking to LIMON later in the afternoon and **would have him send me a narrative of the incident via Interoffice (see statement by LIMON)**. It should also be noted that PERUTA attended the **Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board (CLERB)** meeting on December 9, 2008, and addressed the Board requesting clarification on the California Penal Code sections 12050 through 12054 pertaining to the Sheriffs Department's denial of his application for a concealed weapon permit (**see attached minutes**)

Although PERUTA travels extensively throughout the United States and has property in Florida and Los Angeles) California, **based on the information revealed** during the background investigation it appears PERUTA'S **primary residence** and business is in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. PERUTA is also registered as a voter there.

In reviewing PERUTA'S reasons for the CCW license it appears **his main reason** in applying for a CCW is to have it when he's traveling throughout the country in his RV.

On **03/09/09**, PERUTA showed, up at the license counter to submit **HIS 8 HOUR BASIC SAFETY COURSE**. He also provided a photo of a Theft Warning notice that he wanted to submit as proof of his need for a COW license. Since the notice is posted for the Rincon Beach Campers in **Ventura County** (not San Diego County) **this document is not sufficient proof**.

One of the requirements an applicant must meet when applying for a COW license is to show "**good cause**." PERUTA listed **numerous reasons** for a CCW license, but did not provide any **sufficient document(s)** that would support his need. Although he was advised by licensing staff he did not meet the criteria for a ccw license, **he insisted on submitting the CCW application for Processing**.

The "burden of proof" lies solely on the applicant to provide the necessary documents to substantiate his reason(s) for a CCW license. It is his responsibility to make sure these documents are submitted to show "**good cause**" and the "**need**" for a CCW license. PERUTA **failed to provide any of these** upon submission of his application. I could not locate any report(s) of past/current threats against **PERUTA** or his family.

Therefore, based on the **information revealed during the background investigation** and the fact **that PERUTA has failed to provide the necessary documents to substantiate and/or support his need for a CCW license, this office recommends denial of his CCW application for "good cause"**.

Submitted By,
Millie Faiai, Sheriffs Licensing Specialist
Sheriffs License Division
Attachments