



# This Month at the WFO

A newsletter from the FBI Washington Field Office

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## FBI Director Speaks on the Relationship Between Law Enforcement and Diverse Communities

Earlier this month, FBI Director James B. Comey called on the nation's law enforcement personnel and the citizens they serve to participate in a frank and open conversation about the disconnect that exists in places like New York City and Ferguson, Mo.—and many communities across the country—between police agencies and many citizens, particularly in communities of color. In a speech at Georgetown University, Comey said the lethal police encounters involving Michael Brown and Eric Garner—both African-Americans—the ensuing protests across the country, and the assassinations of New York Police Department Officers Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos have put the fundamental relationship between police and their constituents at a crossroads. The speech, entitled "[Hard Truths: Law Enforcement and Race,](#)" sought to move the ongoing debate about race and the character of law enforcement officers to a more productive footing, where police and citizens acknowledge a few elemental "truths" in an effort to better understand each other.



## Campaign Manager Pleads Guilty to Coordinated Campaign Contributions and False Statements

In the first criminal prosecution in the U.S. for campaign finance coordination between political committees, a campaign finance manager and political consultant pleaded guilty this month to coordinating \$325,000 in federal election campaign contributions by a political action committee (PAC) to a congressional campaign committee. Tyler Harber, of Alexandria, Va., was the campaign manager and general political consultant for a candidate for Congress in the Nov. 2012 general election. At the same time, Harber participated in the creation and operation of a PAC, which was legally allowed to raise and spend money in unlimited amounts from otherwise prohibited sources to influence federal elections so long as it did not coordinate expenditures with a federal campaign. Harber admitted that he made and directed coordinated expenditures by the PAC to influence the election with \$325,000 of political advertising opposing a rival candidate. The coordination of expenditures made them illegal campaign contributions to the authorized committee of Harber's candidate, and Harber admitted that he knew this coordination of expenditures was an unlawful means of contributing money to a campaign committee. He further admitted that he used an alias and other means to conceal his action from inquiries by an official of the same political party as Harber's candidate.

## Stafford Doctor Pleads Guilty to Distribution of Oxycodone and Health Care Fraud

This month, Nibedita Mohanty, M.D., of Stafford, Va., plead guilty to charges of distribution and dispensation of controlled substances and aiding and abetting health care fraud. Dr. Mohanty admitted to issuing prescriptions for oxycodone which were not for a legitimate medical purpose and beyond the bounds of medical practice. In May 2011, Dr. Mohanty issued a prescription for oxycodone to a patient who experienced a nonfatal narcotics overdose. During another instance in May 2011, Mohanty issued another oxycodone prescription to the same patient. The next day, the patient was found deceased in the bathroom of a friend's home. The cause of death was determined to be accidental acute combined oxycodone and imipramine toxicity. In Oct. 2011, Dr. Mohanty issued a prescription for oxycodone to another patient. Nine days later the patient was found unresponsive in her home. Hospital records and testimony would have shown that the nonfatal overdose was oxycodone related. In addition, Dr. Mohanty admitted that she aided and abetted a patient in the commission of health care fraud and acknowledged that she did not possess a "X" DEA number, nor was she authorized for office-based narcotic buprenorphine treatment. Dr. Mohanty will be sentenced on Jun. 5, 2015.

## FBI Offers \$30,000 Reward to Help Capture Violent Serial Bank Robbers

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$30,000 for information that leads to the identification, arrest and conviction of two serial bank robbers who have hit seven banks since Jan. 2, 2015. The most recent robberies occurred on Feb. 18, 2015, forty minutes apart, at two banks located in Northern Virginia. In an escalation of violence, the [black hat bandits](#) have become more brazen at each robbery having threatened bank customers and tellers, most recently holding a gun to a customer's head and jumping teller counters in attempts to gain access to bank vaults. If confronted, bank employees and customers are advised to do what is instructed and not take action against these violent subjects. As always, the FBI encourages the public to be good witnesses and to be observant in order to provide law enforcement with a clear description of the subjects and their actions.