

POLICE

Sept. 11 Victims Sue for \$1 Trillion Saudi princes, banks and charities accused in terrorism support

(AP) — Some 600 family members of Sept. 11 victims filed a trillion-dollar federal lawsuit Thursday against Saudi officials, banks and charities, charging they financed Osama bin Laden's network and the attacks on New York and Washington.

The 15-count lawsuit, modeled after action filed against Libya in the Pan Am flight 103 disaster, seeks to cripple banks, charities and some members of the Saudi royal family as a deterrent to terrorist financing schemes.

But the suit also is therapeutic, and the plaintiffs face long odds, the families acknowledged.

"It's not the money. We want to do something to get at these people," said Irene Spina, whose daughter, Lisa L. Trerotola, 38, perished in the World Trade Center. "There's nothing else we can do."

"This is the right thing to do," said Matt Sellito, father of Matthew Carmen Sellito, 23, who also died in the World Trade Center. "If the odds are stacked against us, we will

beat them."

The 258-page complaint, filed electronically Thursday in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, seeks more than \$1 trillion and charges the defendants with racketeering, wrongful death, negligence and conspiracy.

Lead attorney Ron Motley said the money would likely come largely from assets held by the defendants in the United States. He said the plaintiffs were after more institutions than those whose assets already have been frozen by the

U.S. and other governments.

The complaint also ignores the Bush administration's delicate diplomatic balancing act with Saudi Arabia by bluntly blaming the kingdom's officials and institutions for the attacks.

"That kingdom sponsors terrorism," Motley told reporters at a news conference. "This is an insidious group of people."

The complaint names more than seven dozen defendants, including the government of Sudan, seven banks, eight Islamic foundations and three Saudi princes.



Irene Spina, mother of Sept. 11 victim Lisa Spina-Trerotola, speaks at a news conference announcing a lawsuit against people accused of supporting the terrorists who attacked America a year ago this September. (AP photo)

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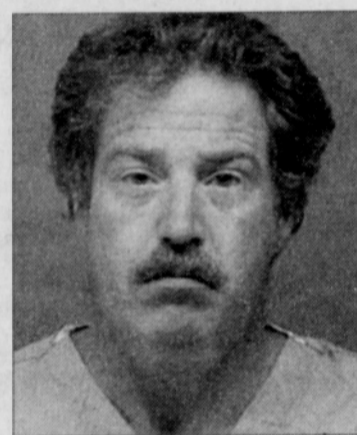
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Missing Oregon City Girls 'Suspect' Arrested

(AP)—The self-proclaimed No. 1 suspect in the disappearance of two Oregon City girls was arrested Aug. 13 on an unrelated rape charge, police said.

Ward Weaver, who lives in a house near the apartment complex where Ashley Pond and Miranda Gaddis were last seen, was taken into custody by Oregon City police.

At about the same time of his arrest, Weaver's oldest son told emergency dispatchers his father claimed to have killed the two teenage girls and was moving to Mexico.



Ward Weaver

Weaver is charged with raping a 19-year-old woman at his home. The victim ran from the home, flagged a passing motorist and was taken to a nearby business where she called 911.

Weaver was later stopped and arrested on I-205, just north of the Gladstone. He is being held in the Clackamas County Jail under \$1 million bail.

Weaver gained notice earlier this year when he told reporters that authorities considered him the prime suspect in the abductions of

Pond and Gaddis. Weaver said he had been given a lie-detector test and failed it.

Weaver said he did not have anything to do with the vanishings and the authorities have not publicly identified anyone as a suspect.

Pond, 13, disappeared in January from the Newell Creek Village apartment complex, a low-income development tucked into a wooded valley south of Portland.

Gaddis, Pond's 13-year-old neighbor, vanished two months later.

Nude Dancers Under 21 to be Banned

(AP) — The Oregon Liquor Control Commission voted Thursday to ban nude dancers younger than 21 from the state's bars and clubs beginning next year.

The change also requires that nightspots apply for special permission if they want to hire underage musicians or other workers

during business hours.

"We need to make a clean sweep and deal with all minor entertainers equally," said Ray Baum, a commissioner from La Grande.

The decision could face legal challenges.

It follows months of debate that pitted free speech advocates

against people appalled by high school students too young to sit in a bar performing nude for strangers at that same bar.

Andrea Meyer, of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon, and Jim Neill, a Portland attorney who represents entertainment ven-

ues, said it was too soon to say whether they will go to court.

The commission said the rule probably would affect 10 percent or less of nude dancers employed by licensed venues. There are about 70 nude dancing establishments in Oregon.

Guilty Plea in Teen Nude Case

(AP)—The former owner of a lingerie modeling studio has pleaded guilty to a charge of including a 16-year-old girl in sexually explicit nude shows.

Ky Christy pleaded guilty last Wednesday to attempting to use a minor in a sexual display.

Christy had no criminal record and there was also no evidence he had actively recruited underage girls, said Christine Mascal, a

Multnomah County deputy district attorney.

Christy admitted he failed to verify the girl's age before allowing her to participate in private peep shows where dancers strip and engage in sexually explicit shows for money. Police said the girl worked at Christy's business for several days before her mother alerted police and an undercover sting was con-

ducted, resulting in Christy's arrest.

"I understood I was getting into a business that a lot of people wouldn't do, but I thought of myself as a good person in a business that some people don't like," Christy said. "I was naive."

Christy was placed in an electronically monitored street-surveillance program until his sentencing on Sept. 16.

Former Prison Guard Charged in Kidnapping

Screaming and bleeding after being dragged across an Abilene, Texas parking lot by a car that sped away with her infant daughter, Margarita Chavez somehow believed she would hold her baby again.

Twenty-six hours later, she was cradling Nancy Crystal Chavez in her bandaged arms.

"There's no words (that) can explain how I feel. My hopes never ended," she said last week after her daughter was found unharmed. "I trust the Lord, and I was very sure I was going to get my baby back."

Paula Roach, a former Texas prison guard who convinced her family that she had given birth,



A kidnapped baby is reunited with her mother. (AP photo)

around to stow a shopping cart.

Authorities in Quanah, about 125 miles north of Abilene, got a tip from employees at a nursing home where Roach had gone to show off the infant. Officers stopped a car carrying Roach, her mother and the baby. Roach was taken into custody and Nancy was returned to her family hours later.

Authorities said Roach eventually confessed but told officers she hadn't planned the abduction.

"When we told her it wasn't her baby, her response was, 'Where's my baby?'" Texas Ranger David Hullum said. "She was having a hard time letting the baby go."

Roach, 24, was charged with aggravated kidnapping and jailed on \$200,000 bond.

The infant was snatched from the family's minivan Aug. 13 outside a Wal-Mart when her mother turned

Mandatory Sentencing Law Under Scrutiny

(AP)—The first outside study of Oregon's Measure 11 finds no evidence to suggest the mandatory-minimum sentencing law has driven down crimes since it took effect in 1995.

This finding was delivered by research think tank Rand at a preview of a forthcoming report.

For years, supporters of the measure have credited the law for the state's lowered crime rate. Oregon voters passed measure 11 in 1994 to impose stiffer, mandatory penalties for violent crimes. The measure also required juveniles, age 15 and older, to be tried in adult court when accused of Measure 11

crimes.

Since then, several small studies have analyzed limited aspects of Measure 11. But the Rand study, funded by a \$310,000 federal grant, is the first large-scale evaluation by a think tank outside the state.

Phil Lemman, executive director of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, said the report is neither a ringing validation or a stinging rebuttal of Measure 11. Lemman said report does not conclude that Measure 11 is having no impact on violent crime—it simply doesn't answer the question, because data don't exist to do so.

"Arrests for violent crime were

down after Measure 11, no one argues with that," he said. "It's the attribution that we cannot agree on," he said, noting that other states have seen similar reductions in crime without enacting mandatory minimum sentences.

Multnomah County District Attorney Michael Schrunk took issue with the report.

"Immediately prior to the effective date of Measure 11, violent crime in Oregon was increasing while the national rate was declining," Schrunk said. "From the day Measure 11 became law, the rate of violent crime for both adults and juveniles dropped dramatically."

*** THE BALANCE BETWEEN SECURITY & LIBERTY ***
AN OPEN & PROVOCATIVE DIALOGUE ABOUT THE DIRECTION OF OUR COUNTRY, OUR LIBERTY, & OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

SEPTEMBER 7, 2002

TWO EVENTS * MANY SPEAKERS
New Hope Community Church, 11731 SE Stevens Rd., Portland, Oregon

HOMELAND SECURITY: OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE
6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. Continental breakfast
7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Conference (Lunch included)

New Realities:
The Threat of Chemical, Biological & Nuclear Warfare & Emergency Preparedness:
Dr. Peter Spencer, OHSU, Dr. Grant Higginson, Oregon Public Health, Dr. Donald Trunkley, OHSU, Dr. Helen Miller, Doernbecher Children's Hospital, Jamie Baxter, R.N., Oregon Disaster Medical Team, John Wyrick, Energy Northwest, Warren Becker, American Red Cross

Constitutional Rights, Bias Crimes, Immigration, and Homeland Security:
FBI Special Agent Jay Bencowsky, Sgt. Keith Morse, P.P.B., Elisa Clay, Civil Rights Activist, James Bissett, Ottawa, Canada

Eco-terrorism & Terrorism 101:
Dr. Gary Perlstein, PSU

Immigration and Counter-terrorism:
Martin Collacott, Vancouver, Canada

Domestic Terrorism:
Dr. Randy Blazak, PSU

Terrorpaths and Terror Cults:
Stephen Morgan, Brussels, Belgium

The Atlanta Special Task Force for Missing & Murdered Children:
Chet Dettlinger, J.D., Atlanta, Georgia

The Untold Story: Oklahoma City
Ted Gunderson, Las Vegas, Nevada

Silent Universal Signals for Public Safety & Educational Professionals
Bob Dent & Al Morris, the Constable Group Inc.

TEACHING OUR CHILDREN THE COURAGE OF AMERICA'S HEROES
Honoring the Heroes of September 11: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Master of Ceremonies: Mike Donahue
SSG Christopher Braman, US Army, Pentagon
A Soldier's Story of Courage and Valor on September 11
Firefighter Neil Martin, Portland Fire Bureau, Ste 1
Ground Zero

Invocation: Multi-faith Prayer
Nancy Dorr, Honor Thy Children Foundation
Making a Difference in the Hour of Our Country's Need
Steven Myren, Oregon Disaster Medical Team
11 Days at Ground Zero: Grief, Pride, and Duty

Ambassador Katherine Peterson, State Department
Future Leadership Roles for Youth in Government
Chief Randy Bruegman, Clackamas County Fire District #1
International Firefighting, Leadership and Emergency Preparedness

MEN IN BLACK GOSPEL CHOIR
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For information and to register, visit us online at www.honorthychildren.tv. To pay by check or to order by phone call 503-901-KIDS. Tickets also available at Safeway FASTIXX centers-503-224-TIXX (Tickets subject to convenience charge). Seating is limited so register early. Homeland Security: Our Children's Future: \$50. Teaching Our Children the Courage of America's Heroes: \$25. Proceeds from these events to benefit the Honor Thy Children Foundation, a non-profit Corporation. A portion of the proceeds to benefit the children of the victims of NYPD & FDNY of September 11. Availability of speakers subject to change.

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