

# Who's who tops Jaramillo witness list

While we're waiting for the **Jaramillo** pretrial stuff to shake out, let me tease you with the witness list filed earlier this month by his attorney, **Bob Corrado**. There are two reasons I think George is going to cop a plea: 1) the evidence, especially if the judge rules he was not granted immunity before the Grand Jury; 2) God would not be so good to me as to give me this trial to cover. Among the 52 names on the witness list: **Lisa Jaramillo & Erica Hill; Sandy Trujillo & Debra Hoffman; Mike & Debbie Carona; Tony & Kay Rackauckas; Don Haidl & Robert Levy; Jon Fleischman & Jim Amormino**. Thirty-one of the witnesses are current or former members of the D.A.'s Office or Sheriff's Department, including **Dennis DeMaio, Bud Hood, James Laird, Dina Mauger and Tom Davis**. (No **Schroeders**? They're going to be terribly offended.) Witness No. 1, of course, is ailing entrepreneur **Charles Gabbard**.

I **continue** to search for a key court order that appears to be missing from the Jaramillo case file. The ink-dating forensic test mentioned ever so briefly Monday by attorneys (who immediately clammed up) likely would have been ordered by Judge **Frank Fasel**. And the official minutes from his court indicate he made some kind of order on Jan. 12. But the order itself is missing, and there's no indication it was filed under protective seal. This might say precisely what document(s) the prosecutors find suspect. I checked the file twice and called up to Fasel's clerk, who said that everything should be in the file. Well, all I can say is, the order isn't. And given the murky provenance of the document and the potential for angering the judge, the attorneys aren't about to give me one of their copies.

**Camille Bernard**, a retired Garden Grove resident, called the other day claiming a Little Saigon post office refused to fly the U.S. flag. His attempts to reinstate the flag ended with messages on his machine saying it had been stolen. This seemed a little far-fetched, so one morning in between other assignments, **Erika** and I drove to 9317 Bolsa. In a small strip center, wedged between a traffic school and a travel agency, we found what has to be the tiniest post office outside of Silverado. The private mail center across the street is far more prominent. And sure enough, making the P.O. all the less noticeable, no stars and stripes were on display, only the vestigial remains of a small flag pole – actually what appears to be a converted water pipe – lashed to a pillar that helps hold up the building.

Postal Service spokesman **Richard Maher** confirmed that, indeed, federal regulation No. 471.21 requires the flag be displayed. Maher said vandals damaged the flagpole four months ago. A work order has been put in, he said, and "we expect to have the flag flying again very shortly."

**The amount of** support Stanton has received in the wake of San Clemente Councilman **Wayne Eggleston** disparaging that burg in a Times article is truly amazing. Columnists from the Register, Times and O.C. Weekly have weighed in and O.C. Blog saw fit to cover the coverage. Eggleston called me yesterday to apologize for originally lying to me about what he told the Times reporter regarding Stanton. I think this pretty much closes the loop.

I **heard from** the wife of a detective on the **Tom and Jackie Hawks** murder case who wasn't pleased that I appeared to believe what murderess **Jennifer Deleon** supposedly told her cellmates. I do believe Deleon told them she knew nothing of any plan to rip off and murder the Hawkses. I should have made it clear that I don't believe much of the content of her story. Specifically, I haven't changed my belief that she at least knew about the plan to steal their boat. That would make her guilty of murder under the felony-murder law. But, look, what I think doesn't matter. The purpose was to illuminate her state of mind leading up to and during the

trial – something heretofore only known through the filter of her attorney, **Michael Molfetta**.

But if you dissect what she told her cellmates, you can find several holes. Here's two: She told them she hated **Skylar** after she found out what he'd allegedly done to the Hawkses. But she continued to write sappy love letters to him in jail long after he was charged. She said that by the time she had decided to tell the cops what really happened and tried to cut a deal, they no longer believed her. The truth is, she was offered full immunity from prosecution in exchange for her testimony, and she turned it down.